

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Island County

Washington · Coupeville · FIPS 53029 · Population 86,510 ·  
Crosodo Index #2629\*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
RCW §69.22.010-.040	Good	—	MEDIUM	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.

WASHINGTON: ISLAND COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2629\* · FIPS 53029 · Coupeville

# Island County

Population 86,510 · State baseline: RCW §69.22.010-.040 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Washington requires a biennial cottage food permit with initial kitchen inspection. Only non-potentially-hazardous foods allowed. All food handlers must hold a food and beverage service worker’s permit (chapter 69.06 RCW). Annual basic hygiene inspections. Applicant must sign document granting director right of entry to home during normal business hours. No internet, mail order, or out-of-state sales. No persons other than permittee or those under direct supervision may handle cottage food products or be in the kitchen during processing.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not explicitly specified, but kitchen must pass hygiene inspection.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Island County Planning Department governs home occupation rules in unincorporated areas. Towns of Oak Harbor, Langley, Coupeville, and Freeland have their own rules. No Island County-specific cottage food ordinance identified; producers should check with Island County Planning.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Conditional

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Yes (Annual basic hygiene inspection required. Initial inspection before permit issuance. Permit fee: \$125 biennial + \$75 public health review + \$30 processing fee.)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Washington requires a biennial cottage food permit with initial kitchen inspection. Only non-potentially-hazardous foods allowed. All food handlers must hold a food and beverage service worker’s permit (chapter 69.06 RCW). Annual basic hygiene inspections. Applicant must sign document granting director right of entry to home during normal business hours. No internet, mail order, or out-of-state sales. No persons other than permittee or those under direct supervision may handle cottage food products or be in the kitchen during processing.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not explicitly specified, but kitchen must pass hygiene inspection.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific beyond standard potable water; kitchen inspection evaluates conditions.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Kitchen inspection covers hygiene; food handler’s permit requires training including handwashing.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Standard food safety storage practices; inspected annually.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Yes — Annual basic hygiene inspection required. Initial inspection before permit issuance. Permit fee: \$125 biennial + \$75 public health review + \$30 processing fee.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Island County Planning Department governs home occupation rules in unincorporated areas. Towns of Oak Harbor, Langley, Coupeville, and Freeland have their own rules. No Island County-specific cottage food ordinance identified; producers should check with Island County Planning.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only; no internet, mail order, or out-of-state sales permitted under Washington cottage food law. In-person sales at farmers markets, from home, and at events permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only permittee or those under direct supervision may handle products or be in the kitchen during processing.

### Relevant county code

No Island County-specific cottage food code identified. RCW §69.22.010-.040 governs.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Island County (Whidbey Island, Camano Island) follows the statewide Washington cottage food framework. Washington has one of the more burdensome cottage food permit processes nationally: annual inspection, kitchen entry right, food handler permit for all workers. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium: state law confirmed from official WA Legislature source; Island County-specific zoning not verified.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.wa.gov/services/business-services/food-safety-and-licensing/cottage-food-operations>  
<https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=69.22.040>

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

## State context — Washington cottage food law

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

<b>STATUTE</b> RCW §69.22.010-.040	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> —
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> Yes
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Yes	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Cottage food products may only be sold directly to the consumer. Internet sales, mail order, and retail sale outside Washington state are explicitly prohibited. Products may not be repackaged, sold, or used as an ingredient by a food processing plant, or sold by a food service establishment.	

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

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=69.22.040>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agr.wa.gov/services/business-services/food-safety-and-licensing/cottage-food-operations>

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

## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/washington/island-county-discuss>

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