

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Walton County

Florida · DeFuniak Springs · FIPS 12131 · Population 76,618 ·
Crosodo Index #1219*

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

Walton 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 statute.

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: WALTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1219* · FIPS 12131 · DeFuniak Springs

Walton County

Population 76,618 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Any food that does not require time/temperature control for safety (non-TCS). No registration, permit, or inspection required before beginning operations. Inspections only upon complaint. Strong state preemption clause (§500.80(6)).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (State preemption clause (§500.80(6)) prohibits local governments from restricting cottage food operations. However, the business must comply with home-based business rules under §559.955. Walton County may have local business registration requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food restriction ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

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

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Any food that does not require time/temperature control for safety (non-TCS). No registration, permit, or inspection required before beginning operations. Inspections only upon complaint. Strong state preemption clause (§500.80(6)).

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state statute.

WATER SUPPLY

Not specified in state statute.

HANDWASHING

No food handler certification required.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods must be stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

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

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — State preemption clause (§500.80(6)) prohibits local governments from restricting cottage food operations. However, the business must comply with home-based business rules under §559.955. Walton County may have local business registration requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food restriction ordinance found.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. \$250,000 annual sales cap (one of the highest in the country). No wholesale to distributors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

Relevant county code

Fla. Stat. §500.80; §559.955. No Walton County-specific restriction found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Florida's cottage food law (§500.80) has a strong state preemption clause and \$250,000 annual sales cap. No registration, permit, or pre-operational inspection required. No Walton County-specific cottage food restrictions found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, county health URL confirmed, no county ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://walton.floridahealth.gov>

<https://www.waltoncountyfl.gov>

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

<https://walton.floridahealth.gov>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Walton County	Bay County	Okaloosa County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute.	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	No explicit pet restriction in Florida cottage food statute.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. \$250,000 annual sales cap (one of the highest in the country). No wholesale to di...	Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. Direct sales from home and farmers markets allowed.	Florida cottage food permits online sales, mail-order delivery, home pickup, and event/farmers market sales. \$250,000 annual cap. No wholes...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Any food that does not require time/temperature control for safety (non-TCS). No registration, permit, or inspection required before beginn...	Non-TCS foods only. Annual sales cap \$250,000. No wholesale. Strong state preemption (§500.80(6)) prohibits local government restrictions o...	Florida cottage food law (§500.80) permits home kitchen production of non-TCS foods with no registration, permit, or inspection required be...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods must be stored appropriately.	Shelf-stable products stored in clean, dry conditions.	Non-TCS foods only. Standard safe storage practices.
POPULATION	76,618	181,055	212,021

State context — Florida cottage food law

Walton 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 Walton 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/walton-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 Walton 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/walton-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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