

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Lewis County

Washington · Chehalis · FIPS 53041 · Population 82,663 ·
Crosodo Index #2723*

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: LEWIS COUNTY

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Lewis County

Population 82,663 · State baseline: RCW §69.22.010-.040 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Same as all Washington counties: biennial permit with initial and annual kitchen inspection. Food handler’s permit required for all handlers. Non-PHF foods only. No internet, mail order, or out-of-state sales. Only permittee or those under direct supervision may handle products or be present during processing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Kitchen must pass hygiene inspection.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Lewis County Planning Department and municipalities (Chehalis, Centralia) may have home occupation rules. No Lewis County-specific cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual basic hygiene inspection required. Initial inspection before permit.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Same as all Washington counties: biennial permit with initial and annual kitchen inspection. Food handler’s permit required for all handlers. Non-PHF foods only. No internet, mail order, or out-of-state sales. Only permittee or those under direct supervision may handle products or be present during processing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Kitchen must pass hygiene inspection.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific beyond standard potable water; kitchen inspection evaluates.
HANDWASHING	Food handler’s permit requires training; kitchen inspection covers hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food safety storage; inspected annually.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual basic hygiene inspection required. Initial inspection before permit.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Lewis County Planning Department and municipalities (Chehalis, Centralia) may have home occupation rules. No Lewis County-specific cottage food ordinance identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct in-person sales only; no internet, mail order, or out-of-state. Farmers markets, home, and events permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only permittee or those under direct supervision during processing.

Relevant county code

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

RESEARCH NOTES

Lewis County follows Washington’s cottage food permit framework. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium.

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/lewis-county-discuss>

State context — Washington cottage food law

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

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