

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Okeechobee County

Florida · Okeechobee · FIPS 12093 · Population 42,369 ·
Crosodo Index #1182*

STATE BASELINE

Fla. Stat. §500.80 (Home Sweet Home Act, 2021)

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

250000

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

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

Okeechobee 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

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

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: OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1182* · FIPS 12093 · Okeechobee

Okeechobee County

Population 42,369 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 (Home Sweet Home Act, 2021) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator's home kitchen only; no garages, sheds, barns, or outbuildings. Motor home kitchens are not permitted. Products must be non-TCS (no time/temperature control for safety required). Production and storage must occur within the single-family domestic residence.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (State law (§500.80(6)) preempts local government from restricting cottage food operations. Cottage food operations must comply with applicable county and municipal laws regulating traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours of retail operation per §559.955. Contact Okeechobee County Planning and Development for any applicable home occupation standards.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint only per Fla. Stat. §500.80(7). No routine state inspections. Okeechobee County has no additional inspection authority under state preemption.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator's home kitchen only; no garages, sheds, barns, or outbuildings. Motor home kitchens are not permitted. Products must be non-TCS (no time/temperature control for safety required). Production and storage must occur within the single-family domestic residence.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Only potable water from a properly constructed on-site well or municipal water system
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored in the single-family domestic residence; no garage/shed/barn storage

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint only per Fla. Stat. §500.80(7). No routine state inspections. Okeechobee County has no additional inspection authority under state preemption.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — State law (§500.80(6)) preempts local government from restricting cottage food operations. Cottage food operations must comply with applicable county and municipal laws regulating traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours of retail operation per §559.955. Contact Okeechobee County Planning and Development for any applicable home occupation standards.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed from residence, online, by mail-order, at farmers markets, flea markets, and roadside stands. Mail delivery explicitly permitted since 2021. No wholesale to restaurants or grocery stores.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

Fla. Stat. §500.80; local zoning compliance required for traffic/parking/noise/signage/hours

RESEARCH NOTES

Florida's strong state preemption (Fla. Stat. §500.80(6)) means Okeechobee County cannot restrict cottage food operations beyond traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours rules. Okeechobee County is a rural south-central Florida county near Lake Okeechobee; no county-specific ordinance variations were found. Defaulted to FL state baseline with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://okeechobee.floridahealth.gov>

<https://www.co.okeechobee.fl.us>

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

https://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/okeechobee-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Okeechobee County	Glades County	Hendry County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	True	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	False	False
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated	No state or county-specific rule for cottage food	No state or county-specific rule for cottage food
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint only	Upon-complaint only
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	True	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Must comply with Glades County signage ordinances	Must comply with Hendry County signage ordinances
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales allowed from residence, online, by mail-order, at farmers markets, flea markets, and roadside stands. Mail delivery explicitly permit...	Direct-to-consumer; online/ mail-order allowed; shipping within and across state lines via USPS or commercial carrier; no wholesale/ consignm...	Direct-to-consumer; online/ mail-order allowed; shipping within and across state lines via USPS or commercial carrier; no wholesale/ consignm...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Likely; verify with Glades County	Likely; verify with Hendry County
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Likely; Glades County local business tax receipt; contact Glades County Tax Collector	Likely; Hendry County local business tax receipt; contact Hendry County Tax Collector
RESTRICTIONS	Must be produced in operator's home kitchen only; no garages, sheds, barns, or outbuildings. Motor home kitchens are not permitted. Product...	—	—
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored in the single-family domestic residence; no garage/shed/ barn storage	Non-TCS (non-temperature controlled) foods only; standard sanitary storage	Non-TCS (non-temperature controlled) foods only; standard sanitary storage
POPULATION	39,870	12,179	39,902

State context — Florida cottage food law

Okeechobee 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 Okeechobee 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/okeechobee-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 Okeechobee 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/okeechobee-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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