

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Ward County

North Dakota · Minot · FIPS 38101 · Population 69,532 ·
Crosodo Index #549*

STATE BASELINE

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

STATE TIER

Freedom

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

Ward County, North Dakota — 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?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not specified in state law

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: WARD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #549* · FIPS 38101 · Minot

Ward County

Population 69,532 · State baseline: N.D. Cent. Code §23-09.5-01 through §23-09.5-02 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (No sales cap. No food handler cert required. No registration required. No inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no indirect sales. Non-TCS foods only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Ward County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Minot has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; complaint-based possible)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — No sales cap. No food handler cert required. No registration required. No inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no indirect sales. Non-TCS foods only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Good sanitation practices implied
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; complaint-based possible
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Ward County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Minot has its own zoning and business licensing. 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	Direct-to-consumer only; no indirect/wholesale sales
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

North Dakota Freedom-tier state. Ward County contains Minot, a regional center. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.wardcounty.gov>

<https://www.ndhealth.gov/foodlodging/cottagefood/>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Ward County	Burke County	McHenry County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	—
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	—
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law	No state restriction specified.	—
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	—
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	—
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	—
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer only; no indirect/wholesale sales	Sales may occur at farm, ranch, farmers market, farm stand, home-based kitchen, or any non-prohibited venue, including delivery. Direct pro...	—
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	No	—
RESTRICTIONS	No sales cap. No food handler cert required. No registration required. No inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no indirect s...	No sales cap, no registration, no inspection, no licensing required. Direct sales to informed end consumer only. Products must include cons...	—
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products	No specific state requirement beyond keeping products safe for consumption.	—
POPULATION	69,532	2,126	5,326

State context — North Dakota cottage food law

Ward 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	ANNUAL SALES CAP
N.D. Cent. Code §23-09.5-01 through §23-09.5-02	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	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 Ward 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/ward-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 Ward 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/ward-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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