

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Madera County

California · Madera · FIPS 06039 · Population 157,243 ·
Crosodo Index #2322*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

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

Madera County, California — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[California label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

CALIFORNIA: MADERA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2322* · FIPS 06039 · Madera

Madera County

Population 157,243 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Conditional (California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety training (ANSI-accredited, every 3 years). Class B (direct and indirect to retail/restaurants, ~\$172,411 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration plus home kitchen inspection. Madera County Environmental Health handles registration and permits. Only foods on the official state-approved foods list permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Madera County requires a county permit/registration for cottage food operations through Environmental Health. Local zoning preempted statewide for cottage food by Cal. Gov't Code §51035. A home occupation permit under local zoning may still be required for other business activity aspects.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: home kitchen inspection required for permit. Complaint-based enforcement possible.)

Home kitchen rules**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED**

Conditional — California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety training (ANSI-accredited, every 3 years). Class B (direct and indirect to retail/restaurants, ~\$172,411 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration plus home kitchen inspection. Madera County Environmental Health handles registration and permits. Only foods on the official state-approved foods list permitted.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific water testing requirement under CA cottage food law.

HANDWASHING

Adequate handwashing required as part of cottage food operation standards.

FOOD STORAGE

Only state-approved non-PHF foods. Products must be in compliant packaging.

Inspection & permitting**INSPECTION REQUIRED**

No — Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: home kitchen inspection required for permit. Complaint-based enforcement possible.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Madera County requires a county permit/registration for cottage food operations through Environmental Health. Local zoning preempted statewide for cottage food by Cal. Gov't Code §51035. A home occupation permit under local zoning may still be required for other business activity aspects.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct sales only, online and shipping within California. Class B: direct sales plus retail stores and restaurants. Both classes: California only, no interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted statewide.

Relevant county code

Madera County Environmental Health Cottage Food regulations; Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. California permits handled by county Environmental Health departments. Madera County Environmental Health administers cottage food permits; specific Madera County fee schedule not confirmed. No Madera County-specific cottage food code identified beyond state framework.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.maderacounty.gov>

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Madera County	Merced County	Fresno County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.	Not specified in available sources; general sanitation and clean kitchen required	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Depends-on-volume	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct sales only, online and shipping within California. Class B: direct sales plus retail stores and restaurants. Both classes: ...	Class A: direct sales only (at home, farmers markets, events). Class B: direct and indirect sales including retail stores and online. Max 1...	Direct/indirect sales within California only. State baseline applies.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Yes	Varies by city
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety trai...	CDPH-approved food list only; annual Class A registration or Class B permit required from Merced County Environmental Health; food handler ...	Fresno County Environmental Health Division administers CFO Class A and Class B registrations/permits. No MEHKO opt-in confirmed for Fresno...
FOOD STORAGE	Only state-approved non-PHF foods. Products must be in compliant packaging.	CDPH-approved non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions	State baseline applies
POPULATION	157,243	282,290	1,008,280

State context — California cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Class B permit holders may sell indirectly through retail stores and restaurants statewide; Class A registrants are limited to direct sales only and may not sell through any retail or wholesale venue.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

State dept cottage food page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/california/>

Questions about Madera 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/california/madera-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 Madera County, California. 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/california/madera-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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