

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Dodge County

Wisconsin · Juneau · FIPS 55027 · Population 89,032 ·
Crosodo Index #564*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Wis. Stat. §97.29	Freedom	Tiered	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.

WISCONSIN: DODGE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #564* · FIPS 55027 · Juneau

Dodge County

Population 89,032 · State baseline: Wis. Stat. §97.29 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Wisconsin cottage food law is unusual: the Kivirist court order allows home bakers (of good character, sanitary kitchen) to sell non-potentially-hazardous baked goods directly to consumers without a license. 'Baked goods' means items exposed to dry heat at 140°F or higher in an oven, waffle maker, or Dutch oven. Unbaked non-PHF items (chocolates, fudge, candies, rice crispy treats) are NOT covered by the Kivirist exception per 2024 Wisconsin Court of Appeals ruling. A separate statutory provision (§97.29(2)(b)2, the Pickle Bill) allows home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits (pH 4.6 or lower) at farmers markets/community events up to \$5,000/year without a license.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in Kivirist order, but kitchen hygiene (not in question) is a key condition of the Kivirist exemption.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Dodge County and its municipalities (Juneau, Beaver Dam, Waupun, etc.) each set their own home occupation rules. No Dodge County-specific cottage food permit requirement identified. Producers in municipalities should check with city/village planning offices. Beaver Dam and other Dodge County municipalities may have home occupation permit requirements for businesses generating customer traffic.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (DATCP does not conduct routine inspections for home bakers qualifying under Kivirist. Inspection may occur if complaint or foodborne illness is reported.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Wisconsin cottage food law is unusual: the Kivirist court order allows home bakers (of good character, sanitary kitchen) to sell non-potentially-hazardous baked goods directly to consumers without a license. 'Baked goods' means items exposed to dry heat at 140°F or higher in an oven, waffle maker, or Dutch oven. Unbaked non-PHF items (chocolates, fudge, candies, rice crispy treats) are NOT covered by the Kivirist exception per 2024 Wisconsin Court of Appeals ruling. A separate statutory provision (§97.29(2)(b)2, the Pickle Bill) allows home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits (pH 4.6 or lower) at farmers markets/community events up to \$5,000/year without a license.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in Kivirist order, but kitchen hygiene (not in question) is a key condition of the Kivirist exemption.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific statutory requirement; kitchen must meet general sanitation standards.
HANDWASHING	Kitchen sanitation must not be in question per Kivirist standards.
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirements beyond general sanitation.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — DATCP does not conduct routine inspections for home bakers qualifying under Kivirist. Inspection may occur if complaint or foodborne illness is reported.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Dodge County and its municipalities (Juneau, Beaver Dam, Waupun, etc.) each set their own home occupation rules. No Dodge County-specific cottage food permit requirement identified. Producers in municipalities should check with city/village planning offices. Beaver Dam and other Dodge County municipalities may have home occupation permit requirements for businesses generating customer traffic.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Kivirist exception requires direct-to-consumer sales only. No wholesale. Home pickup and delivery to consumers is permitted under this framework. Pickle Bill exemption is limited to community events and farmers markets.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified. Low volume is a condition of the Kivirist exemption.

Relevant county code

No Dodge County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law Wis. Stat. §97.29 and Kivirist v. DATCP court order govern.

RESEARCH NOTES

Wisconsin’s cottage food landscape is shaped by case law as much as statute. The Kivirist v. DATCP circuit court order allows home bakers selling non-PHF baked goods directly to consumers without a DATCP license. The 2024 Wisconsin Cottage Food Association v. DATCP Court of Appeals decision confirmed this exception does NOT extend to unbaked goods (chocolates, fudge, candy). Wisconsin Supreme Court denied review. Home bakers must meet ‘good character’ and kitchen hygiene standards. Dodge County has no county-level cottage food override. Confidence is medium: state framework verified from DATCP official source but county-level zoning not confirmed.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Licenses_Permits/HomeBakers.aspx

https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lc/issue_briefs/2025/consumer_protection/ib_wis_cottage_food_law_ag_2025_06_18

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/CottageFoodLaws.aspx

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

State context — Wisconsin cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Wis. Stat. §97.29

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Home-canned goods must be sold at community or social events or farmers' markets in Wisconsin (§97.29(2)(b)2.b). The Kivist court order applies to direct-to-consumer sales by home bakers. Products cannot be sold to retail food establishments or distributed through wholesale channels without a license.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/97/29>

State dept cottage food page: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/CottageFoodLaws.aspx

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/wisconsin/dodge-county-discuss>
