

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Iredell County

North Carolina · Statesville · FIPS 37097 · Population 187,839  
· Crosodo Index #1802\*

| STATE BASELINE  | STATE TIER | ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE) | CONFIDENCE | LAST VERIFIED |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 02 NCAC 9C.0307 | Good       | —                        | 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

Iredell County, North Carolina — 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

**Yes**

### PETS

**Pets in home disqualify applicant; no pets allowed in household during registration under GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).**

### BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

### CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[North Carolina label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

## NORTH CAROLINA: IREDELL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1802\* · FIPS 37097 · Statesville

## Iredell County

Population 187,839 · State baseline: 02 NCAC 9C.0307 · MEDIUM

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant. Only shelf-stable, low-risk foods allowed. No refrigerated or frozen products.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

Pets in home disqualify applicant; no pets allowed in household during registration under GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (NC state law does not preempt local zoning for home occupations. Iredell County zoning requires home occupation permit for home-based businesses in residential zones; business must be secondary to residential use. Statesville has separate municipal zoning. No county URLs provided in input for verification.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual inspection required by NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) before and during operation.)

## Home kitchen rules

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes — Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant. Only shelf-stable, low-risk foods allowed. No refrigerated or frozen products. |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| PET RESTRICTIONS           | Pets in home disqualify applicant; no pets allowed in household during registration under GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).                                                                    |
| WATER SUPPLY               | Potable water; private well water may require testing.                                                                                                                                                |
| HANDWASHING                | Dedicated handwashing sink required; must be separate from food prep sink.                                                                                                                            |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Shelf-stable storage; products must not require refrigeration.                                                                                                                                        |

## Inspection &amp; permitting

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED    | Yes — Annual inspection required by NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) before and during operation.                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Conditional — NC state law does not preempt local zoning for home occupations. Iredell County zoning requires home occupation permit for home-based businesses in residential zones; business must be secondary to residential use. Statesville has separate municipal zoning. No county URLs provided in input for verification. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

**Customer-facing rules**

|                         |                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes                                                                                                              |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE         | Conditional                                                                                                      |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct sales allowed at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online and mail order permitted. No sales cap. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | Production limited to household members; state rules focus on home processor registration.                       |

**Relevant county code**

02 NCAC 09C .0307; NC Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act G.S. Chapter 106, Article 12

**RESEARCH NOTES**

NC requires annual kitchen inspection, making it distinct from most states. No county-level override found; state baseline governs. Pitt County CityRuleLookup reference notes \$50,000/year limit for NC cottage food, though the state statute has no explicit cap — this may reflect an informal guidance figure. No sales cap is stated in 02 NCAC 09C .0307.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.iredellcounty.gov>

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-and-drug-protection/home-processor-inspections>

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-drug-protection/food-program/fdpd-food-program-home-processor>

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/north-carolina/iredell-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/north-carolina/iredell-county-discuss)

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation                 | Iredell County                                                                                                                                 | Cabarrus County                                                                                                                                | Catawba County                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Pets in home disqualify applicant; no pets allowed in household during registration under GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).             | Pets in the home are a disqualifying factor under NC home processor program. Indoor pets are considered pests under GMP requirements. Pet p... | Pets in the home DISQUALIFY the applicant from a Home Processor permit. No pets allowed in the residence where cottage food is produced.       |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct sales allowed at home, farmers markets, and retail stores. Online and mail order permitted. No sales cap.                               | NC home processors may sell directly to consumers, at events, farmers markets, retail stores, and restaurants. No internet-only mail-order ... | Direct sales and indirect sales allowed (no sales cap). Permitted venues: farm, farm stand, farmers market, other direct-to-consumer and so... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Annual kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Registration required. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant. Only shelf-stable, low-ris... | North Carolina requires all home processors to have their home kitchen inspected by the NCDA&CS Food and Drug Protection Division before se... | North Carolina requires annual home kitchen inspection by NCDA&CS and registration (Home Processor permit). No sales cap. Allowed: shelf-st... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Shelf-stable storage; products must not require refrigeration.                                                                                 | Only shelf-stable, non-refrigerated finished products may be stored. Areas used for material/ingredient/equipment storage are included in t... | Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated products only. Products in compliant packaging required.                                                        |
| POPULATION                 | 187,839                                                                                                                                        | 226,396                                                                                                                                        | 161,011                                                                                                                                        |

## State context — North Carolina cottage food law

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

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| STATUTE               | ANNUAL SALES CAP  |
| 02 NCAC 9C.0307       | —                 |
| REGISTRATION REQUIRED | FOOD HANDLER CERT |
| Yes                   | No                |
| KITCHEN INSPECTION    | DIRECT SALES ONLY |
| Yes                   | No                |
| INDIRECT SALES        |                   |

Yes — Home processors may sell to retail stores, restaurants, and directly to consumers. Sales at farmers markets are permitted. Labels are required for wholesale and packaged self-service retail; direct hand-to-consumer sales (e.g., from home or at events) may be exempt from affixed labels if ingredient info is available on request. NC requires annual home kitchen inspection, which is unusual among no-cap states.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **North Carolina cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: [crosodo.com/states/north-carolina](https://crosodo.com/states/north-carolina).

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2002%20-%20agriculture%20and%20consumer%20services/chapter%2009%20-%20food%20and%20drug%20protection/subchapter%20c/02%20ncac%2009c%20.0307.pdf>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/food-drug-protection/food-program/fdpd-food-program-home-processor>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/north-carolina/>

**Questions about Iredell 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/north-carolina/iredell-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/north-carolina/iredell-county-discuss)

## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Iredell County, North Carolina. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/north-carolina/iredell-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/north-carolina/iredell-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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