

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Nassau County

Florida · Fernandina Beach · FIPS 12089 · Population 91,538 ·
Crosodo Index #562*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

250000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific restriction under Florida cottage food 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: NASSAU COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #562* · FIPS 12089 · Fernandina Beach

Nassau County

Population 91,538 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Florida cottage food law (§500.80) is highly permissive: no registration, no permit, no inspection unless upon complaint. \$250,000 annual sales cap (raised 2021). Allowed: all non-TCS foods (foods that do not require temperature control for safety). Broad standard — any shelf-stable food qualifies. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. State preemption clause (§500.80(6)): local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restriction under Florida cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Florida §500.80(6) preempts local government restrictions on cottage food operations. Home-based business rules under §559.955 still apply for general home occupation but cottage food operations are protected from local restriction.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Inspections only upon receipt of a complaint (§500.80(7)).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Florida cottage food law (§500.80) is highly permissive: no registration, no permit, no inspection unless upon complaint. \$250,000 annual sales cap (raised 2021). Allowed: all non-TCS foods (foods that do not require temperature control for safety). Broad standard — any shelf-stable food qualifies. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. State preemption clause (§500.80(6)): local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific restriction under Florida cottage food law.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement.

HANDWASHING

No specific statutory requirement.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS foods only; foods that do not require temperature control for safety.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — Inspections only upon receipt of a complaint (§500.80(7)).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

No — Florida §500.80(6) preempts local government restrictions on cottage food operations. Home-based business rules under §559.955 still apply for general home occupation but cottage food operations are protected from local restriction.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. No wholesale to retailers under the cottage food framework.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No limit specified under Florida cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Nassau County-specific cottage food code; state preemption applies.

RESEARCH NOTES

No Nassau County-specific cottage food rules found. Florida's state preemption clause (§500.80(6)) is among the strongest in the nation — local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations. Nassau County (Fernandina Beach, Amelia Island) is in northeast Florida near the Georgia border. The \$250,000 cap is one of the highest in the country.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.nassaucounty.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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Nassau County	Duval County	Baker County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	False
PETS ALLOWED	No specific restriction under Florida cottage food law.	Florida state law does not address pets in cottage food kitchens. FDACS guidance does not prohibit pets but standard food safety practices ...	No state or county-specific rule for cottage food
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint only
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	No	Must comply with Baker County signage ordinances; standard state preemption applies to cottage food production but traffic/parking/signage ...
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and indirect sales allowed. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. No wholesale to retailers under the cottage fo...	Under Florida §500.80(2), products may be delivered in person to consumer, to specific event venue, or by USPS/commercial carrier. Online o...	Direct-to-consumer; online/mail-order allowed; shipping within and across state lines via USPS or commercial carrier; no wholesale/consignm...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	Conditional	Yes (Baker County local occupational license required for home-based businesses)
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Yes; Baker County Occupational License from Tax Collector; contact (904) 259-6880
RESTRICTIONS	Florida cottage food law (§500.80) is highly permissive: no registration, no permit, no inspection unless upon complaint. \$250,000 annual s...	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 foods only; foods that do not require temperature control for safety.	Products must be stored on the premises of the cottage food operation per §500.80(4). Septic system adequacy for additional wastewater shou...	Non-TCS (non-temperature controlled) foods only; standard sanitary storage
POPULATION	91,538	995,708	27,969

State context — Florida cottage food law

Nassau 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 Nassau 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/nassau-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 Nassau 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/nassau-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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