

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Portage County

Wisconsin · Stevens Point · FIPS 55097 · Population 70,281 ·
Crosodo Index #547*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not specified in state law

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: PORTAGE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #547* · FIPS 55097 · Stevens Point

Portage County

Population 70,281 · State baseline: Wis. Stat. §97.29 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (No food handler cert required. No registration or inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no internet sales to out-of-state; no retail store sales except very limited allowances. Tiered annual sales cap applies. Non-TCS foods only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Portage County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Stevens Point has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; complaint-based possible)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — No food handler cert required. No registration or inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no internet sales to out-of-state; no retail store sales except very limited allowances. Tiered annual sales cap applies. Non-TCS foods only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Good sanitation practices implied
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; complaint-based possible
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Portage County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Stevens Point has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales; direct delivery by producer permitted in-state
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Wisconsin Freedom-tier state. Wisconsin has tiered sales cap system. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.portage.wi.us>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Portage County	Wood County	Waupaca County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law	Not specified in statute. Good sanitary practices required.	Not specified in state law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales; direct delivery by producer permitted in-state	Pickle Bill: sales at community events or farmers markets only, \$5,000/year cap. Kivistik bakers: direct to consumer, low volume, from home...	Direct-to-consumer sales only for exempt operations. Pickle Bill limits sales to community events and farmers markets for home-canned goods...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	No food handler cert required. No registration or inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no internet sales to out-of-state; no...	Two pathways: (1) Pickle Bill (§97.29(2)(b)2): home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits (pH ≤ 4.6) sold at community events or f...	Under the Kivistik court order (2017), home bakers of good character may sell nonhazardous shelf-stable baked goods direct to consumer at l...
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products	Shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately. TCS foods require food processing plant license.	Products must remain shelf-stable and nonhazardous.
POPULATION	70,281	74,138	51,822

State context — Wisconsin cottage food law

Portage 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 Portage 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/portage-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 Portage 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/portage-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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