

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Kenosha County

Wisconsin · Kenosha · FIPS 55059 · Population 168,693 ·
Crosodo Index #295*

STATE BASELINE

Wis. Stat. §97.29

STATE TIER

Freedom

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Kenosha County, Wisconsin — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Wisconsin cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Wisconsin home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Wisconsin label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

WISCONSIN: KENOSHA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #295* · FIPS 55059 · Kenosha

Kenosha County

Population 168,693 · State baseline: Wis. Stat. §97.29 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Two pathways: (1) Kivirist court order allows home bakers of nonhazardous BAKED goods only (no unbaked items — chocolates, fudge, candy excluded per 2024 Court of Appeals ruling). (2) Pickle Bill (§97.29(2)(b)2) allows home-canned pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) up to \$5,000/year at community events and farmers markets only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Kenosha County and City of Kenosha may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. Wisconsin Freedom-tier state; county likely has limited cottage food restrictions beyond state law. County URLs were blank in input (input data had parsing issues).)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (DATCP may not enforce licensure against qualifying home bakers per Kivirist order. Complaint-based investigation possible.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Two pathways: (1) Kivirist court order allows home bakers of nonhazardous BAKED goods only (no unbaked items — chocolates, fudge, candy excluded per 2024 Court of Appeals ruling). (2) Pickle Bill (§97.29(2)(b)2) allows home-canned pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) up to \$5,000/year at community events and farmers markets only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing per good manufacturing practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage for baked goods and home-canned items.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — DATCP may not enforce licensure against qualifying home bakers per Kivirist order. Complaint-based investigation possible.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Kenosha County and City of Kenosha may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. Wisconsin Freedom-tier state; county likely has limited cottage food restrictions beyond state law. County URLs were blank in input (input data had parsing issues).
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, and community events.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction for qualifying operations.

Relevant county code

Wis. Stat. §97.29; Kivist v. DATCP (2017); Wisconsin Cottage Food Association v. DATCP (2024 WI App 69)

RESEARCH NOTES

Kenosha County is in southeastern Wisconsin near the Illinois border. No county-specific cottage food rules found. Wisconsin's complex case-law framework applies. 2024 Court of Appeals decision limited Kivist exception to baked goods.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.kenoshacounty.org>

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

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

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/wisconsin/kenosha-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Kenosha County	Racine County	Walworth County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	No explicit state-level pet restriction in Wisconsin cottage food framework.	No specific state restriction.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, and community events.	Kivist path: direct-to-consumer sales only; no specific channel restrictions stated. Pickle Bill path: only at community events or farmer...	Baked goods: direct-to-consumer, any channel, low volume. Pickles: community events and farmers markets only, \$5,000/year cap. Unbaked good...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Two pathways: (1) Kivist court order allows home bakers of nonhazardous BAKED goods only (no unbaked items — chocolates, fudge, candy exc...	Wisconsin cottage food framework: (1) Statutory 'Pickle Bill' (§97.29(2)(b)2): home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits (pH 4.6 ...	Wisconsin's cottage food landscape is shaped by statute and case law: (1) §97.29(2)(b)2: home-canned pickles/acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 o...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage for baked goods and home-canned items.	Shelf-stable, non-TCS foods only under the Kivist/Pickle Bill framework. Standard GMP storage.	Baked goods only under Kivist. Pickles/acidified vegetables under Pickle Bill. Unbaked goods (candy, chocolate, fudge) require DATCP food...
POPULATION	168,693	197,068	105,127

State context — Wisconsin cottage food law

Kenosha 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** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/wisconsin.

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 about Kenosha County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/wisconsin/kenosha-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Kenosha County, Wisconsin. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/wisconsin/kenosha-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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