

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Hennepin County

Minnesota · Minneapolis · FIPS 27053 · Population 1,270,787
· Crosodo Index #457*

STATE BASELINE

Minn. Stat. §28A.152

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

78000

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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.

MINNESOTA: HENNEPIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #457* · FIPS 27053 · Minneapolis

Hennepin County

Population 1,270,787 · State baseline: Minn. Stat. §28A.152 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Minnesota Cottage Food Law requires annual registration with MDA. Hennepin County follows state baseline. Operators must check local zoning ordinances — some cities may have restrictions on home-based food sales. Minneapolis (the county seat) and other incorporated cities have their own home occupation codes. Cottage food can be produced at home or in a commercial kitchen subject to local ordinances.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (MDA guidance requires operators to check that their local city, county, or township does not have home sales prohibitions due to zoning. Hennepin County cities (Minneapolis, Bloomington, Plymouth, etc.) have individual home occupation codes. No state-level home occupation permit required for cottage food.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. MDA investigates complaints of misbranded or adulterated cottage food products.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Minnesota Cottage Food Law requires annual registration with MDA. Hennepin County follows state baseline. Operators must check local zoning ordinances — some cities may have restrictions on home-based food sales. Minneapolis (the county seat) and other incorporated cities have their own home occupation codes. Cottage food can be produced at home or in a commercial kitchen subject to local ordinances.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	State baseline applies
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. MDA investigates complaints of misbranded or adulterated cottage food products.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — MDA guidance requires operators to check that their local city, county, or township does not have home sales prohibitions due to zoning. Hennepin County cities (Minneapolis, Bloomington, Plymouth, etc.) have individual home occupation codes. No state-level home occupation permit required for cottage food.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	MDA allows sales from home, farmers markets, and community events. Annual sales cap: \$78,000 (as of 2025 amendment, CPI-adjusted). Tier 1 (<\$7,665/year): free registration, basic annual training. Tier 2 (\$7,666-\$78,000): \$50 registration, food safety course every 3 years. Effective August 2027: unified \$30/year registration, in-state shipping allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies

Relevant county code

Minn. Stat. §28A.152; local city ordinances vary

RESEARCH NOTES

Hennepin County follows Minnesota state baseline. Minnesota's 2025 amendment significantly updated the program: raised cap to \$78,000 (inflation-adjusted), and changes effective August 2027 will allow in-state shipping, unified registration tier (\$30/year), and advanced training requirement. MDA explicitly requires operators to check local zoning for home sales prohibitions before registering. Registration expires March 31 annually; re-registration required by April 1.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.hennepin.us>

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/cottage-food-law-guidance>

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/cottagefood>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Hennepin County	Ramsey County	Dakota County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	No specific state cottage food pet restriction	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	MDA allows sales from home, farmers markets, and community events. Annual sales cap: \$78,000 (as of 2025 amendment, CPI-adjusted). Tier 1 (...)	Direct sales within Minnesota: farmers markets, community events, home sales (if local zoning allows), online within Minnesota. \$78,000 ann...	Direct sales from home (if local ordinance permits), at community events/farmers markets, and online (producer must deliver). Home-canned i...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Minnesota Cottage Food Law requires annual registration with MDA. Hennepin County follows state baseline. Operators must check local zoning...	State registration required (\$50 if sales exceed \$7,665; free otherwise). Accredited food safety training required. \$78,000 annual sales ca...	Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152) allows non-potentially-hazardous foods without a food license, up to \$78,000 gross annual...
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-PHF foods	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Home-canned items must meet pH 4.6 or lower or water activity 0.85 or less.
POPULATION	1,270,787	547,202	439,179

State context — Minnesota cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Minn. Stat. §28A.152	78000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	Yes
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No

INDIRECT SALES

No — Sales are limited to direct-to-consumer channels: community events, farmers markets, from the producer's home, online (in-state delivery by the producer personally or by mail/commercial delivery), and fundraising donations. Restaurants, retail stores, roadside stands, mail order wholesale, and catering are prohibited. All deliveries must be made by the producer personally unless shipped by mail or commercial delivery upon a prior online sale. Home-canned products in the pH/water-activity exemption category (Subd. 1(a)(2)) may not be sold outside of Minnesota.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.152>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/food/business/cottage-food-producer-registration>

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

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/minnesota/hennepin-county-discuss>

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

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Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

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Advertise here

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crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

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crosodo.com/nb/minnesota/hennepin-county-discuss

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