

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Ulster County

New York · Kingston · FIPS 36111 · Population 182,153 ·  
Crosodo Index #787\*

## STATE BASELINE

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

## STATE TIER

Good

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

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## 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: ULSTER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #787\* · FIPS 36111 · Kingston

# Ulster County

Population 182,153 · 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 (Free registration required with NY Ag & Markets (no expiration, location-specific). No sales cap. All products must be baked (pathogen kill step required). No no-bake items. No pickles, relishes, sauces, frostings with cream cheese or buttercream, or refrigerated items.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (Ulster County zoning may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. County URLs were blank in input. State Home Processor program does not require a local permit, but local zoning restrictions may apply. Kingston (county seat) and other municipalities have their own zoning rules.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (No routine inspections. NY Ag & Markets may investigate upon complaint.)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Free registration required with NY Ag & Markets (no expiration, location-specific). No sales cap. All products must be baked (pathogen kill step required). No no-bake items. No pickles, relishes, sauces, frostings with cream cheese or buttercream, or refrigerated items.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water supply required.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Adequate handwashing facilities required.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Shelf-stable storage for baked goods; no refrigerated products allowed.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — No routine inspections. NY Ag & Markets may investigate upon complaint.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — Ulster County zoning may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses. County URLs were blank in input. State Home Processor program does not require a local permit, but local zoning restrictions may apply. Kingston (county seat) and other municipalities have their own zoning rules.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

**Customer-facing rules**

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales permitted at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online — within New York State only. Interstate sales prohibited.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified; household operation implied.

**Relevant county code**

N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 NYCRR Part 276; no specific Ulster County code found.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

NY Home Processor program is administered by NY Ag & Markets (not local health departments), which is notable. Free registration, no sales cap, wholesale allowed (rare among states). All products must be baked — no-bake items (chocolates, fudge, candy) are prohibited. Ulster County URLs were blank in input. NYC may have additional local rules. No county-level override found for Ulster County.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

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

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/AGM/251-Z-4>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Ulster County	Dutchess County	Orange County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	Pets excluded from production areas	No specific state restriction in the home processor exemption.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales permitted at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online — within Ne...	Direct and indirect sales; farmers markets, events, retail stores, and online permitted	Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets; home delivery; online (within New York State only)....
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Free registration required with NY Ag & Markets (no expiration, location-specific). No sales cap. All products must be baked (pathogen kill...	State registration required; shelf-stable baked goods and certain jams/jellies/preserves only; no TCS foods; labeling required	New York Home Processor program (N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 NYCRR Part 276) requires free registration with NY Ag & Markets (locat...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage for baked goods; no refrigerated products allowed.	Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods	Non-TCS shelf-stable baked goods only. No TCS foods.
POPULATION	182,153	296,467	401,237

## State context — New York cottage food law

Ulster 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.

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<b>STATUTE</b> N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> —
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> No	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> No
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> 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.	

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

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### 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/>

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## Questions?

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

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

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