

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Pinellas County

Florida · Clearwater · FIPS 12103 · Population 959,918 ·
Crosodo Index #1006*

STATE BASELINE

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

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

250000

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

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

Pinellas 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: PINELLAS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1006* · FIPS 12103 · Clearwater

Pinellas County

Population 959,918 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 (Home Sweet Home Act, 2021) · **HIGH**

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. However, cottage food operations must comply with all applicable county and municipal laws regulating traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours of retail operation. Contact Pinellas County Planning for any applicable home occupation standards. Local ordinances on those specific subjects still apply.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

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

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; spare rooms or basements free of dampness/pests are acceptable; no garage/shed/barn storage

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — Complaint only per Fla. Stat. §500.80(7). No routine state inspections. Pinellas County Health Department has no additional inspection authority.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — State law (§500.80(6)) preempts local government from restricting cottage food operations. However, cottage food operations must comply with all applicable county and municipal laws regulating traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours of retail operation. Contact Pinellas County Planning for any applicable home occupation standards. Local ordinances on those specific subjects still apply.

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 Pinellas County cannot restrict cottage food operations beyond traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours rules. No county-level permit or inspection required for cottage food. The \$250,000 annual cap (raised from \$50,000 in 2021) applies statewide. No registration, license, or food handler training required at state or county level. The IJ Florida page confirms local ordinances are preempted as of July 2021.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://pinellas.floridahealth.gov>

<https://pinellas.gov>

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

<https://ij.org/issues/economic-liberty/homemade-food-seller/florida/>

<https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasufledu/st-johns/fcs/pdf/CottageFoodOperations.pdf>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Pinellas County	Hillsborough County	Pasco County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated	State baseline applies	No specific state cottage food pet restriction
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales allowed from residence, online, by mail-order, at farmers markets, flea markets, and roadside stands. Mail delivery explicitly permit...	State law allows internet/mail order sales, event sales. \$250,000 annual cap. No wholesale.	No restrictions on sales venues. Online sales and mail/delivery permitted including across state lines. No wholesale to retail stores or re...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies by city	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies by city	No
RESTRICTIONS	Must be produced in operator's home kitchen only; no garages, sheds, barns, or outbuildings. Motor home kitchens are not permitted. Product...	Florida state law preempts local regulation of cottage food. Hillsborough County has no county-specific cottage food permit beyond what is ...	Any non-TCS food that does not require temperature control for safety. No license, permit, registration, or inspection required before oper...
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored in the single-family domestic residence; spare rooms or basements free of dampness/pests a...	Products may only be stored on cottage operation's premises.	Standard home kitchen storage for shelf-stable non-TCS products
POPULATION	959,918	1,468,560	569,211

State context — Florida cottage food law

Pinellas 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 Pinellas 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/pinellas-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 Pinellas 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/pinellas-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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