

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Skagit County

Washington · Mount Vernon · FIPS 53057 · Population
129,480 · Crosodo Index #2458*

| 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: SKAGIT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2458* · FIPS 53057 · Mount Vernon

Skagit County

Population 129,480 · State baseline: RCW §69.22.010-.040 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Biennial permit required with fees: \$125 inspection fee + \$75 public health review fee + \$30 processing fee (\$230 total biennial). All food handlers must hold a food and beverage service worker’s permit under RCW ch. 69.06. Annual basic hygiene inspections required. Applicant must sign document granting director right of entry during normal business hours. No internet, mail order, or out-of-state sales.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No one other than the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may handle cottage food products or be in the kitchen during processing.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Washington cottage food permits are administered by local health jurisdictions. Skagit County Public Health administers the cottage food permit for unincorporated Skagit County. Cities within the county (Mount Vernon, Burlington, Anacortes) may have separate home occupation ordinances.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual basic hygiene inspections required. Initial inspection before permit issued. Administered by Skagit County (or state WA DOH for state permits).)

Home kitchen rules

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED | Yes — Biennial permit required with fees: \$125 inspection fee + \$75 public health review fee + \$30 processing fee (\$230 total biennial). All food handlers must hold a food and beverage service worker’s permit under RCW ch. 69.06. Annual basic hygiene inspections required. Applicant must sign document granting director right of entry during normal business hours. No internet, mail order, or out-of-state sales. |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No |
| PET RESTRICTIONS | No one other than the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may handle cottage food products or be in the kitchen during processing. |
| WATER SUPPLY | Potable water required; reviewed during inspection. |
| HANDWASHING | Required; inspected during annual hygiene inspection. |
| FOOD STORAGE | Non-potentially hazardous baked goods, candies, jams/jellies/preserves/fruit butters, and other items identified by director by rule. No THC ingredients. |

Inspection & permitting

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED | Yes — Annual basic hygiene inspections required. Initial inspection before permit issued. Administered by Skagit County (or state WA DOH for state permits). |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Yes — Washington cottage food permits are administered by local health jurisdictions. Skagit County Public Health administers the cottage food permit for unincorporated Skagit County. Cities within the county (Mount Vernon, Burlington, Anacortes) may have separate home occupation ordinances. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Yes |

Customer-facing rules

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct sales only; no internet or mail order sales permitted. Sales only within Washington state. No one other than permittee or persons under direct supervision may handle products or be in kitchen during processing. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME | Only permittee and persons under direct supervision may handle cottage food or be in kitchen during processing. |

Relevant county code

RCW §69.22.010-.040; WAC (Washington Administrative Code) provisions for cottage food permits.

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (WA) confirmed: RCW §69.22.010-.040, biennial permit with \$230 total fees, annual inspections, food and beverage service worker permit required. Skagit County is a farming/ agricultural county north of the Seattle metro (Tulip Festival area). No county-specific health or planning URLs in input. Washington’s cottage food law is notably more burdensome than most states (IJ grade D). County follows state baseline. Confidence 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/skagit-county-discuss>

State context — Washington cottage food law

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

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