

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Nicollet County

Minnesota · Saint Peter · FIPS 27103 · Population 34,493 ·
Crosodo Index #2594*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Minn. Stat. §28A.152	Great	78000	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

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: NICOLLET COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2594* · FIPS 27103 · Saint Peter

Nicollet County

Population 34,493 · State baseline: Minn. Stat. §28A.152 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Minnesota two-tier system: Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/year) requires free MDA Cottage Food Producer Registration Training. Tier 2 (up to \$78,000/year, CPI-indexed from July 2025) requires \$50 Cottage Food Producer Training Course renewed every 3 years plus \$30 annual registration fee. Allowed foods: non-potentially hazardous items. Local ordinances are not preempted; producers must verify Nicollet County and Saint Peter city zoning for home occupation rules.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Nicollet County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Producers should verify with Nicollet County and Saint Peter city planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement possible by MDA.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — Minnesota two-tier system: Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/year) requires free MDA Cottage Food Producer Registration Training. Tier 2 (up to \$78,000/year, CPI-indexed from July 2025) requires \$50 Cottage Food Producer Training Course renewed every 3 years plus \$30 annual registration fee. Allowed foods: non-potentially hazardous items. Local ordinances are not preempted; producers must verify Nicollet County and Saint Peter city zoning for home occupation rules.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; standard food safety practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under state cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety sanitation practices apply.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF products only; proper storage to prevent contamination required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement possible by MDA.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Nicollet County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Producers should verify with Nicollet County and Saint Peter city planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to consumers in person, at farmers markets, roadside stands, on-farm, community events, online (within MN only). No interstate sales for home-canned category. No third-party retail distribution.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Nicollet County Zoning Ordinance; Minn. Stat. §28A.152 Subd. 6

RESEARCH NOTES

Rural Minnesota county. State baseline governs; no Nicollet County-specific cottage food ordinance found. MDA administers registration. The 2025 amendment raised the cap to \$78,000 (CPI-indexed). Local zoning compliance required.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://www.co.nicollet.mn.us>
- <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/food-feed/cottage-food-law-guidance>
- <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.152>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Nicollet County	Brown County	Le Sueur County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state prohibition; standard food safety practices apply.	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; good sanitation practices required.	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; good sanitation practices required.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales to consumers in person, at farmers markets, roadside stands, on-farm, community events, online (within MN only). No interstate...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, community events, and internet sales permitted. Canned goods may not be sold across state lines.	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, community events, and internet sales permitted. Canned goods may not be sold across state lines.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Minnesota two-tier system: Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/year) requires free MDA Cottage Food Producer Registration Training. Tier 2 (up to \$78,000...	Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152, amended 2025) allows up to \$78,000 annual gross sales of non-potentially hazardous foods ...	Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152, amended 2025) allows up to \$78,000 annual gross sales of non-potentially hazardous foods ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF products only; proper storage to prevent contamination required.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; no refrigeration required.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; no refrigeration required.
POPULATION	34,380	25,880	28,795

State context — Minnesota cottage food law

Nicollet 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 Nicollet County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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