

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Suffolk County

New York · Riverhead · FIPS 36103 · Population 1,524,486 ·
Crosodo Index #775*

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: SUFFOLK COUNTY

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Suffolk County

Population 1,524,486 · 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 (Suffolk County follows the NY State Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR 276.4) administered by NY Ag & Markets. No separate county cottage food program found. Operators should consult with local zoning officials before commencing any home-based food business, as required by NY Ag & Markets guidance.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (NY Ag & Markets advises operators to consult with local zoning officials before commencing. Suffolk County has numerous towns and villages with their own zoning codes. No specific county-level home occupation permit requirement identified for cottage food.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection under the Home Processor Exemption; NY Ag & Markets or Suffolk County Department of Health may investigate complaints.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Suffolk County follows the NY State Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR 276.4) administered by NY Ag & Markets. No separate county cottage food program found. Operators should consult with local zoning officials before commencing any home-based food business, as required by NY Ag & Markets guidance.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	Private well users must submit potable water test (total coliforms) with application. Municipal water: state baseline applies.
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection under the Home Processor Exemption; NY Ag & Markets or Suffolk County Department of Health may investigate complaints.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — NY Ag & Markets advises operators to consult with local zoning officials before commencing. Suffolk County has numerous towns and villages with their own zoning codes. No specific county-level home occupation permit requirement identified for cottage food.
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 allowed. Internet sales within NYS only. Products must be pre-packaged at home; packaging at event venue not permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies

Relevant county code

none county-specific found; state Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR 276.4) applies

RESEARCH NOTES

Suffolk County follows state baseline. NY Home Processor registration is free, location-specific, and does not expire. Suffolk County's diverse town and village zoning codes mean operators should verify local home occupation rules. NY state prohibits many items other states allow (must be baked goods with pathogen kill step). Suffolk County has a prominent agricultural sector and farm markets are a common sales venue.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://suffolkcountyny.gov>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Suffolk County	Nassau County	Washington County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	Not specified; kitchen sanitation required.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	Yes
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 allowed. Internet sales within NYS only. Products must be pr...	Sales within New York State only. Wholesale to in-state retail/restaurants allowed. Internet sales within NYS only. Products must be pre-pa...	Direct sales only. No wholesale/consignment. No sales to grocery stores, restaurants, long-term care facilities, group homes, daycares, or ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies by city	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Suffolk County follows the NY State Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR 276.4) administered by NY Ag & Markets. No separate county cottage fo...	Nassau County follows the NY State Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR 276.4) administered by NY Ag & Markets. No separate Nassau County cott...	One of the most restrictive cottage food laws in the US. Only non-refrigerated baked goods allowed (double crust pies, yeast breads, biscui...
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	Only non-refrigerated baked goods. Stored in food-safe containers.
POPULATION	1,524,486	1,389,160	129,998

State context — New York cottage food law

Suffolk 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](#).

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 Suffolk County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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