

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Washoe County

Nevada · Reno · FIPS 32031 · Population 486,674 · Crosodo Index #1686*

STATE BASELINE

NRS §446.866 (repealed 2025; superseded by AB352/chapter 420 & 512, Statutes of Nevada 2025)

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Okay	35000	HIGH	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.

NEVADA: WASHOE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1686* · FIPS 32031 · Reno

Washoe County

Population 486,674 · State baseline: NRS §446.866 (repealed 2025; superseded by AB352/chapter 420 & 512, Statutes of Nevada 2025) · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-potentially hazardous foods on approved list only. Must be prepared in private residence of registered individual. No groups/partnerships allowed. Registration with Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) required for Washoe County. \$35,000 annual gross sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general kitchen sanitation required

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) FAQ explicitly states a Business License is required: Washoe County (775-328-3733), City of Reno (775-334-2090), City of Sparks (775-353-2360). Contact respective business license department. The NNPH FAQ also notes registration with the local jurisdiction is required to sell in Washoe County. State registration only applies to counties covered by the guide; must register with NNPH for Washoe County.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No health permit required; registration with NNPH for Washoe County. Complaint-based only.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Non-potentially hazardous foods on approved list only. Must be prepared in private residence of registered individual. No groups/partnerships allowed. Registration with Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) required for Washoe County. \$35,000 annual gross sales cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general kitchen sanitation required
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement; kitchen must be in private residence
HANDWASHING	Implied by general sanitation; no specific separate provision
FOOD STORAGE	Standard home kitchen storage; products must be labeled

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No health permit required; registration with NNPH for Washoe County. Complaint-based only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) FAQ explicitly states a Business License is required: Washoe County (775-328-3733), City of Reno (775-334-2090), City of Sparks (775-353-2360). Contact respective business license department. The NNPH FAQ also notes registration with the local jurisdiction is required to sell in Washoe County. State registration only applies to counties covered by the guide; must register with NNPH for Washoe County.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	In-person/direct sales only. No online sales, no phone sales, no shipping. Allowed venues: home, roadside stand on own property, flea markets, swap meets, church bazaars, garage sales, craft fairs, farmers markets. No wholesale to stores or restaurants. \$35,000 annual cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Individual operation only; groups not permitted

Relevant county code

NRS Chapter 446 (superseded 2025 by AB352). Northern Nevada Public Health registration. Local business license required.

RESEARCH NOTES

Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) official FAQ page retrieved from nnph.org. Explicitly states business license required from Washoe County (775-328-3733), City of Reno, or City of Sparks. Registration with NNPH required for Washoe County (not state registration). No online/mail/phone sales — in-person only. \$35,000 annual cap. DPBH Cottage Food Guide 2023 also confirms NNPH coverage of Washoe County. Nevada AB352 (2025) reorganized NRS Chapter 446; fundamental cottage food rules maintained. No health permit required, but NNPH registration and local business license are required. Confidence high: official NNPH source directly retrieved with specific contact numbers.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.washoecounty.gov>

<https://www.nnph.org/faq/cottage-food/index.php>

<https://www.dpbh.nv.gov/siteassets/regulatory/environmental-health/cottage-food/cottage-foods-guide-2023-branded.pdf>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Washoe County	Lyon County	Carson City
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general kitchen sanitation required	No specific pet restriction stated in state cottage food rules.	No specific pet restriction stated in state cottage food rules.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	In-person/direct sales only. No online sales, no phone sales, no shipping. Allowed venues: home, roadside stand on own property, flea marke...	Under AB352 (2025): in-person sales, phone/internet orders with in-person or mail/delivery fulfillment allowed. No wholesale to distributor...	Under AB352 (2025): in-person sales, phone/internet orders with in-person or mail/delivery fulfillment allowed. No wholesale to distributor...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-potentially hazardous foods on approved list only. Must be prepared in private residence of registered individual. No groups/ partnershi...	Nevada AB352 (2025) reorganized cottage food. New law: license from State Department of Agriculture required; \$100,000 annual sales cap (up...	Nevada AB352 (2025) reorganized cottage food. New law: license from State Department of Agriculture required; \$100,000 annual sales cap; ac...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard home kitchen storage; products must be labeled	Non-potentially hazardous, non-TCS foods required.	Non-potentially hazardous, non-TCS foods required.
POPULATION	486,674	59,435	58,249

State context — Nevada cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
NRS §446.866 (repealed 2025; superseded by AB352/chapter 420 & 512, Statutes of Nevada 2025)	35000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Under the pre-2025 law (NRS 446.866), sales must be in-person transactions only — no internet or phone sales. Products may not be sold to wholesalers, brokers, distributors, or retail establishments for resale. AB352 (2025) amends this to allow phone and internet transactions with delivery via mail or food delivery service, but product relinquishment must still occur in Nevada. Local rules vary significantly: Clark County (Las Vegas), Washoe County, Carson City, and Douglas County have separate health authority requirements.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/nrs/NRS-446.html#NRS446Sec866>

State dept cottage food page: https://dphh.nv.gov/Reg/CottageFood/Cottage_Food_Operations/

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/nevada/washoe-county-discuss>
