

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Fairfield County

Connecticut · — · FIPS 09001 · Population — · Crosodo Index
#3137*

STATE BASELINE

Conn. Gen. Stat. §21a-62a; CT tier: Okay

STATE TIER

Okay

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

50000

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

LAST VERIFIED

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.

CONNECTICUT: FAIRFIELD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #3137* · FIPS 09001 · —

Fairfield County

Population — · State baseline: Conn. Gen. Stat. §21a-62a; CT tier: Okay · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

True

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

False

PETS ALLOWED?

No state-level rule; individual municipality may have standards

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (municipal zoning approval required before applying for CT DCP license) (Connecticut has NO county government — counties are geographic only. All zoning is administered by the 23 municipalities in Fairfield County (Bridgeport, Stamford, Greenwich, Norwalk, Danbury, etc.). Each municipality must be contacted individually. Operators must obtain written confirmation of local zoning compliance and keep it on file for DCP. Some Fairfield County municipalities have added 'Cottage Food Operator' as a listed Customary Home Occupation requiring a Home Occupation permit from the local Zoning Enforcement Officer.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

True

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (pre-licensure home inspection by CT DCP required) (Required before receiving annual cottage food license; DCP commissioner may also inspect at any time)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED True

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN False

PET RESTRICTIONS No state-level rule; individual municipality may have standards

WATER SUPPLY If using private well: annual coliform/nitrate testing required and results submitted to CT DCP prior to licensing and annually thereafter

HANDWASHING Implied by ServSafe Food Handler training requirement

FOOD STORAGE Products must be stored in permitted area of home that includes the kitchen; no outbuilding storage

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED Yes (pre-licensure home inspection by CT DCP required) — Required before receiving annual cottage food license; DCP commissioner may also inspect at any time

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT Yes (municipal zoning approval required before applying for CT DCP license) — Connecticut has NO county government — counties are geographic only. All zoning is administered by the 23 municipalities in Fairfield County (Bridgeport, Stamford, Greenwich, Norwalk, Danbury, etc.). Each municipality must be contacted individually. Operators must obtain written confirmation of local zoning compliance and keep it on file for DCP. Some Fairfield County municipalities have added 'Cottage Food Operator' as a listed Customary Home Occupation requiring a Home Occupation permit from the local Zoning Enforcement Officer.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE Varies by municipality within Fairfield County; no county-level business license exists

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Varies by municipal zoning; no exterior signs typically allowed under home occupation rules
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer only; local delivery only for online orders; no mail-order shipping; sales at farmers markets, events, roadside stands, or at home
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No more than 2 immediate household members per typical CT home occupation rules

Relevant county code

CT DCP cottage food program: Conn. Gen. Stat. §21a-62a through §21a-62h; local municipal zoning codes vary

RESEARCH NOTES

IMPORTANT: Connecticut counties have NO government. All zoning, permits, and business licensing are administered at the municipal (town/city) level. Each of the 23 municipalities in Fairfield County has its own zoning code. CT DCP requires written municipal zoning approval as a prerequisite for the state cottage food license. Annual \$50 license fee (max \$100 per statute). Home inspection required before first license. ServSafe Food Handler course required. \$50,000 annual sales cap. Private well requires annual water testing.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://portal.ct.gov/dcp/knowledge-base/articles/cottage-foods/local-zoning-and-location-requirements>

N/A — no county planning in Connecticut; contact individual municipality

N/A — Connecticut counties have no government

<https://portal.ct.gov/dcp/knowledge-base/articles/cottage-foods/local-zoning-and-location-requirements>

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_417.htm#sec_21a-62a

<https://portal.ct.gov/DCP/Food-and-Standards-Division/Cottage-Foods>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Fairfield County	Hartford County	Litchfield County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	True	True	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	False	False	False
PETS ALLOWED	No state-level rule; individual municipality may have standards	No state-level rule; individual municipality may have standards	No state-level rule; individual municipality may have standards
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes (pre-licensure home inspection by CT DCP required)	Yes (pre-licensure home inspection by CT DCP required)	Yes (pre-licensure home inspection by CT DCP required)
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	True	True	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Varies by municipal zoning; no exterior signs typically allowed under home occupation rules	Varies by municipal zoning; no exterior signs typically allowed under home occupation rules	Varies by municipal zoning; no exterior signs typically allowed under home occupation rules
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer only; local delivery only for online orders; no mail-order shipping; sales at farmers markets, events, roadside stands, ...	Direct-to-consumer only; local delivery only for online orders; no mail-order shipping; sales at farmers markets, events, roadside stands, ...	Direct-to-consumer only; local delivery only for online orders; no mail-order shipping; sales at farmers markets, events, roadside stands, ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes (municipal zoning approval required before applying for CT DCP license)	Yes (municipal zoning approval required before applying for CT DCP license)	Yes (municipal zoning approval required before applying for CT DCP license)
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by municipality within Fairfield County; no county-level business license exists	Varies by municipality within Hartford County; no county-level business license exists	Varies by municipality within Litchfield County; no county-level business license exists
RESTRICTIONS	—	—	—
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored in permitted area of home that includes the kitchen; no outbuilding storage	Products must be stored in permitted area of home that includes the kitchen; no outbuilding storage	Products must be stored in permitted area of home that includes the kitchen; no outbuilding storage
POPULATION	—	—	—

State context — Connecticut cottage food law

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

STATUTE Conn. Gen. Stat. §21a-62a	ANNUAL SALES CAP 50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)
KITCHEN INSPECTION Yes	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES No — Indirect sales through retail stores, restaurants, or wholesale are not permitted; mail order and third-party delivery services are prohibited; only the producer or their designee may deliver within Connecticut.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_417.htm#sec_21a-62a

State dept cottage food page: <https://portal.ct.gov/DCP/Food-and-Standards-Division/Cottage-Foods>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/connecticut/fairfield-county-discuss>
