

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Kalawao County

Hawaii · — · FIPS 15005 · Population 86 · Crosodo Index
#2874*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
HAR \$11-50-3	Poor	—	MEDIUM	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

Kalawao County, Hawaii — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Unknown

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas during production.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Hawaii 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
- ☐ Hawaii home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Hawaii label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

HAWAII: KALAWAO COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2874* · FIPS 15005 · —

Kalawao County

Population 86 · State baseline: HAR §11-50-3 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Hawaii requires a mandatory food safety training course (free on-island DOH workshop or ANSI-accredited online course ~\$10, valid 3 years) before selling. As of the November 2024 HAR Ch. 11-50 revision, non-PHF foods are allowed plus plant-based acidified/fermented foods with pH ≤4.2 or Aw <0.88 (pickles, kimchi, salsa), and juice sold direct to consumer. Wholesale to permitted food establishments is now allowed. Dried meats, seafood, and melon-family fruits remain prohibited. Kalawao County has no separate local planning or zoning department; state rules govern entirely.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Unknown (Kalawao County is the smallest county in the US with a population under 100, administered primarily through the State of Hawaii Department of Health and Maui County by intergovernmental agreement. No county-specific home occupation ordinance was identified. Operators should contact the Hawaii DOH Food Safety Branch (Maui district office) for guidance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Hawaii DOH may inspect upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness investigation.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — Hawaii requires a mandatory food safety training course (free on-island DOH workshop or ANSI-accredited online course ~\$10, valid 3 years) before selling. As of the November 2024 HAR Ch. 11-50 revision, non-PHF foods are allowed plus plant-based acidified/fermented foods with pH ≤4.2 or Aw <0.88 (pickles, kimchi, salsa), and juice sold direct to consumer. Wholesale to permitted food establishments is now allowed. Dried meats, seafood, and melon-family fruits remain prohibited. Kalawao County has no separate local planning or zoning department; state rules govern entirely.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas during production.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific private water testing required beyond standard food safety practices under state law.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facility required in food preparation area per Hawaii food safety rules.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food must be stored away from non-food items; no TCS foods permitted.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Hawaii DOH may inspect upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness investigation.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Unknown — Kalawao County is the smallest county in the US with a population under 100, administered primarily through the State of Hawaii Department of Health and Maui County by intergovernmental agreement. No county-specific home occupation ordinance was identified. Operators should contact the Hawaii DOH Food Safety Branch (Maui district office) for guidance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Unknown

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Unknown
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales and wholesale to permitted food establishments allowed under updated HAR §11-50. Online sales allowed. No dried meats, seafood, or melon-family fruits.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No county-specific employee limit found; state law does not specify a cap on in-home employees for cottage food operations.

Relevant county code

No county zoning code identified; state HAR Chapter 11-50 (revised November 2024) governs.

RESEARCH NOTES

Kalawao County is the smallest and most unusual county in the US — a tiny peninsula on Molokai administered largely by the state. No county-specific zoning or home occupation ordinance was found. The Hawaii DOH HMF program under HAR §11-50 (revised November 2024, updated info sheet dated 01.29.2026) applies statewide including Kalawao. Key 2024 updates: plant-based acidified/fermented foods now allowed with pH ≤4.2 or Aw <0.88; juice allowed for direct sales; wholesale to permitted food establishments now allowed. The state baseline in this database may predate the November 2024 revision and should be updated to reflect these expansions. Kalawao's lack of a functioning county government means state rules are the only operative rules.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.kalawaacounty.gov>

<https://health.hawaii.gov/san/files/2019/09/hmf-foods-01.29.2026.pdf>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Kalawao County	Maui County	Kauai County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas during production.	Pets must be excluded from food preparation areas during production.	Not specified in state statute.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	No
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Unknown	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales and wholesale to permitted food establishments allowed under updated HAR §11-50. Online sales allowed. No dried me...	Direct sales only. No online/ mail-order delivery. Customers may pick up at home or operator may sell at markets, events. No wholesale or in...	State law allows sales at non-profit and for-profit events, craft fairs, farmers markets, and online. Kauai County Home Business rules rest...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Unknown	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Unknown	Yes	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Hawaii requires a mandatory food safety training course (free on-island DOH workshop or ANSI-accredited online course ~\$10, valid 3 years) ...	Hawaii requires a mandatory food safety training course (free on-island workshop or ANSI-accredited online course ~\$10, valid 3 years) befo...	Non-potentially hazardous (non-PHF) foods only. Permitted products include breads, rolls, mochi, cakes, cookies, pastries, candies, confect...
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food must be stored away from non-food items; no TCS foods permitted.	All cottage food must be stored away from non-food items; no TCS foods permitted.	Non-PHF products must be stored appropriately. Items that require refrigeration must be handled accordingly.
POPULATION	86	164,765	73,511

State context — Hawaii cottage food law

Kalawao County's rules sit on top of Hawaii's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE

HAR §11-50-3

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Hawaii prohibits online sales, mail order, consignment, wholesale, restaurant, and retail store sales; only in-person direct sales at home, farmers markets, roadside stands, and events are allowed.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Hawaii cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/hawaii.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrscurrent/Vol06_Ch0321-0344/HRS0321/HRS_0321-0030_0005.htm

State dept cottage food page: <https://health.hawaii.gov/san/home-bakery-permit/>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/hawaii/>

Questions about Kalawao 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/hawaii/kalawao-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 Kalawao County, Hawaii. 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/hawaii/kalawao-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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