

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Moore County

North Carolina · Carthage · FIPS 37125 · Population 100,759 ·
Crosodo Index #1760*

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

Moore 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 THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per 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: MOORE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1760* · FIPS 37125 · Carthage

Moore County

Population 100,759 · State baseline: 02 NCAC 9C.0307 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted including non-refrigerated baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves, candies, dried mixes, spices, some beverages, some sauces, acidified foods (pickles, BBQ sauce), and freeze-dried fruits/vegetables. Pets in the home DISQUALIFY applicants entirely. No sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Moore County and municipalities (Carthage, Southern Pines, Pinehurst) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Moore County is known for Pinehurst golf resort area. No specific Moore County cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS required. Initial inspection before registration and annual renewal inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted including non-refrigerated baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves, candies, dried mixes, spices, some beverages, some sauces, acidified foods (pickles, BBQ sauce), and freeze-dried fruits/vegetables. Pets in the home DISQUALIFY applicants entirely. No sales cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 117 Subpart B).
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement beyond standard sanitation, but sanitation reviewed during annual kitchen inspection.
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing required; verified during annual inspection.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated/non-frozen products only. Prohibited: refrigerated/frozen products, low-acid canned foods, dairy products, seafood, bottled water/juice, bakery products with cream or cream cheese fillings or cheesecakes.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS required. Initial inspection before registration and annual renewal inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Moore County and municipalities (Carthage, Southern Pines, Pinehurst) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Moore County is known for Pinehurst golf resort area. No specific Moore County cottage food ordinance identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Moore County code section identified. State law governs: 02 NCAC 09C .0307.

RESEARCH NOTES

Moore County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Moore County includes the Pinehurst/Southern Pines golf resort area. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.moorecounty.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/moore-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Moore County	Harnett County	Chatham County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	PETS IN THE HOME DISQUALIFY APPLICANTS ENTIRELY for the NC Home Processor registration. No animals permitted per GMP requirements (21 CFR 1...	No pets allowed in the home — any pets disqualify the applicant from the NC home processor program.	Pets in the home disqualify the applicant from the NC home processor program — this is a strict statewide requirement per 02 NCAC 9C.0307.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer and some wholesale/retail sales permitted within North Carolina. Online and delivery sales permitted within state.	Direct and indirect sales permitted within NC — home, farmers markets, roadside stands, restaurants, and retail stores.	Direct and indirect sales permitted. No sales cap. Products may be sold at farmers markets, roadside stands, online, and through other chan...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	North Carolina home processor program requires annual inspection of the home kitchen by NCDA&CS. Shelf-stable, low-risk foods permitted inc...	Annual inspection by NCDA&CS required. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely. Products must be shelf-stable; no refrigerated o...	Shelf-stable, low-risk foods. Annual home kitchen inspection required by NCDA&CS. Pets in the home disqualify the applicant entirely.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-refrigerated/non-frozen products only. Prohibited: refrigerated/frozen products, low-acid canned foods, dairy products, s...	Shelf-stable only; products stored per good manufacturing practices.	Shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately. Products requiring refrigeration prohibited.
POPULATION	100,759	134,718	76,754

State context — North Carolina cottage food law

Moore 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.

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 Moore 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/moore-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 Moore County, North Carolina. 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/north-carolina/moore-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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