

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Craven County

North Carolina · New Bern · FIPS 37049 · Population 101,098 ·
Crosodo Index #1759*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
02 NCAC 9C.0307	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

Craven County, North Carolina — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under North Carolina 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
- ☐ North Carolina home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[North Carolina label one-pager →](#)

Local notes & questions →

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

NORTH CAROLINA: CRAVEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1759* · FIPS 37049 · New Bern

Craven County

Population 101,098 · State baseline: 02 NCAC 9C.0307 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted including non-refrigerated baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves, candies, dried mixes, spices, some beverages, some sauces, acidified foods (pickles, BBQ sauce), and freeze-dried fruits/vegetables. Pets in the home DISQUALIFY applicants entirely. No sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Craven County and the City of New Bern may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Craven County cottage food ordinance identified beyond the state program requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS Division of Food and Drug Protection is required. Initial inspection before registration and annual renewal inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted including non-refrigerated baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves, candies, dried mixes, spices, some beverages, some sauces, acidified foods (pickles, BBQ sauce), and freeze-dried fruits/vegetables. Pets in the home DISQUALIFY applicants entirely. No sales cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement beyond standard sanitation, but sanitation is reviewed during the annual kitchen inspection.
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing required; verified during annual inspection.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated/non-frozen products only. Prohibited: refrigerated/frozen products, low-acid canned foods, dairy products, seafood, bottled water/juice, and bakery products with cream or cream cheese fillings or cheesecakes. Sauces and dehydrated foods may require pH or water activity testing.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS Division of Food and Drug Protection is required. Initial inspection before registration and annual renewal inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Craven County and the City of New Bern may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Craven County cottage food ordinance identified beyond the state program requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Craven County code section identified. State law governs: 02 NCAC 09C .0307.

RESEARCH NOTES

Craven County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. North Carolina is notable for its annual home kitchen inspection requirement AND the strict pet prohibition. Craven County (New Bern) is a coastal county. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.cravencounty.gov>

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-and-drug-protection/home-processor-inspections>

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-drug-protection/food-program/fdpd-food-program-home-processor>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/north-carolina/craven-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Craven County	Carteret County	Pitt County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 1...	Pet animals in the home disqualify the applicant entirely	Pets in home disqualify applicant entirely.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.	Direct-to-consumer sales; no wholesale or retail resale	Direct sales at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online permitted. No sales cap under state law.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted inc...	Home processor registration required with NC Dept of Agriculture. Initial kitchen inspection required. \$50,000 annual gross sales cap. Shel...	Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in home disqualify applicant. Shelf-stable foods only. No sales ...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated/non-frozen products only. Prohibited: refrigerated/frozen products, low-acid canned foods, dairy products, s...	Shelf-stable products; appropriate storage required	Shelf-stable storage only.
POPULATION	101,098	68,353	171,196

State context — North Carolina cottage food law

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

STATUTE 02 NCAC 9C.0307	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION Yes	DIRECT SALES ONLY No
INDIRECT SALES Yes — Home processors may sell to retail stores, restaurants, and directly to consumers. Sales at farmers markets are permitted. Labels are required for wholesale and packaged self-service retail; direct hand-to-consumer sales (e.g., from home or at events) may be exempt from affixed labels if ingredient info is available on request. NC requires annual home kitchen inspection, which is unusual among no-cap states.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **North Carolina cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/north-carolina.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2002%20-%20agriculture%20and%20consumer%20services/chapter%2009%20-%20food%20and%20drug%20protection/subchapter%20c/02%20ncac%2009c%20.0307.pdf>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-drug-protection/food-program/fdpd-food-program-home-processor>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/north-carolina/>

Questions about Craven 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/north-carolina/craven-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 Craven County, North Carolina. 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/north-carolina/craven-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