

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Clay County

Florida · Green Cove Springs · FIPS 12019 · Population
219,650 · Crosodo Index #1253*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Fla. Stat. \$500.80	Great	250000	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

Clay County, Florida — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

250000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No explicit pet restriction in Florida cottage food statute. Standard sanitation practices apply.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Florida label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

FLORIDA: CLAY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1253* · FIPS 12019 · Green Cove Springs

Clay County

Population 219,650 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Florida cottage food law (§500.80) permits home kitchen production of non-TCS foods with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. Annual sales cap: \$250,000. Strong state preemption clause (§500.80(6)) bars local governments from restricting cottage food operations, though business must comply with home-based business rules under §559.955.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Florida cottage food statute. Standard sanitation practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Florida §500.80(6) preempts local government restrictions on cottage food operations. However, Clay County and its municipalities may require general home occupation or business licensing registration. Compliance with home-based business rules under §559.955 required. Contact Clay County Planning or relevant municipality for home occupation permit specifics.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Florida cottage food inspections may only occur upon receipt of a written complaint (§500.80(7)). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Florida cottage food law (§500.80) permits home kitchen production of non-TCS foods with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. Annual sales cap: \$250,000. Strong state preemption clause (§500.80(6)) bars local governments from restricting cottage food operations, though business must comply with home-based business rules under §559.955.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Florida cottage food statute. Standard sanitation practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No water testing requirement under Florida cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	No specific handwashing requirement stated in Florida cottage food statute. Standard food safety practices apply.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS (non-time/temperature-control-for-safety) foods only. Standard safe storage practices.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Florida cottage food inspections may only occur upon receipt of a written complaint (§500.80(7)). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Florida §500.80(6) preempts local government restrictions on cottage food operations. However, Clay County and its municipalities may require general home occupation or business licensing registration. Compliance with home-based business rules under §559.955 required. Contact Clay County Planning or relevant municipality for home occupation permit specifics.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Florida cottage food law expressly permits online sales and mail-order delivery within the state. Home pickup, delivery, farmers markets, and event sales all permitted. \$250,000 annual sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No employee cap specified in Florida cottage food statute. Home-based business zoning may restrict non-resident employee presence.

Relevant county code

Fla. Stat. §500.80; §559.955 (home-based business rules); Clay County zoning ordinances for home occupation

RESEARCH NOTES

Florida has one of the most producer-friendly cottage food frameworks nationally: no registration, no routine inspection, \$250,000 annual cap, and strong state preemption of local restrictions. Clay County is a suburban/exurban county east of Jacksonville. No county-level cottage food restrictions documented. Clay County Florida Health (clay.floridahealth.gov) handles environmental health but cottage food operations are exempt from their permitting requirements.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://clay.floridahealth.gov>

<https://www.claycounty.gov>

<https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html

<https://clay.floridahealth.gov>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Clay County	St. Johns County	Duval County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit pet restriction in Florida cottage food statute. Standard sanitation practices apply.	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	Florida state law does not address pets in cottage food kitchens. FDACS guidance does not prohibit pets but standard food safety practices ...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Florida cottage food law expressly permits online sales and mail-order delivery within the state. Home pickup, delivery, farmers markets, a...	Direct and limited indirect sales; online, farmers markets, and events permitted	Under Florida §500.80(2), products may be delivered in person to consumer, to specific event venue, or by USPS/ commercial carrier. Online o...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Florida cottage food law (§500.80) permits home kitchen production of non-TCS foods with no registration, permit, or inspection required be...	Non-TCS foods only; labeling with disclaimer required; \$250,000 annual cap; no state license or inspection	Florida's cottage food law (§500.80) requires production in the kitchen of the operator's residence only. Motor home kitchens and rented ki...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS (non-time/temperature-control-for-safety) foods only. Standard safe storage practices.	Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods	Products must be stored on the premises of the cottage food operation per §500.80(4). Septic system adequacy for additional wastewater shou...
POPULATION	219,650	278,722	995,708

State context — Florida cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Fla. Stat. §500.80	250000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Limited (see notes) — Florida prohibits wholesale sales but allows online, mail-order, and in-person sales including delivery to consumers; state law preempts local restrictions on cottage food operations.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

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

Questions about Clay 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/florida/clay-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 Clay County, Florida. 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/florida/clay-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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