

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Nantucket County

Massachusetts · Nantucket · FIPS 25019 · Population 14,670
· Crosodo Index #2687*

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

Nantucket 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: NANTUCKET COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2687* · FIPS 25019 · Nantucket

Nantucket County

Population 14,670 · 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. Kitchen inspection required before permit issuance. Only non-potentially hazardous foods (shelf-stable) allowed. Nantucket is a consolidated town-county; the Nantucket Board of Health administers permits. 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 (Nantucket County is a consolidated county-town (the only one in Massachusetts). The Nantucket Board of Health administers all Residential Kitchen permits. A home occupation permit or business certificate from the town may also be required. Island logistics (ferry access) may affect inspection scheduling timelines.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Pre-operational inspection required by Nantucket Board of Health before permit issuance.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Residential Kitchen permit required from local Board of Health. Kitchen inspection required before permit issuance. Only non-potentially hazardous foods (shelf-stable) allowed. Nantucket is a consolidated town-county; the Nantucket Board of Health administers permits. 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 Nantucket Board of Health before permit issuance.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Nantucket County is a consolidated county-town (the only one in Massachusetts). The Nantucket Board of Health administers all Residential Kitchen permits. A home occupation permit or business certificate from the town may also be required. Island logistics (ferry access) may affect inspection scheduling timelines.
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); Nantucket Board of Health regulations.

RESEARCH NOTES

Massachusetts state baseline applied: 105 CMR 590.009(D). Nantucket County is unique in Massachusetts as a consolidated county-town — the county and town of Nantucket are coterminous. The Nantucket Board of Health administers Residential Kitchen permits. Island geography means inspection logistics differ from mainland counties. Seasonal population fluctuations may affect enforcement patterns. No Nantucket-specific cottage food rules beyond state framework identified. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.nantucket-ma.gov>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Nantucket County	Dukes County	Berkshire 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 explicitly prohibited by state regulation; individual town Boards of Health may impose additional requirements.
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 sales permitted from home, farmers markets, and retail. Online sales allowed but no mail order. Catering is prohibited. All sales wi...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	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 (town-level in MA). Kitchen inspection required before permit is issued. Onl...	Massachusetts treats home kitchens as food establishments requiring a local Board of Health permit and kitchen inspection. No statewide sal...
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-potentially hazardous foods not requiring refrigeration. Stored in food-safe containers.
POPULATION	14,065	20,543	128,763

State context — Massachusetts cottage food law

Nantucket 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 Nantucket 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/nantucket-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 Nantucket 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/nantucket-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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