

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Barnstable County

Massachusetts · Barnstable · FIPS 25001 · Population
229,436 · Crosodo Index #2324*

STATE BASELINE

105 CMR 590.009(D)

STATE TIER

Okay

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Barnstable County, Massachusetts — 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

**Not specified in state regulation;
kitchen must pass Board of Health
inspection**

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Massachusetts label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

MASSACHUSETTS: BARNSTABLE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2324* · FIPS 25001 · Barnstable

Barnstable County

Population 229,436 · State baseline: 105 CMR 590.009(D) · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Residential kitchen permit required from local Board of Health (each town administers separately). Annual kitchen inspection required before permit issued. Non-TCS foods only. Direct sales to end user only (no wholesale, no mail order, no out-of-state). Potable water testing required for private wells. Dedicated handwashing sink required or separate sink with protocol. Barnstable County has 15 distinct towns — each town's Board of Health administers its own permit.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state regulation; kitchen must pass Board of Health inspection

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Each Barnstable County town has its own Board of Health and zoning requirements. Residential kitchen permit (from town Board of Health) is required per 105 CMR 590.009(D). This is separate from any zoning home occupation permit. Some towns may require both. Local zoning varies by municipality.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual kitchen inspection by local Board of Health required before permit issued; Board of Health may inspect at any time for compliance)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Residential kitchen permit required from local Board of Health (each town administers separately). Annual kitchen inspection required before permit issued. Non-TCS foods only. Direct sales to end user only (no wholesale, no mail order, no out-of-state). Potable water testing required for private wells. Dedicated handwashing sink required or separate sink with protocol. Barnstable County has 15 distinct towns — each town's Board of Health administers its own permit.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state regulation; kitchen must pass Board of Health inspection

WATER SUPPLY

Private well must be tested pre-permit and at least annually; public water supply bill as proof

HANDWASHING

Dedicated handwashing sink required or kitchen sink protocol; adequate handwashing required per state code

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS non-perishable foods only; baked goods, jams, jellies, dry goods, confections

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Yes — Annual kitchen inspection by local Board of Health required before permit issued; Board of Health may inspect at any time for compliance

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Each Barnstable County town has its own Board of Health and zoning requirements. Residential kitchen permit (from town Board of Health) is required per 105 CMR 590.009(D). This is separate from any zoning home occupation permit. Some towns may require both. Local zoning varies by municipality.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to end consumer only; no wholesale to stores/restaurants; no mail order; no out-of-state delivery (FDA does not recognize as approved source). Sales at farmers markets and events allowed with local Board of Health approval.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state regulation; local zoning may restrict

Relevant county code

105 CMR 590.009(D)(2)-(3); individual town Board of Health regulations

RESEARCH NOTES

Barnstable County MA (Cape Cod) uses Massachusetts' residential kitchen permit model under 105 CMR 590.009(D). Each of the 15 towns on Cape Cod has its own Board of Health administering permits — fees, specific requirements, and processing vary by town. Mass.gov Retail Food Code standards document confirmed requirements including water testing, handwashing sink, inspection. Annual permit fee typical around \$100-\$175. No Barnstable County-wide cottage food program — all county-level governed at town level. Confidence medium — state regulation confirmed but no Barnstable town-level .gov source retrieved.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.barnstablecounty.org>

<https://www.mass.gov/guidance/retail-food-code-standards-for-permitted-residential-kitchens>

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/residential-kitchen-permit-information>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Barnstable County	Plymouth County	Bristol County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state regulation; kitchen must pass Board of Health inspection	No specific state cottage food pet restriction, but kitchen must pass health inspection for sanitation	No specific state cottage food pet restriction, but kitchen must pass health inspection for sanitation
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to end consumer only; no wholesale to stores/ restaurants; no mail order; no out-of-state delivery (FDA does not recognize as approve...	Sales directly to consumers, farmers markets (additional permit from local board of health), online sales within and outside Massachusetts....	Sales directly to consumers, at farmers markets (with additional permit from local board of health), online sales within and outside Massac...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies by city	Varies by city
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Residential kitchen permit required from local Board of Health (each town administers separately). Annual kitchen inspection required befor...	Residential kitchen permit required from local board of health. Kitchen inspection required before operation. Only non-TCS foods allowed. P...	Residential kitchen permit required from local board of health. Kitchen inspection required before operation. Only non-TCS foods allowed. P...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS non-perishable foods only; baked goods, jams, jellies, dry goods, confections	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-TCS foods	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-TCS foods
POPULATION	229,436	529,548	576,699

State context — Massachusetts cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
105 CMR 590.009(D)	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	Recommended
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Yes	No
INDIRECT SALES	

Yes — Massachusetts residential kitchens are treated as food establishments, so permitted operators may sell at any venue within the state including restaurants and retail stores, without the wholesale restriction that most cottage food laws impose. Mail order and catering are prohibited. Local boards of health administer permits and may impose additional restrictions.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Massachusetts cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/massachusetts.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.mass.gov/regulations/105-CMR-59000-state-sanitary-code-chapter-x>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/residential-kitchen-permit-information>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/massachusetts/>

Questions about Barnstable 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/massachusetts/barnstable-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 Barnstable County, Massachusetts. 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/massachusetts/barnstable-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