

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Grand Forks County

North Dakota · Grand Forks · FIPS 38035 · Population 72,927
· Crosodo Index #60*

STATE BASELINE

N.D. Cent. Code §23-09.5-01 through §23-09.5-02

STATE TIER

Freedom

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

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

Grand Forks County, North Dakota — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not specified in state statute.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[North Dakota label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

NORTH DAKOTA: GRAND FORKS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #60* · FIPS 38035 · Grand Forks

Grand Forks County

Population 72,927 · State baseline: N.D. Cent. Code §23-09.5-01 through §23-09.5-02 · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Broad product definition: baked goods, jams, jellies, and 'other food and drink products'. No sales cap. Must sell directly to informed end consumer. May not sell to food establishments, processing plants, or food stores (except whole unprocessed fruits and vegetables).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (ND Century Code §23-09.5-02(1) expressly prohibits state and local governments from requiring licensure, permitting, certification, or inspection for cottage food operations. No local home occupation permit may be required. Grand Forks County county government URL confirmed in input.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (State law (§23-09.5-02(1)) prohibits state agencies and political subdivisions from requiring licensure, permitting, certification, inspection, packaging, or labeling for cottage foods. ND HHS or local authority may investigate upon illness complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Broad product definition: baked goods, jams, jellies, and 'other food and drink products'. No sales cap. Must sell directly to informed end consumer. May not sell to food establishments, processing plants, or food stores (except whole unprocessed fruits and vegetables).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Not specified in state statute.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required.
FOOD STORAGE	Products requiring refrigeration must be labeled with safe handling instructions and disclosure statement indicating frozen transport/maintenance.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — State law (§23-09.5-02(1)) prohibits state agencies and political subdivisions from requiring licensure, permitting, certification, inspection, packaging, or labeling for cottage foods. ND HHS or local authority may investigate upon illness complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No — ND Century Code §23-09.5-02(1) expressly prohibits state and local governments from requiring licensure, permitting, certification, or inspection for cottage food operations. No local home occupation permit may be required. Grand Forks County county government URL confirmed in input.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales at farm, ranch, farmers market, farm stand, home-based kitchen, any non-prohibited venue, or through delivery. Direct producer-to-informed-end-consumer transactions only. Consumer must be informed product is not certified, labeled, licensed, packaged, regulated, or inspected.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No restriction specified.

Relevant county code

N.D. Cent. Code §23-09.5-01 through §23-09.5-02. Local restrictions expressly preempted.

RESEARCH NOTES

North Dakota Cottage Foods Act (N.D. Cent. Code §23-09.5) expressly prohibits state and local governments from requiring any licensure, permitting, certification, or inspection for cottage food operations. This is among the most permissive frameworks in the nation. State statute text directly retrieved. County government URL confirmed in input. First District Health Unit (fdhu.org) serves Grand Forks County and confirmed the ND rules. No local restrictions possible. Confidence: high (statute directly retrieved, state law confirmed, preemption of local rules confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.gfcounty.nd.gov>
<https://www.hhs.nd.gov/health/food-and-lodging/cottage-food>
<https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t23c09-5.pdf>
<https://fdhu.org/environmental-health-division/cottage-foods/>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/north-dakota/grand-forks-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Grand Forks County	Nelson County	Steele County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	—	—
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	—	—
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute.	—	—
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	—	—
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	—	—
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	—	—
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales at farm, ranch, farmers market, farm stand, home-based kitchen, any non-prohibited venue, or through delivery. Direct producer-to-inf...	—	—
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	No	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	—	—
RESTRICTIONS	Broad product definition: baked goods, jams, jellies, and 'other food and drink products'. No sales cap. Must sell directly to informed end...	—	—
FOOD STORAGE	Products requiring refrigeration must be labeled with safe handling instructions and disclosure statement indicating frozen transport/ maint...	—	—
POPULATION	72,927	3,025	1,774

State context — North Dakota cottage food law

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

STATUTE

N.D. Cent. Code §23-09.5-01 through §23-09.5-02

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Transactions must be directly between the cottage food operator and the 'informed end consumer' and solely for home consumption. Products may not be sold or used in any food establishment, food processing plant, or food store. No wholesale channel is permitted.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **North Dakota cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/north-dakota.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t23c09-5.pdf>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.ndhealth.gov/foodlodging/cottagefood/>

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

Questions about Grand Forks 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-dakota/grand-forks-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 Grand Forks County, North Dakota. 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-dakota/grand-forks-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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