

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Columbia County

Florida · Lake City · FIPS 12023 · Population 69,832 ·
Crosodo Index #1868*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

250000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specified in state law

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: COLUMBIA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1868* · FIPS 12023 · Lake City

Columbia County

Population 69,832 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual sales cap \$250,000. No food handler cert required. Inspection upon complaint only. No registration required. Broad non-TCS standard - any food not requiring temperature control for safety is allowed. No wholesale.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

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

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Annual sales cap \$250,000. No food handler cert required. Inspection upon complaint only. No registration required. Broad non-TCS standard - any food not requiring temperature control for safety is allowed. No wholesale.
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 non-TCS shelf-stable products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Columbia County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Lake City 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 and limited indirect sales permitted; third-party retail limited
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Florida Great-tier state with \$250,000 cap. Columbia County is a rural county in North Central Florida. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.columbiacounty.gov>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Columbia County	Alachua County	Baker County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	False
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No state or county-specific rule for cottage food
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint only
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Must comply with Baker County signage ordinances; standard state preemption applies to cottage food production but traffic/parking/signage ...
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and limited indirect sales permitted; third-party retail limited	Direct and limited indirect sales; online, farmers markets, and events permitted	Direct-to-consumer; online/mail-order allowed; shipping within and across state lines via USPS or commercial carrier; no wholesale/consignm...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Yes (Baker County local occupational license required for home-based businesses)
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes; Baker County Occupational License from Tax Collector; contact (904) 259-6880
RESTRICTIONS	Annual sales cap \$250,000. No food handler cert required. Inspection upon complaint only. No registration required. Broad non-TCS standard ...	Non-TCS foods only; labeling with disclaimer required; \$250,000 annual cap; no state license or inspection	—
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for non-TCS shelf-stable products	Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods	Non-TCS (non-temperature controlled) foods only; standard sanitary storage
POPULATION	69,832	279,729	27,969

State context — Florida cottage food law

Columbia 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 Columbia 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/columbia-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 Columbia 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/columbia-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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