

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Wayne County

Michigan · Detroit · FIPS 26163 · Population 1,781,641 ·
Crosodo Index #1684*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
MCL §289.4102	Great	50000	HIGH	2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

MICHIGAN: WAYNE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1684* · FIPS 26163 · Detroit

Wayne County

Population 1,781,641 · State baseline: MCL \$289.4102 · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Michigan’s Cottage Food Law exempts cottage food operations from MDARD licensing and inspection. No separate Wayne County permit is required. Operators must comply with state labeling and food safety standards. Local unit of government rules (city zoning, home occupation ordinances) may still apply. Cities of Detroit, Dearborn, Livonia, and Westland have their own cottage food rules that may differ from county-level.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies by city (No Wayne County-level home occupation permit required for unincorporated areas. Wayne County largely consists of incorporated cities/townships. Operators should contact their local unit of government for any applicable home business or home occupation ordinances. Wayne County allows home-based businesses in residential unincorporated communities with a home occupation permit.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (MDARD may investigate cottage food operations upon complaint or foodborne illness linkage. No routine inspection.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

State baseline applies

WATER SUPPLY

State baseline applies

HANDWASHING

State baseline applies

FOOD STORAGE

Products must be stored only in the primary domestic residence.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — MDARD may investigate cottage food operations upon complaint or foodborne illness linkage. No routine inspection.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

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LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales required; wholesale/consignment prohibited. Internet/mail order and third-party delivery allowed if consumer can directly interact with operator before purchase. Sales within Michigan only. Annual gross sales cap: \$50,000 (until Oct 1, 2026, then inflation-adjusted); \$75,000 if unit price \$250+.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies (no employee limit specified, but operation must be in operator’s primary domestic residence)

Relevant county code

MCL §289.4102; local city codes vary

RESEARCH NOTES

Michigan Cottage Food Law is state-administered with no county-level registration required. The 2025 amendment (HB 4122) doubled the cap from \$25,000 to \$50,000 effective October 2025/March 2026. Operators may optionally register with MSU Product Center (one-time fee up to \$50) to receive a registration number for labels instead of home address. Cities of Detroit, Dearborn, Livonia, and Westland may have additional local rules. Wayne County includes Detroit — the largest city in Michigan.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.waynecounty.com/departments/phs.aspx>

<https://www.waynecounty.com>

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/food-dairy/michigan-cottage-foods-information>

<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-289-4102>

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/michigan/wayne-county-discuss>

State context — Michigan cottage food law

Wayne County's rules sit on top of Michigan's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
MCL §289.4102	50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Sales through retail stores, restaurants, or wholesale are prohibited. Online sales, mail order, and third-party delivery platform sales (e.g., DoorDash) are allowed in-state only, but require the producer to offer the customer an opportunity to directly interact (face-to-face or virtually) before purchase. A separate \$75,000 cap applies if all products are priced at \$250 or more per item. Honey and maple syrup have a separate exemption permitting indirect retail sales up to \$15,000/year.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Michigan cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-289-4102>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/food-dairy/cottage-foods>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/michigan/>

Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Wayne County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/michigan/wayne-county-discuss>
