

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Monroe County

New York · Rochester · FIPS 36055 · Population 756,406 ·
Crosodo Index #754*

STATE BASELINE

N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4 (Home Processor Exemption)

STATE TIER

Good

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

Monroe County, New York — 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

No

PETS

Not specified

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[New York label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

NEW YORK: MONROE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #754* · FIPS 36055 · Rochester

Monroe County

Population 756,406 · State baseline: N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4 (Home Processor Exemption) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Home Processor Exemption applies. Location-specific registration (free, no expiration). Products must be packaged in home. Private well requires potability test. Consult local zoning before starting.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Monroe County advises consulting local zoning officials before starting. City of Rochester has its own zoning code. Other municipalities in Monroe County have separate rules. Monroe County Department of Planning also provides zoning guidance for unincorporated areas.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Exempt from routine inspections. Monroe County Department of Public Health may investigate foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Home Processor Exemption applies. Location-specific registration (free, no expiration). Products must be packaged in home. Private well requires potability test. Consult local zoning before starting.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified
WATER SUPPLY	Private well users must submit water potability test (negative for total coliform and E. coli)
HANDWASHING	No state food handler training required under Home Processor Exemption
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be packaged in home kitchen

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Exempt from routine inspections. Monroe County Department of Public Health may investigate foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Monroe County advises consulting local zoning officials before starting. City of Rochester has its own zoning code. Other municipalities in Monroe County have separate rules. Monroe County Department of Planning also provides zoning guidance for unincorporated areas.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Farm venues, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, home delivery, online — all within NYS only. Wholesale to restaurants/cafes/grocery stores within NYS permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	1 (operator only; commercial employees disqualify the exemption)

Relevant county code

1 CRR-NY 276.4; Monroe County/Rochester municipal zoning varies

RESEARCH NOTES

Monroe County follows New York state baseline for Home Processor Exemption. Registration is free and location-specific. Rochester is the primary municipality. Monroe County Department of Public Health handles food safety oversight. No Monroe County-specific cottage food restrictions beyond state law found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/health>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov>

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/food-safety/home-processing>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Monroe County	Ontario County	Wayne County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	No specific restriction.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Farm venues, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, home delivery, online — all within NYS only. Wholesale to restauran...	NY allows sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, craft fairs, home delivery, and online (within New York State only). Wholesale allo...	Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, craft fairs, home delivery, online within New York State. Wholesale permitted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Home Processor Exemption applies. Location-specific registration (free, no expiration). Products must be packaged in home. Private well req...	New York Home Processor program allows pre-packaged non-TCS baked goods (kill step required). Registration free and location-specific. Onta...	New York Home Processor Exemption: all products must be baked (pathogen kill step). Allowed: non-PHF shelf-stable baked goods, certain jams...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be packaged in home kitchen	Shelf-stable baked goods only. No refrigerated products.	Pre-packaged at home; non-PHF shelf-stable only.
POPULATION	756,406	112,288	91,324

State context — New York cottage food law

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

STATUTE

N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4

ANNUAL SALES CAP

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REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Yes — Wholesale to restaurants, cafes, and grocery stores within New York State is explicitly permitted. Products may also be sold online (NY residents only) and via delivery. Shipping out of state is not permitted. Registration is free, location-specific, and has no expiration date.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/AGM/251-Z-4>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agriculture.ny.gov/food-safety/home-processing>

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

Questions about Monroe 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-york/monroe-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 Monroe County, New York. 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-york/monroe-county-discuss

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