

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Keith County

Nebraska · Ogallala · FIPS 31101 · Population 8,034 · Crosodo  
Index #1480\*

## STATE BASELINE

Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2,280

## STATE TIER

Good

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

## CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

## LAST VERIFIED

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.

## NEBRASKA: KEITH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1480\* · FIPS 31101 · Ogallala

## Keith County

Population 8,034 · State baseline: Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2,280 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (State law permits cottage food production from a private home kitchen. Registration required with Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Direct-to-consumer sales only (farmers markets, fairs, festivals, craft shows, home pickup/delivery). No annual sales cap. As of LB262 (July 2024), some TCS foods permitted with additional requirements.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; good sanitation practices required

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Keith County is a western Nebraska county on the South Platte River with Lake McConaughy (Nebraska's largest reservoir). Unincorporated areas likely have minimal county zoning. City of Ogallala has its own municipal zoning.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required; complaint-driven investigation possible)

## Home kitchen rules

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes — State law permits cottage food production from a private home kitchen. Registration required with Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Direct-to-consumer sales only (farmers markets, fairs, festivals, craft shows, home pickup/delivery). No annual sales cap. As of LB262 (July 2024), some TCS foods permitted with additional requirements. |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No   |
| PET RESTRICTIONS           | Not specified in state law; good sanitation practices required   |
| WATER SUPPLY               | Standard residential water supply  |
| HANDWASHING                | Good sanitation practices required   |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Appropriate storage to maintain product safety   |

## Inspection &amp; permitting

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED    | No — No routine inspection required; complaint-driven investigation possible   |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Varies — Keith County is a western Nebraska county on the South Platte River with Lake McConaughy (Nebraska's largest reservoir). Unincorporated areas likely have minimal county zoning. City of Ogallala has its own municipal zoning. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies   |

## Customer-facing rules

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes   |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE         | Conditional   |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct delivery to consumer permitted in-state; no wholesale to retailers |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | Not specified at county level   |

### Relevant county code

Keith County zoning regulations if adopted; check with county office

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Nebraska Good-tier state. State law (§81-2,280 as amended by LB262, July 2024) is the primary framework. Keith County (pop. ~8,034) is a western NE county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. State registration with NDA required. Direct sales only; no wholesale.

---

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.keithcountyne.gov>

<https://nda.nebraska.gov/fscp/foods/cottagefood>

<https://cottagefoodlaw.unl.edu/faq/>

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

## State context — Nebraska cottage food law

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

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| <b>STATUTE</b>   | <b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b>  |
| Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2,280 (producer of food at private home); §81-2,239 et seq. (Nebraska Pure Food Act)   | —                        |
| <b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b>   | <b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> |
| Yes  | Yes                      |
| <b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b>  | <b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> |
| No   | Yes                      |
| <b>INDIRECT SALES</b>  |                          |
| No — Sales must be direct-to-consumer. Wholesale to restaurants, grocery stores, or distributors is not permitted under the cottage food framework. Non-TCS foods may be mailed; TCS foods must be delivered in person by the producer within 2 hours. |                          |

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

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=81-2,239.05>

State dept cottage food page: [https://nda.nebraska.gov/foods/processed\\_food/cottage\\_foods.html](https://nda.nebraska.gov/foods/processed_food/cottage_foods.html)

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

# Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/nebraska/keith-county-discuss>

---