

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Anne Arundel County

Maryland · Annapolis · FIPS 24003 · Population 588,109 ·
Crosodo Index #2179*

STATE BASELINE

MD COMAR 10.15.03.27

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

50000

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

Anne Arundel County, Maryland — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

50000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Maryland label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

MARYLAND: ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2179* · FIPS 24003 · Annapolis

Anne Arundel County

Population 588,109 · State baseline: MD COMAR 10.15.03.27 · HIGH

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-potentially hazardous foods only. \$50,000 annual gross sales cap. MDH review required for sales at retail stores (Class B equivalent); no license required for direct-to-consumer only. Must comply with all applicable county and municipal laws and ordinances.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Anne Arundel County passed Bill 81-20 (October 19, 2020) specifically allowing cottage food businesses as home occupations under county zoning. Introduced by Councilmember Rodvien, the ordinance defines cottage food businesses and permits them as home occupations in residential zones. Maryland state cottage food guidelines explicitly state 'Cottage food businesses must comply with all applicable county and municipal laws and ordinances' and direct producers to 'contact your local permits, licensing and zoning department.' Anne Arundel County has a dedicated cottage food-as-home-occupation framework.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based inspection only per Maryland state cottage food guidelines)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Non-potentially hazardous foods only. \$50,000 annual gross sales cap. MDH review required for sales at retail stores (Class B equivalent); no license required for direct-to-consumer only. Must comply with all applicable county and municipal laws and ordinances.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards
WATER SUPPLY	No specific mandatory water testing in state baseline unless private well (general food safety consideration)
HANDWASHING	Recommended but not explicitly required by state regulation for cottage food operations
FOOD STORAGE	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-PHF foods

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based inspection only per Maryland state cottage food guidelines
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Anne Arundel County passed Bill 81-20 (October 19, 2020) specifically allowing cottage food businesses as home occupations under county zoning. Introduced by Councilmember Rodvien, the ordinance defines cottage food businesses and permits them as home occupations in residential zones. Maryland state cottage food guidelines explicitly state 'Cottage food businesses must comply with all applicable county and municipal laws and ordinances' and direct producers to 'contact your local permits, licensing and zoning department.' Anne Arundel County has a dedicated cottage food-as-home-occupation framework.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales: home, farmers markets, public events, personal delivery, mail order within Maryland. Sales to retail stores require MDH review (no license). \$50,000 annual cap. No out-of-state sales. No wholesale over 50%.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law

Relevant county code

Anne Arundel County Bill 81-20 (Zoning - Home Occupations - Cottage Food Businesses, passed October 19, 2020)

RESEARCH NOTES

Anne Arundel County is notable for having passed specific cottage food-as-home-occupation legislation (Bill 81-20) in 2020. This is a county-level action directly addressing cottage food businesses in the zoning code. Maryland state guidelines (2025 update PDF retrieved from health.maryland.gov) confirm cottage food businesses must comply with county/municipal laws and to contact local licensing/zoning. \$50,000 annual cap at state level. Direct sales and limited retail allowed. Confidence high: both the county legislation (aacounty.org official page) and the state guidelines PDF were found from official sources.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.aacounty.org>

<https://www.aacounty.org/county-council/legislation/bill-81-20>

https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Documents/Updated_CF_Guidelines_2025.pdf

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Anne Arundel County	Baltimore city	Baltimore County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards	Not specified; standard sanitation applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales: home, farmers markets, public events, personal delivery, mail order within Maryland. Sales to retail stores requi...	Direct-to-consumer sales: home, farmers markets, public events, personal delivery, mail order within Maryland. Sales to retail stores requi...	Farmers markets, fairs, festivals, customer pickup from home, retail stores (up to 50% of sales), and personal/ mail delivery within Marylan...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. \$50,000 annual gross sales cap. MDH review required for sales at retail stores (Class B equivalent); ...	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. \$50,000 annual gross sales cap. Must comply with all applicable city laws and ordinances. Baltimore C...	State baseline applies. Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Annual cap \$50,000. Cottage food businesses must comply with applicable count...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-PHF foods	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-PHF foods	Standard food storage per MDH guidelines
POPULATION	588,109	584,548	850,737

State context — Maryland cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
MD COMAR 10.15.03.27	50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Depends	Recommended
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Limited (see notes) — Sales at retail food stores (indirect) are allowed but require prior submission of labels and documentation of ANSI-accredited food safety course completion to the Maryland Department of Health before any retail sales can commence. The Department must notify the producer in writing that requirements are met before retail sales begin.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Maryland cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/maryland.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://regs.maryland.gov/us/md/exec/comar/10.15.03.27>

State dept cottage food page: <https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Pages/Cottage-Food.aspx>

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

Questions about Anne Arundel 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/maryland/anne-arundel-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 Anne Arundel County, Maryland. 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/maryland/anne-arundel-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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