

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Carroll County

Virginia · Hillsville · FIPS 51035 · Population 29,242 · Crosodo Index #353\*

STATE BASELINE

Va. Code §3.2-5130

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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

Carroll County, Virginia — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

**Yes**

STATE SALES CAP

**Tiered**

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

**No**

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

**Yes**

INSPECTION

**No**

PETS

**No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.**

### BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

### CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Virginia label one-pager →](#)

[Print labels for your first market →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

## VIRGINIA: CARROLL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #353\* · FIPS 51035 · Hillsville

## Carroll County

Population 29,242 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · MEDIUM

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Carroll County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Carroll County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required at state level.)

## Home kitchen rules

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.

## SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

## PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.

## WATER SUPPLY

No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.

## HANDWASHING

No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.

## FOOD STORAGE

Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED    | No — No routine inspection required at state level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | No — Carroll County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Carroll County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Customer-facing rules

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE         | Conditional                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | Not specified in state statute.                                                                                                                                                                    |

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including candies, jams/jellies, dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixtures, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, cotton candy, dried pasta, dry baking mixes, roasted coffee, dried tea, cereals, trail mixes, granola, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.carrollcounty.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/virginia/carroll-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/carroll-county-discuss)

## Carroll County and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Carroll County                                                                                                                                 | Wythe County                                                                                                                                   | Pulaski County                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.                                                                                         | VDACS home food processing permit pathway requires pets excluded from food prep, storage, packaging, and equipment cleaning areas at all ti... | VDACS home food processing permit pathway requires pets excluded from food prep, storage, packaging, and equipment cleaning areas at all ti... |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | No                                                                                                                                             | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sale... | Virginia cottage food exemption: direct sales only. Home pickup and local delivery permitted for non-TCS shelf-stable items. Online sales a... | Virginia cottage food exemption: direct sales only. Home pickup and local delivery permitted for non-TCS shelf-stable items. Online sales a... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | No                                                                                                                                             | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level.... | Virginia state cottage food exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) applies. Wythe County is a rural southwest Virginia county. No county-specific c... | Virginia state cottage food exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) applies. Pulaski County has a comprehensive Unified Development Ordinance (UDO, ... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.                                                                                  | Proper storage to prevent contamination; pet exclusion required for VDACS permit pathway.                                                      | Proper storage to prevent contamination; pet exclusion required for VDACS permit pathway.                                                      |
| POPULATION                 | 29,126                                                                                                                                         | 28,275                                                                                                                                         | 33,841                                                                                                                                         |

## State context — Virginia cottage food law

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

### STATUTE

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (HB 402 / 2026 c. 605)

### ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

### FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

### KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

### DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

### INDIRECT SALES

No — As amended by HB 402 (Acts of Assembly 2026 Ch. 605), effective July 1, 2026: exempt foods may be sold at any location, through the internet, or by phone to an individual in Virginia for their own consumption, and delivered in person, by mail, or by delivery service in Virginia. Still no resale, consignment, restaurants, retail food establishments, or out-of-state sales. Local zoning still applies. The VDACS home-food-processor FAQ PDF is stale (still says no online sales); the statute controls. <https://lis.virginia.gov/bill-details/2026/HB402>

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

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title3.2/chapter51/section3.2-5130/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

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

**Questions about Carroll 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/virginia/carroll-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/carroll-county-discuss)

## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Carroll County, Virginia. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/virginia/carroll-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/carroll-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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