COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Albany County

New York · Albany · FIPS 36001 · Population 315,041 ·
Crosodo Index #1358*

STATE BASELINE

**N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4; registration required with NY Dept of Ag & Markets; no sales cap; baked goods and low-risk foods**

| STATE TIER | ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE) | CONFIDENCE | LAST VERIFIED |
|---|---|---|---|
| Good | — | MEDIUM | 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

Albany County, New York — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED? | STATE SALES CAP |
|---|---|
| Yes | — |
| **HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?** | **ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?** |
| Varies | Yes |
| **INSPECTION** | **PETS** |
| No | Pets excluded from production areas |

## BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- [ ] **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under New York 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
- [ ] New York home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

## CONTINUE ONLINE

**Open the live county page →**

**New York label one-pager →**

**Local notes & questions →**

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

NEW YORK: ALBANY COUNTY

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Population 315,041 · State baseline: N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4; registration required with NY Dept of Ag & Markets; no sales cap; baked goods and low-risk foods · MEDIUM

**QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?
Yes (State registration required; shelf-stable baked goods and certain jams/jellies/preserves only; no TCS foods; labeling required)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?
No

PETS ALLOWED?
Pets excluded from production areas

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?
Varies (NY state does not preempt local zoning. Albany County and City of Albany may have home occupation permit requirements. Operator should verify with local city/town zoning board)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?
Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?
No (Complaint-based possible)

## Home kitchen rules

| | |
|---|---|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED | Yes — State registration required; shelf-stable baked goods and certain jams/jellies/preserves only; no TCS foods; labeling required |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No |
| PET RESTRICTIONS | Pets excluded from production areas |
| WATER SUPPLY | Potable water required |
| HANDWASHING | Proper handwashing facility required |
| FOOD STORAGE | Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods |

## Inspection & permitting

| | |
|---|---|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED | No — Complaint-based possible |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Varies — NY state does not preempt local zoning. Albany County and City of Albany may have home occupation permit requirements. Operator should verify with local city/town zoning board |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies |

## Customer-facing rules

| | |
|---|---|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct and indirect sales; farmers markets, events, retail stores, and online permitted |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME | Not specified |

## Relevant county code

Not identified

### RESEARCH NOTES

Albany County contains Albany (state capital). NY state registration required. No county-specific overlay found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://www.albanycounty.com

https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2019/12/HomeProcessor.pdf

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/new-york/albany-county-discuss

# Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation | Albany County | Saratoga County | Rensselaer County |
|---|---|---|---|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED | **Yes** | Yes | Conditional |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | **No** | No | No |
| PETS ALLOWED | **Pets excluded from production areas** | Not specified in state rules; kitchen must be sanitary | No specific NY state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply. |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED | **No** | No | No |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | **Yes** | Yes | Yes |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | **Conditional** | Conditional | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP | **Direct and indirect sales; farmers markets, events, retail stores, and online permitted** | Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, craft fairs, flea markets, home delivery, and online — within NY State only. Wholesale sales ... | Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online (within NY State only... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | **Varies** | Conditional | Varies |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | **Varies** | Varies | Varies |
| RESTRICTIONS | **State registration required; shelf-stable baked goods and certain jams/jellies/ preserves only; no TCS foods; labeling required** | Only baked goods (must be baked — pathogen kill step required) and certain jams/ jellies/preserves allowed. No unbaked items, no frostings w... | New York Home Processor Exemption requires registration with NYSDAM. Products must be shelf-stable baked goods (all must be baked — a patho... |
| FOOD STORAGE | **Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods** | Shelf-stable non-TCS baked goods and certain preserves only; no refrigerated products | Shelf-stable pre-packaged products only; no refrigerated or TCS products. |
| POPULATION | **315,041** | 236,328 | 160,943 |

# State context — New York cottage food law

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

STATUTE
N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Yes

KITCHEN INSPECTION
No

INDIRECT SALES
Yes — Wholesale to restaurants, cafes, and grocery stores within New York State is explicitly permitted. Products may also be sold online (NY residents only) and via delivery. Shipping out of state is not permitted. Registration is free, location-specific, and has no expiration date.

ANNUAL SALES CAP
—

FOOD HANDLER CERT
No

DIRECT SALES ONLY
No

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **New York cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/new-york.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/AGM/251-Z-4

State dept cottage food page: https://agriculture.ny.gov/food-safety/home-processing

Forrager.com: https://forrager.com/law/new-york/

**Questions about Albany 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/new-york/albany-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 Albany County, New York. 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/new-york/albany-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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