

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Pitt County

North Carolina · Greenville · FIPS 37147 · Population 171,196 ·
Crosodo Index #2168*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

Pets in home disqualify applicant entirely.

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: PITT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2168* · FIPS 37147 · Greenville

Pitt County

Population 171,196 · State baseline: 02 NCAC 9C.0307 · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in home disqualify applicant. Shelf-stable foods only. No sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Pets in home disqualify applicant entirely.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Pitt County regulates home businesses through zoning ordinance under N.C.G.S. §160A-381 (Dillon's Rule state). Home occupation permit and business privilege license typically required. NC Cottage Food Law (N.C.G.S. §130A-250) — note: \$50,000/year informal limit referenced by local sources but state statute has no explicit cap. No exterior alteration, no outside storage, no hazardous materials. Residence must remain primarily residential. Pitt County Planning and Development website confirmed at pittcountync.gov.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual inspection required by NCDA&CS.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in home disqualify applicant. Shelf-stable foods only. No sales cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Pets in home disqualify applicant entirely.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water; private well water may require testing.
HANDWASHING	Dedicated handwashing sink required.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual inspection required by NCDA&CS.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Pitt County regulates home businesses through zoning ordinance under N.C.G.S. §160A-381 (Dillon's Rule state). Home occupation permit and business privilege license typically required. NC Cottage Food Law (N.C.G.S. §130A-250) — note: \$50,000/year informal limit referenced by local sources but state statute has no explicit cap. No exterior alteration, no outside storage, no hazardous materials. Residence must remain primarily residential. Pitt County Planning and Development website confirmed at pittcountync.gov .
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online permitted. No sales cap under state law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Typically household members only per home occupation permit.

Relevant county code

Pitt County Zoning Ordinance (home occupations under N.C.G.S. §160A-381); 02 NCAC 09C .0307

RESEARCH NOTES

Pitt County government zoning website confirmed at [pittcountync.gov](https://www.pittcountync.gov). CityRuleLookup confirms home occupation permit and business privilege license required under NC zoning authority (N.C.G.S. §160A-381). CityRuleLookup cites \$50,000/year NC Cottage Food Law limit — this may reflect an informal guidance figure or interpretation; the state statute (02 NCAC 09C .0307) does not specify a dollar cap. Annual inspection by NCDA&CS distinguishes NC from most states.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pittcountync.gov>

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

<https://www.pittcountync.gov/260/Land-Use-Zoning>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/zoning/pitt-county-nc>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Pitt County	Craven County	Wilson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets in home disqualify applicant entirely.	PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 1...	Pets in the home disqualify the applicant from the NC home processor program. This is a strict requirement per 02 NCAC 9C.0307.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online permitted. No sales cap under state law.	Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.	Direct and indirect sales permitted. Shelf-stable products may be sold at farmers markets, roadside stands, online, and through other chann...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in home disqualify applicant. Shelf-stable foods only. No sales ...	North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted inc...	Shelf-stable, low-risk foods. Annual home kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely per GM...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage only.	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated/non-frozen products only. Prohibited: refrigerated/frozen products, low-acid canned foods, dairy products, s...	Shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately. Products requiring refrigeration are prohibited.
POPULATION	171,196	101,098	78,667

State context — North Carolina cottage food law

Pitt 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 Pitt 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/pitt-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 Pitt 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/pitt-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.

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