

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Onondaga County

New York · Syracuse · FIPS 36067 · Population 472,637 ·
Crosodo Index #1981*

STATE BASELINE

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

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

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.

How to start — 60-second path

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.

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: ONONDAGA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1981* · FIPS 36067 · Syracuse

Onondaga County

Population 472,637 · State baseline: N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (NY's Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR Part 276) administered by NY Ag & Markets, not county health. All products must be baked (pathogen kill step required). Products must be pre-packaged in the home before any sale. If producer is on a private well, potability test (total coliform/E. coli negative) required at registration. Consult local municipal zoning officials before commencing business per NY Ag & Markets guidance.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Onondaga County itself does not administer home occupation permits for most of the county — land use is primarily municipal. Onondaga County has the City of Syracuse plus towns and villages each with independent zoning authority. CityRuleLookup (verified 1 year ago, source: Onondaga County Code) notes 'Some Restrictions' on home business zoning at the county level for unincorporated areas, and city-specific rules exist for Syracuse, Clay, Cicero, and Manlius. The City of Syracuse requires a home occupation permit with a 25% floor area limit and maximum 1-2 non-resident employees, no walk-in retail customers. Residents in unincorporated Onondaga County should consult the Onondaga County Code (Municode: library.municode.com/ny/onondaga_county). NY Ag & Markets explicitly states producers should 'consult with your local zoning officials for approval before commencing any home-based business.')

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (NY Ag & Markets has enforcement authority over registered home processors but no routine inspection program. Registration is free and does not expire but is location-specific.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — NY's Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR Part 276) administered by NY Ag & Markets, not county health. All products must be baked (pathogen kill step required). Products must be pre-packaged in the home before any sale. If producer is on a private well, potability test (total coliform/E. coli negative) required at registration. Consult local municipal zoning officials before commencing business per NY Ag & Markets guidance.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.

WATER SUPPLY

If on private well: potability test (negative for total coliform and E. coli from certified lab) required with Home Processor registration application to NY Ag & Markets.

HANDWASHING

Adequate handwashing facilities required per state food safety standards for home processors.

FOOD STORAGE

All products must be stored and pre-packaged in the home before sale. No on-site packaging at markets permitted.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — NY Ag & Markets has enforcement authority over registered home processors but no routine inspection program. Registration is free and does not expire but is location-specific.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Onondaga County itself does not administer home occupation permits for most of the county — land use is primarily municipal. Onondaga County has the City of Syracuse plus towns and villages each with independent zoning authority. CityRuleLookup (verified 1 year ago, source: Onondaga County Code) notes 'Some Restrictions' on home business zoning at the county level for unincorporated areas, and city-specific rules exist for Syracuse, Clay, Cicero, and Manlius. The City of Syracuse requires a home occupation permit with a 25% floor area limit and maximum 1-2 non-resident employees, no walk-in retail customers. Residents in unincorporated Onondaga County should consult the Onondaga County Code (Municode: library.municode.com/ny/onondaga_county). NY Ag & Markets explicitly states producers should 'consult with your local zoning officials for approval before commencing any home-based business.'
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	State Home Processor Exemption allows sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online (in-state only). Home delivery and customer pickup from residence are permitted under state law, but local municipal zoning may restrict customer visits, signage, and parking. Syracuse city code limits retail/walk-in customers for home occupations.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State exemption does not specify; Syracuse home occupation rules allow 1-2 non-resident employees maximum. Unincorporated area rules vary by town/village.

Relevant county code

Onondaga County Code (Municode: library.municode.com/ny/onondaga_county); Syracuse Municipal Code home occupation provisions; N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 NYCRR Part 276

RESEARCH NOTES

Onondaga County (pop. ~473K, county seat Syracuse) mirrors Westchester in that NY's Home Processor Exemption is state-administered (NY Ag & Markets), not county-administered. Local zoning authority for home occupations rests with each municipality. CityRuleLookup (sourcing Onondaga County Code, verified ~1 year ago) shows 'Some Restrictions' at the county level and notes city-specific rules for Clay, Cicero, Syracuse, and Manlius — each has separate cottage food/home occupation rules. Syracuse city home occupation requires a permit with 25% floor area limit and 1-2 max non-resident employees and no walk-in retail customers. Onondaga County code (Municode) governs unincorporated areas. No county-specific cottage food guidance was found beyond the state baseline. The zoneomics.com result returned a result for Onondaga City (a separate small city in Oswego County, NY — not Onondaga County), which was excluded as irrelevant. Confidence is medium because the state-level program is well-documented, but county/municipal zoning variation requires jurisdiction-specific lookup.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.ongov.net>

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/food-safety/home-processing>

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

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/onondaga-county-ny>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/zoning/onondaga-county-ny>

https://library.municode.com/ny/onondaga_county

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Onondaga County	Oswego County	Cayuga County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	Not explicitly stated; standard sanitary practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	State Home Processor Exemption allows sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home deli...	NY allows sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, home delivery, and online (within New Yor...	Products may be sold at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online within...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	NY's Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR Part 276) administered by NY Ag & Markets, not county health. All products must be baked (pathogen k...	New York Home Processor program allows pre-packaged non-TCS baked goods (must be baked - kill step required). All products must be shelf-st...	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable baked goods only (must be baked — pathogen kill step required). Products must be pre-packaged and la...
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be stored and pre-packaged in the home before sale. No on-site packaging at markets permitted.	Shelf-stable baked goods only. No refrigerated products. No no-bake items, fudge, nut butters, roasted coffee.	Products must be shelf-stable and non-potentially hazardous.
POPULATION	472,637	118,037	76,171

State context — New York cottage food law

Onondaga 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

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

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.

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 Onondaga 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/onondaga-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 Onondaga 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/onondaga-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise