

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Skamania County

Washington · Stevenson · FIPS 53059 · Population 11,620 ·
Crosodo Index #2300*

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: SKAMANIA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2300* · FIPS 53059 · Stevenson

Skamania County

Population 11,620 · 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. Only the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may handle products or be present in the kitchen during processing.)

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 (Skamania County is a largely forested county in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Much of the county is subject to Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area land use regulations in addition to county zoning. Home-based businesses in unincorporated areas are subject to Skamania County zoning code accessory use provisions. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Stevenson (county seat) has its own 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. Only the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may handle products or be present in the kitchen during processing.
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 — Skamania County is a largely forested county in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Much of the county is subject to Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area land use regulations in addition to county zoning. Home-based businesses in unincorporated areas are subject to Skamania County zoning code accessory use provisions. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Stevenson (county seat) has its own 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

Skamania County Zoning Code (home occupation provisions); Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area land use regulations; RCW §69.22; WAC 16-149

RESEARCH NOTES

Skamania County is a rural forested county in the Columbia River Gorge with significant federal land. No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance found in search. State baseline (RCW §69.22 / WAC 16-149) is the operative food safety framework. Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area designation may add complexity to land use but does not directly affect cottage food licensing. Defaulting to state baseline with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.skamaniacounty.org>

<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/skamania-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Skamania County	Klickitat County	Cowlitz County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	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. P...	Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. P...	No other persons may handle cottage food products or be in kitchen during processing except permittee or those under direct supervision (RC...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Washington state cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales at farmers markets, events, and from home. Online sales and mail order o...	Washington state cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales at farmers markets, events, and from home. Online sales and mail order o...	Washington allows direct sales only within the state. No internet, mail order, or retail outside WA. Only permittee or those under direct s...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operation...	Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operation...	Washington requires a biennial cottage food operation permit with annual inspection. All food handlers must have food and beverage service ...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage requirements per Washington food safety rules; products must be non-potentially hazardous.	Standard food storage requirements per Washington food safety rules; products must be non-potentially hazardous.	Non-PHF products only. No TCS foods, no THC ingredients (0.3% or greater). Products cannot be sold via internet, mail order, or retail outs...
POPULATION	11,620	22,425	110,621

State context — Washington cottage food law

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

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