

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Kent County

Rhode Island · East Greenwich · FIPS 44003 · Population
170,168 · Crosodo Index #2588*

STATE BASELINE

R.I. Gen. Laws §21-27-6.2

STATE TIER

Poor

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

50000

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.

RHODE ISLAND: KENT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2588* · FIPS 44003 · East Greenwich

Kent County

Population 170,168 · State baseline: R.I. Gen. Laws §21-27-6.2 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Only non-refrigerated baked goods allowed (double crust pies, yeast breads, biscuits, brownies, cookies, muffins, cakes that do not require refrigeration). Registration required (\$65 fee). 8-hour food handler training required. Notarized affidavit and kitchen sketch required. Annual sales cap \$50,000. DOH may inspect at any time. Direct sales only within Rhode Island; no wholesale, no grocery stores, no restaurants, no schools, no long-term care facilities.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

DOH inspection applies; pets likely required away from food prep areas.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Rhode Island counties are administrative only and do not have county government; municipalities govern local rules. Kent County municipalities (e.g., Warwick, Cranston, West Warwick) each have their own zoning rules for home-based businesses. County URLs were blank in input. Home occupation permits typically required by municipalities.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (DOH may inspect at any time for compliance. No routine scheduled inspections but DOH retains right to inspect.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Only non-refrigerated baked goods allowed (double crust pies, yeast breads, biscuits, brownies, cookies, muffins, cakes that do not require refrigeration). Registration required (\$65 fee). 8-hour food handler training required. Notarized affidavit and kitchen sketch required. Annual sales cap \$50,000. DOH may inspect at any time. Direct sales only within Rhode Island; no wholesale, no grocery stores, no restaurants, no schools, no long-term care facilities.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	DOH inspection applies; pets likely required away from food prep areas.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facilities required; assessed during registration.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-refrigerated shelf-stable baked goods stored properly.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — DOH may inspect at any time for compliance. No routine scheduled inspections but DOH retains right to inspect.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Rhode Island counties are administrative only and do not have county government; municipalities govern local rules. Kent County municipalities (e.g., Warwick, Cranston, West Warwick) each have their own zoning rules for home-based businesses. County URLs were blank in input. Home occupation permits typically required by municipalities.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only within Rhode Island. Products may not be sold outside the state.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified; household operation implied.

Relevant county code

R.I. Gen. Laws §21-27-6.2; municipal zoning ordinances (Kent County municipalities)

RESEARCH NOTES

Rhode Island has one of the most restrictive cottage food laws nationally (tier 'Poor'). County seat was blank in input — East Greenwich is the county seat of Kent County, RI. Rhode Island counties have no county government; municipalities govern local rules. The operative statute is §21-27-6.2 (enacted P.L. 2022, amended P.L. 2024), not §21-27-6.1 as listed in the input. Registration fee is \$65 payable to General Treasurer, State of RI.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=257>

<https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/Statutes/TITLE21/21-27/21-27-6.1.htm>

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

State context — Rhode Island cottage food law

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

STATUTE R.I. Gen. Laws §21-27-6.2	ANNUAL SALES CAP 50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes
KITCHEN INSPECTION Yes	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES No — No wholesale or consignment sales permitted. Sales to grocery stores, restaurants, long-term care facilities, group homes, daycare facilities, and schools are prohibited. Internet/mail/phone sales are permissible but the operator or designee must personally deliver within the state. Farmers market and temporary event sales require an additional retail food peddler license.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <http://webserver.rilegislature.gov/Statutes/TITLE21/21-27/21-27-6.1.htm>

State dept cottage food page: <https://health.ri.gov/licenses/detail.php?id=257>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/rhode-island/>

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/rhode-island/kent-county-discuss>
