

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Kittitas County

Washington · Ellensburg · FIPS 53037 · Population 47,935 ·
Crosodo Index #2314*

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

WASHINGTON: KITTITAS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2314* · FIPS 53037 · Ellensburg

Kittitas County

Population 47,935 · State baseline: RCW §69.22.010–.040 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operations. Permit fees: approximately \$125 (inspection) + \$75 (public health review) + \$30 (processing). Annual kitchen inspection required. Home kitchen must be the operator’s primary residence. Kittitas County zoning (Title 17) governs home occupation uses in unincorporated areas.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. Pet presence during production is prohibited; standard food safety rules apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Kittitas County zoning is contained in Title 17 (available at co.kittitas.wa.us/boc/countycode/title17.aspx). Home occupation permits are regulated as accessory uses in residential zones in unincorporated Kittitas County. The business must be secondary to residential use. Ellensburg (county seat, incorporated city) and other incorporated cities have separate rules within city limits.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual basic hygiene inspections required by Washington State Department of Agriculture as a permit condition. Permittee must sign document granting WSDA right of entry to home during normal business hours.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operations. Permit fees: approximately \$125 (inspection) + \$75 (public health review) + \$30 (processing). Annual kitchen inspection required. Home kitchen must be the operator’s primary residence. Kittitas County zoning (Title 17) governs home occupation uses in unincorporated areas.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. Pet presence during production is prohibited; standard food safety rules apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific private water testing requirement cited in RCW §69.22; standard water supply requirements apply per Washington food code.
HANDWASHING	Food and beverage service worker’s permit required under RCW chapter 69.06, implying food handler training and hygiene standards including handwashing.
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage requirements per Washington food safety rules; products must be non-potentially hazardous.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual basic hygiene inspections required by Washington State Department of Agriculture as a permit condition. Permittee must sign document granting WSDA right of entry to home during normal business hours.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Kittitas County zoning is contained in Title 17 (available at co.kittitas.wa.us/boc/countycode/title17.aspx). Home occupation permits are regulated as accessory uses in residential zones in unincorporated Kittitas County. The business must be secondary to residential use. Ellensburg (county seat, incorporated city) and other incorporated cities have separate rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Washington state cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales at farmers markets, events, and from home. Online sales and mail order outside Washington are restricted by statute. Home pickup generally allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may be in the kitchen during processing per RCW §69.22.

Relevant county code

Kittitas County Code Title 17 (Zoning, home occupation provisions); RCW §69.22; WAC 16-149

RESEARCH NOTES

Kittitas County Title 17 zoning code was confirmed to exist at the county website (co.kittitas.wa.us). Specific home occupation permit requirements within Title 17 not retrieved in detail; county zoning follows standard WA rural county pattern. State baseline (RCW §69.22 / WAC 16-149) is the operative food safety framework. Medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/boc/countycode/title17.aspx>

<https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us>

<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>

<https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/boc/countycode/title17.aspx>

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

State context — Washington cottage food law

Kittitas 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.

STATUTE RCW §69.22.010-.040	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes
KITCHEN INSPECTION Yes	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES 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 Kittitas County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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