

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Westchester County

New York · White Plains · FIPS 36119 · Population 997,904 ·
Crosodo Index #2163*

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

2026-05-06

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

Westchester County, New York — 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?

Conditional

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.

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: WESTCHESTER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2163* · FIPS 36119 · White Plains

Westchester County

Population 997,904 · 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?

Yes (NY's Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR Part 276) is administered by NY Ag & Markets, not local authorities. Production must occur in the registered home kitchen. NY Ag & Markets requires a private well water potability test (negative for total coliform/E. coli) if producer is on a private well. All products must be baked (kill step required). Consult local zoning officials before commencing home-based business per Ag & Markets guidance.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Westchester County has no county-level zoning authority over home occupations — land use is entirely municipal. Westchester has 6 cities, 16 towns, and 23 villages, each with independent home occupation zoning rules. NY Ag & Markets explicitly states producers should 'consult with your local zoning officials for approval before commencing any home-based business.' Example: in Scarsdale (a Westchester municipality), home occupations without regular customer visits are permitted as-of-right with optional registration; those with regular customers require a Special Use Permit. White Plains (county seat) and other cities/towns will have their own ordinances. Residents must check with their specific municipality.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (NY Home Processor exemption does not require routine inspection. NY Ag & Markets has enforcement authority but no routine inspection program for registered home processors.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — NY's Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR Part 276) is administered by NY Ag & Markets, not local authorities. Production must occur in the registered home kitchen. NY Ag & Markets requires a private well water potability test (negative for total coliform/E. coli) if producer is on a private well. All products must be baked (kill step required). Consult local zoning officials before commencing home-based business per Ag & Markets guidance.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.
WATER SUPPLY	If on private well: must submit potability test results (certified lab, negative for total coliform and E. coli) with Home Processor registration application to NY Ag & Markets.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facilities required by state food safety standards applicable to home processors.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be stored and pre-packaged in the home before sale. No on-site packaging at markets permitted.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — NY Home Processor exemption does not require routine inspection. NY Ag & Markets has enforcement authority but no routine inspection program for registered home processors.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Westchester County has no county-level zoning authority over home occupations — land use is entirely municipal. Westchester has 6 cities, 16 towns, and 23 villages, each with independent home occupation zoning rules. NY Ag & Markets explicitly states producers should 'consult with your local zoning officials for approval before commencing any home-based business.' Example: in Scarsdale (a Westchester municipality), home occupations without regular customer visits are permitted as-of-right with optional registration; those with regular customers require a Special Use Permit. White Plains (county seat) and other cities/towns will have their own ordinances. Residents must check with their specific municipality.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	State Home Processor Exemption allows sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home delivery, and online (in-state only). Home delivery and customer pickup from residence are permitted under state law, but local municipal zoning may impose conditions (customer visit limits, signage restrictions, parking requirements).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State Home Processor Exemption does not address employees explicitly; local municipal home occupation rules typically restrict to residents only or limit non-resident employees to 0-1.

Relevant county code

No county-level cottage food or home occupation code — regulated at municipal level. See N.Y. Agric. & Mkts. Law §251-z-4; 1 NYCRR Part 276.

RESEARCH NOTES

Westchester County is a high-income suburban county (pop. ~998K) north of NYC with 45 municipalities each exercising independent home-rule zoning authority. The county Planning Department confirmed that 'each of these municipalities has home rule authority on all matters relating to planning and zoning.' There is no county-level home occupation permit — each of the 45 municipalities controls this. NY's Home Processor program is administered exclusively by NY Ag & Markets (not county health departments), so cottage food food-safety rules are state-administered. The planning fragmentation means no single answer applies county-wide for home occupation permits. Scarsdale's zoning (a representative Westchester municipality) shows a typical pattern: as-of-right for no-customer-visit occupations, special use permit if customers come to the premises. The NY Ag & Markets guidance document explicitly directs home processors to consult local zoning officials. Confidence is medium because county-level data is confirmed, but per-municipality variation is not resolvable without knowing the specific municipality of residence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.westchestergov.com>

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

<https://planning.westchestercountyny.gov/land-use-development/overview>

<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/westchester-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Westchester County	Nassau County	Bronx County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific county or state cottage food pet restriction found; standard food safety hygiene implied.	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	State Home Processor Exemption allows sales at farms, farm stands, farmers markets, green markets, craft fairs, flea markets, via home deli...	Sales within New York State only. Wholesale to in-state retail/restaurants allowed. Internet sales within NYS only. Products must be pre-pa...	Sales within New York State only. Wholesale to in-state retail/restaurants allowed. Internet sales within NYS only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Varies by city
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies by city	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	NY's Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR Part 276) is administered by NY Ag & Markets, not local authorities. Production must occur in the re...	Nassau County follows the NY State Home Processor Exemption (1 NYCRR 276.4) administered by NY Ag & Markets. No separate Nassau County cott...	Bronx County is an NYC borough governed by the NYC Administrative Code and NYC DOHMH. The NY State Home Processor Exemption applies; no sep...
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be stored and pre-packaged in the home before sale. No on-site packaging at markets permitted.	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
POPULATION	997,904	1,389,160	1,443,229

State context — New York cottage food law

Westchester 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 Westchester 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/westchester-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

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Advertise here — Insurance

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LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Westchester 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/westchester-county-discuss

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