

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Franklin County

Vermont · Saint Albans · FIPS 50011 · Population 50,101 ·
Crosodo Index #2323*

STATE BASELINE

18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025) cottage food operator exemption

STATE TIER

Okay

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

30000

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

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

Franklin County, Vermont — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

30000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specified in state cottage food law.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Vermont label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

VERMONT: FRANKLIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2323* · FIPS 50011 · Saint Albans

Franklin County

Population 50,101 · State baseline: 18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025) cottage food operator exemption ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025): non-potentially hazardous foods including baked goods, candy, jams, jellies, dry herbs, trail mix, granola, cereal, mixed nuts, flavored vinegar, popcorn, coffee beans, dry tea, and home-canned pickles/vegetables/fruits (pH ≤4.6, NCHFP-approved recipes). Annual gross receipts cap \$30,000. Direct-to-consumer sales only. No sales to restaurants or licensed food establishments.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Vermont governance is primarily at town level. Franklin County towns (St. Albans, Swanton, Fairfax, etc.) each have their own zoning. Recommend verifying with the specific town where the operation is located.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection for cottage food exempt operations. DOH may investigate on complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025): non-potentially hazardous foods including baked goods, candy, jams, jellies, dry herbs, trail mix, granola, cereal, mixed nuts, flavored vinegar, popcorn, coffee beans, dry tea, and home-canned pickles/vegetables/fruits (pH ≤4.6, NCHFP-approved recipes). Annual gross receipts cap \$30,000. Direct-to-consumer sales only. No sales to restaurants or licensed food establishments.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state cottage food law.

WATER SUPPLY

Not specified in state cottage food exemption.

HANDWASHING

Not explicitly required for exempt operations.

FOOD STORAGE

Products must be non-potentially hazardous.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — No routine inspection for cottage food exempt operations. DOH may investigate on complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Vermont governance is primarily at town level. Franklin County towns (St. Albans, Swanton, Fairfax, etc.) each have their own zoning. Recommend verifying with the specific town where the operation is located.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only. Annual attestation plus food safety training required for exempt operations. No sales to restaurants or licensed food establishments.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law.

Relevant county code

18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025); Franklin County town-level zoning codes

RESEARCH NOTES

Vermont's Act 42 (2025) raised the cottage food exemption threshold to \$30,000 from the prior \$10,000. Annual attestation and food safety training required. Vermont counties have no regulatory authority; all governance at town level. Franklin County is in northwestern Vermont near the Quebec border.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.franklincounty.gov>

<https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment/food-lodging-program/home-based-food-licenses-and-exemptions>

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/085/04351>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Franklin County	Chittenden County	Grand Isle County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state cottage food law.	No explicit state restriction; food safety training requirements apply.	No explicit statutory pet restriction under the cottage food exemption.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only. Annual attestation plus food safety training required for exempt operations. No sales to restaurants or lice...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, and similar venues. Cannot sell to restaurants or licensed food establishments under cottage food ...	Vermont cottage food exemption: direct sales only. Farmers markets and farm stands permitted. No indirect/ wholesale sales under the exempti...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Conditional
RESTRICTIONS	Cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025): non-potentially hazardous foods including baked goods, candy, jams, jellies, dry herbs, tra...	Cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025): gross annual receipts ≤\$30,000, production in home kitchen of private residential dwelling ...	Vermont state cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025; 18 V.S.A. §4351) applies. Gross annual sales must be \$30,000 or less. Vermont ...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-potentially hazardous.	Shelf-stable non-PHF foods stored appropriately.	Proper storage; cottage foods must not require refrigeration or temperature control for safety.
POPULATION	50,101	168,309	7,335

State context — Vermont cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025) cottage food operator exemption	30000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Food made under a license exemption cannot be sold to restaurants or other licensed food establishments. Sales must be direct to final consumers. Exempt producers must file an annual attestation with the Vermont Department of Health by January 15 each year and complete online food safety training.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/085/04351>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment/food-lodging-program/home-based-food-licenses-and-exemptions>

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

Questions about Franklin 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/vermont/franklin-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 Franklin County, Vermont. 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/vermont/franklin-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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