

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Merrick County

Nebraska · Central City · FIPS 31121 · Population 7,837 ·  
Crosodo Index #2972\*

---

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
—	<b>Good</b>	—	<b>MEDIUM</b>	

**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.

NEBRASKA: MERRICK COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2972\* · FIPS 31121 · Central City

# Merrick County

Population 7,837 · State baseline: — · **MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

—

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

—

PETS ALLOWED?

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

—

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

—

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

—

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED —

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN —

PET RESTRICTIONS —

WATER SUPPLY —

HANDWASHING —

FOOD STORAGE —

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED —

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT —

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE —

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP —

ON-SITE SIGNAGE —

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES —

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME —

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

## State context — Nebraska cottage food law

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

<b>STATUTE</b>	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b>
Neb. Rev. Stat. §81-2,280 (producer of food at private home); §81-2,239 et seq. (Nebraska Pure Food Act)	—
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b>	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b>
Yes	Yes
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b>	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b>
No	Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b>	
No — Sales must be direct-to-consumer. Wholesale to restaurants, grocery stores, or distributors is not permitted under the cottage food framework. Non-TCS foods may be mailed; TCS foods must be delivered in person by the producer within 2 hours.	

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

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=81-2,239.05>

State dept cottage food page: [https://nda.nebraska.gov/foods/processed\\_food/cottage\\_foods.html](https://nda.nebraska.gov/foods/processed_food/cottage_foods.html)

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

## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/nebraska/merrick-county-discuss>

---