

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Queens County

New York · Queens · FIPS 36081 · Population 2,360,826 ·
Crosodo Index #1338*

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

2026-05-05

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.

NEW YORK: QUEENS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1338* · FIPS 36081 · Queens

Queens County

Population 2,360,826 · 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 (Queens County is an NYC borough governed by the NYC Administrative Code and NYC DOHMH. The NY State Home Processor Exemption applies; no separate NYC cottage food ordinance exists. Products must be pre-packaged at home, properly labeled, and sold within NYS only. All products must have a pathogen kill step (must be baked).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies by city (NYC zoning code governs home-based business activities in residential districts. Operators should consult NYC zoning officials before commencing. No specific cottage food home occupation permit requirement identified for Queens.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; state Ag & Markets or NYC DOHMH may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Queens County is an NYC borough governed by the NYC Administrative Code and NYC DOHMH. The NY State Home Processor Exemption applies; no separate NYC cottage food ordinance exists. Products must be pre-packaged at home, properly labeled, and sold within NYS only. All products must have a pathogen kill step (must be baked).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	Most Queens residents on NYC municipal water; private well users must submit potable water test.
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; state Ag & Markets or NYC DOHMH may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city — NYC zoning code governs home-based business activities in residential districts. Operators should consult NYC zoning officials before commencing. No specific cottage food home occupation permit requirement identified for Queens.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales within New York State only. Wholesale to in-state retail and restaurants is allowed. Internet sales within NYS only.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies

Relevant county code

none — Queens County is a NYC borough; state Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR 276.4) applies

RESEARCH NOTES

Same framework as other NYC boroughs (Kings, Bronx, Manhattan). The NY State Home Processor Exemption is administered by NY Ag & Markets, not the county health department. No NYC-specific cottage food ordinance found. Registration is free, location-specific, no expiration. Prohibited items list in NY is notably more restrictive than other states (must be baked goods with kill step).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.nyc.gov/site/doh/index.page>

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

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Queens County	Kings County	New York County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales within New York State only. Wholesale to in-state retail and restaurants is allowed. Internet sales within NYS only.	Sales within New York State only (internet sales allowed within NY). Wholesale to local restaurants, cafes, and grocery stores is permitted...	Sales within New York State only. Wholesale to in-state retail/restaurants allowed. Internet sales within NYS only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city	Varies by city	Varies by city
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies by city	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	Queens County is an NYC borough governed by the NYC Administrative Code and NYC DOHMH. The NY State Home Processor Exemption applies; no se...	Kings County (Brooklyn) is part of New York City, which operates under the NYC Administrative Code and is administered by the NYC Departmen...	New York County (Manhattan) is an NYC borough governed by the NYC Administrative Code and NYC DOHMH. The NY State Home Processor Exemption ...
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
POPULATION	2,360,826	2,679,620	1,645,867

State context — New York cottage food law

Queens 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	ANNUAL SALES CAP
N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	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](#).

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?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/new-york/queens-county-discuss>
