

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Dukes County

Massachusetts · Edgartown · FIPS 25007 · Population
21,061 · Crosodo Index #2686*

STATE BASELINE

105 CMR 590.009(D)

STATE TIER

Okay

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

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

Dukes County, Massachusetts — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

Local Board of Health standards apply; typically animals must be excluded from food prep areas during production.

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: DUKES COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2686* · FIPS 25007 · Edgartown

Dukes County

Population 21,061 · 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 (town-level in MA). Kitchen inspection required before permit is issued. Only non-potentially hazardous foods (shelf-stable) allowed. Retail Residential Kitchen (direct-to-consumer) permitted locally; Wholesale Residential Kitchen licensed by MA DPH. No state sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Local Board of Health standards apply; typically animals must be excluded from food prep areas during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Dukes County encompasses Martha's Vineyard towns (Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, West Tisbury, Chilmark, Aquinnah). Each town's Board of Health administers Residential Kitchen permits independently. Some municipalities may also require a home occupation permit or business certificate from the town clerk. Requirements vary by town.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Pre-operational inspection required by local Board of Health before permit issuance. Subsequent inspections at BOH discretion.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Residential Kitchen permit required from local Board of Health (town-level in MA). Kitchen inspection required before permit is issued. Only non-potentially hazardous foods (shelf-stable) allowed. Retail Residential Kitchen (direct-to-consumer) permitted locally; Wholesale Residential Kitchen licensed by MA DPH. No state sales cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Local Board of Health standards apply; typically animals must be excluded from food prep areas during production.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required per local Board of Health standards.
HANDWASHING	Required per Massachusetts food safety standards and local Board of Health.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products only. Foods requiring refrigeration or temperature control are not permitted under Residential Kitchen framework.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Pre-operational inspection required by local Board of Health before permit issuance. Subsequent inspections at BOH discretion.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Dukes County encompasses Martha's Vineyard towns (Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, West Tisbury, Chilmark, Aquinnah). Each town's Board of Health administers Residential Kitchen permits independently. Some municipalities may also require a home occupation permit or business certificate from the town clerk. Requirements vary by town.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only under Retail Residential Kitchen framework. Sales at farmers markets, events, online (direct-to-consumer), and personal delivery. Wholesale to stores requires state DPH Wholesale Residential Kitchen license.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Typically limited to permit holder and household members; outside employees generally not allowed under Residential Kitchen framework.

Relevant county code

105 CMR 590.009(D) (state); local town Board of Health regulations vary by municipality.

RESEARCH NOTES

Massachusetts state baseline applied: 105 CMR 590.009(D) Residential Kitchen framework. Dukes County (Martha's Vineyard) is governed by individual town Boards of Health. No county-level cottage food administration exists; each of the six Vineyard towns (Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, West Tisbury, Chilmark, Aquinnah) runs its own permitting program. No Dukes County-specific rules beyond state framework identified. Island geography may create logistical differences in inspection scheduling. Food safety training not uniformly required at state level but may be required locally. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dukescounty.org>

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/residential-kitchen-questions-and-answers>

https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Documents/Updated_CF_Guidelines_2025.pdf

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Dukes County	Nantucket County	Barnstable County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Local Board of Health standards apply; typically animals must be excluded from food prep areas during production.	Local Board of Health standards apply; typically animals must be excluded from food prep areas during production.	Not specified in state regulation; kitchen must pass Board of Health inspection
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only under Retail Residential Kitchen framework. Sales at farmers markets, events, online (direct-to-consumer), and personal d...	Direct sales only under Retail Residential Kitchen framework. Sales at farmers markets, events, online (direct-to-consumer), and personal d...	Direct to end consumer only; no wholesale to stores/ restaurants; no mail order; no out-of-state delivery (FDA does not recognize as approve...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Residential Kitchen permit required from local Board of Health (town-level in MA). Kitchen inspection required before permit is issued. Onl...	Residential Kitchen permit required from local Board of Health. Kitchen inspection required before permit issuance. Only non-potentially ha...	Residential kitchen permit required from local Board of Health (each town administers separately). Annual kitchen inspection required befor...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products only. Foods requiring refrigeration or temperature control are not permitted under Residential Kitchen framework.	Shelf-stable products only. Foods requiring refrigeration or temperature control are not permitted under Residential Kitchen framework.	Non-TCS non-perishable foods only; baked goods, jams, jellies, dry goods, confections
POPULATION	20,543	14,065	229,436

State context — Massachusetts cottage food law

Dukes 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

105 CMR 590.009(D)

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Recommended

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Yes

DIRECT SALES ONLY

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 Dukes 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/dukes-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 Dukes 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/dukes-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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