

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Newton County

Missouri · Neosho · FIPS 29145 · Population 59,019 · Crosodo
Index #1060*

STATE BASELINE

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

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.

MISSOURI: NEWTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1060* · FIPS 29145 · Neosho

Newton County

Population 59,019 · State baseline: Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Missouri cottage food law (§196.298) allows nonperishable baked goods, canned jams and jellies, and dried herbs/herb mixes only. No registration, no inspection required. No sales cap. Direct sales only. Missouri expressly prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food operations.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Newton County may have home occupation zoning requirements beyond health department jurisdiction. Operators should check with Newton County for land-use requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Missouri expressly prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food operations (§196.298(3)(1)).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Missouri cottage food law (§196.298) allows nonperishable baked goods, canned jams and jellies, and dried herbs/herb mixes only. No registration, no inspection required. No sales cap. Direct sales only. Missouri expressly prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food operations.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water supply requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be nonperishable.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Missouri expressly prohibits local health departments from regulating cottage food operations (§196.298(3)(1)).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Newton County may have home occupation zoning requirements beyond health department jurisdiction. Operators should check with Newton County for land-use requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events. Online/in-state shipping allowed per 2022 amendment. No wholesale, no restaurant/retail store sales under §196.298.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

Newton County zoning code (home occupation provisions); no specific cottage food county code identified. Note: local health dept regulation prohibited by state law.

RESEARCH NOTES

No county-specific cottage food ordinance found for Newton County. State baseline (Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298) applies. Missouri’s limited food scope (baked goods, jams/jellies, herbs only) is the primary restriction, but otherwise permissive. Newton County is in SW Missouri near Joplin. Local health departments are explicitly prohibited from regulating cottage food.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/cottagefood.php>
- <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=196.298>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Newton County	Jasper County	Barry County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.	No specific state restriction; standard sanitation practices apply.	No explicit state-level pet restriction for cottage food operations under Missouri law. Standard sanitation practices recommended.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events. Online/in-state shipping allowed per 2022 amendment. No wholesale, no rest...	Missouri allows direct sales only: from home, online/in-state shipping, farmers markets (added 2022). No events, restaurants, or retail sto...	Missouri cottage food law allows direct-to-consumer sales from home, online (in-state shipping as of 2022), and at events/farmers markets. ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Missouri cottage food law (§196.298) allows nonperishable baked goods, canned jams and jellies, and dried herbs/herb mixes only. No registr...	Missouri state law allows home kitchen production of nonperishable baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs. Local health departme...	Missouri state law (§196.298) permits home kitchen production of nonperishable baked goods, canned jams and jellies, and dried herbs and he...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be nonperishable.	Shelf-stable products only. Canned jams/jellies must meet food safety standards.	Products must be properly stored to prevent contamination. No state-mandated specific storage requirements for cottage food.
POPULATION	59,019	122,788	34,701

State context — Missouri cottage food law

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

STATUTE Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION No	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes

INDIRECT SALES
No — Under §196.298, sales must be directly to consumers from the producer’s home. Events, farmers markets, restaurants, retail stores, and roadside stands are not permitted under this law. Internet/online sales are allowed but only if both the producer and buyer are located in Missouri. Local health departments are explicitly prohibited from regulating the production of food at cottage food operations. A separate Missouri statute (individual stands law) allows sales at events and roadside stands in counties that have adopted it, permitting most other nonperishable foods.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=196.298>

State dept cottage food page: <https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/cottagefood.php>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/missouri/newton-county-discuss>
