

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Rockingham County

New Hampshire · Brentwood · FIPS 33015 · Population
315,169 · Crosodo Index #2425*

STATE BASELINE

RSA §143-A:12; tiered registration/licensing depending on revenue; non-TCS foods;
complaint-based inspection; limited indirect sales

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Good	Tiered	MEDIUM	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

Rockingham County, New Hampshire — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

Open the live county page →

New Hampshire label one-pager →

Local notes & questions →

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

NEW HAMPSHIRE: ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2425* · FIPS 33015 · Brentwood

Rockingham County

Population 315,169 · State baseline: RSA §143-A:12; tiered registration/licensing depending on revenue; non-TCS foods; complaint-based inspection; limited indirect sales · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-TCS homestead food products from primary home kitchen; tiered annual sales cap with registration thresholds; labeling required; complaint-based inspections possible)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-level home occupation permit identified for NH counties (NH counties have limited regulatory power). Municipal zoning in individual towns within Rockingham County may require home occupation permits; operator should check with local town planning)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based; DHHS may inspect)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Non-TCS homestead food products from primary home kitchen; tiered annual sales cap with registration thresholds; labeling required; complaint-based inspections possible
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water at residence
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based; DHHS may inspect
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-level home occupation permit identified for NH counties (NH counties have limited regulatory power). Municipal zoning in individual towns within Rockingham County may require home occupation permits; operator should check with local town planning
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct from homestead, at owner's stand, or at farmers markets; limited indirect sales permitted under higher tiers
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified; NH counties have limited zoning authority

RESEARCH NOTES

NH counties have very limited regulatory authority; most zoning is at town level. Rockingham County is suburban/exurban southern NH. No county-specific overlay. State homestead food program applies.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.rockinghamcountynh.org>

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/food-protection/homestead-food-licensing>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Rockingham County	Hillsborough County	Merrimack County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No specific restriction in state homestead food law beyond standard food safety practices.	No specific state restriction on pets in home for homestead food operations.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct from homestead, at owner's stand, or at farmers markets; limited indirect sales permitted under higher tiers	Below threshold: sell from home, farm stand, farmers markets, retail stores. Above threshold or for internet/mail/restaurant/wholesale: Cla...	Exempt operations: sales at homestead residence, farm stand, farmers markets, and retail food stores without license below the threshold. L...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-TCS homestead food products from primary home kitchen; tiered annual sales cap with registration thresholds; labeling required; complai...	New Hampshire 'Homestead Food' law (RSA §143-A:12) allows non-PHF foods produced in the operator's primary home kitchen. Below the annual s...	New Hampshire Homestead Food Licensing: operators may sell non-PHF homestead food products from their primary home kitchen without a licens...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions	Non-TCS shelf-stable products only.	Non-PHF, non-TCS foods only. Products must not require temperature control for safety.
POPULATION	315,169	422,733	153,918

State context — New Hampshire cottage food law

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

STATUTE

RSA §143-A:12

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Depends

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Exempt operations (below sales cap) may sell at retail food stores without a license. Sales to restaurants, over the internet, by mail order, or to wholesalers/distributors require a Class H Homestead License under RSA 143-A:4. The department may inspect upon suspicion of imminent health hazard but does not conduct routine inspections of exempt operations.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **New Hampshire cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/new-hampshire.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/X/143-A/143-A-mrg.htm>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/food-protection/homestead-food-licensing>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/new-hampshire/>

Questions about Rockingham 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/new-hampshire/rockingham-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 Rockingham County, New Hampshire. 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/new-hampshire/rockingham-county-discuss

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