

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Rensselaer County

New York · Troy · FIPS 36083 · Population 160,943 · Crosodo Index #2678*

STATE BASELINE

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

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

Rensselaer County, New York — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific NY state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.

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: RENSSELAER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2678* · FIPS 36083 · Troy

Rensselaer County

Population 160,943 · State baseline: N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 CRR-NY 276.4 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (New York Home Processor Exemption requires registration with NYSDAM. Products must be shelf-stable baked goods (all must be baked — a pathogen kill step required), certain jams, jellies, preserves, and snack mixes. No sales cap. Sales only within New York State. No online sales out-of-state. Products must be pre-packaged and labeled.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific NY state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Rensselaer County and the City of Troy may require home occupation permits under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement by NYSDAM.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — New York Home Processor Exemption requires registration with NYSDAM. Products must be shelf-stable baked goods (all must be baked — a pathogen kill step required), certain jams, jellies, preserves, and snack mixes. No sales cap. Sales only within New York State. No online sales out-of-state. Products must be pre-packaged and labeled.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific NY state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement under NY Home Processor Exemption.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable pre-packaged products only; no refrigerated or TCS products.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement by NYSDAM.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Rensselaer County and the City of Troy may require home occupation permits under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online (within NY State only). No wholesale or out-of-state sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

Rensselaer County Zoning; N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. NY Home Processor Exemption requires all products to be baked (kill step). No Rensselaer County-specific cottage food code identified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.rensselaercounty.gov>

<https://agriculture.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2019/12/HomeProcessor.pdf>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Rensselaer County	Saratoga County	Albany County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific NY state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.	Not specified in state rules; kitchen must be sanitary	Pets excluded from production areas
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online (within NY State only...	Sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, craft fairs, flea markets, home delivery, and online — within NY State only. Wholesale sales ...	Direct and indirect sales; farmers markets, events, retail stores, and online permitted
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	New York Home Processor Exemption requires registration with NYSDAM. Products must be shelf-stable baked goods (all must be baked — a patho...	Only baked goods (must be baked — pathogen kill step required) and certain jams/jellies/preserves allowed. No unbaked items, no frostings w...	State registration required; shelf-stable baked goods and certain jams/jellies/preserves only; no TCS foods; labeling required
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable pre-packaged products only; no refrigerated or TCS products.	Shelf-stable non-TCS baked goods and certain preserves only; no refrigerated products	Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods
POPULATION	160,943	236,328	315,041

State context — New York cottage food law

Rensselaer 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

—

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 Rensselaer 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/rensselaer-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 Rensselaer 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/rensselaer-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