

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Henry County

Virginia · Martinsville · FIPS 51089 · Population 50,760 ·
Crosodo Index #739*

STATE BASELINE

Va. Code §3.2-5130

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not specified in state 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: HENRY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #739* · FIPS 51089 · Martinsville

Henry County

Population 50,760 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be primary private home. Products must be non-TCS shelf-stable foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤ 4.6) allowed with \$9,000 annual cap. No TCS foods. No resale/consignment. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Henry County may have home occupation zoning requirements. The City of Martinsville (an independent city adjacent to Henry County) has separate zoning. Recommend verifying with Henry County Planning and Zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. Department may inspect upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be primary private home. Products must be non-TCS shelf-stable foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤ 4.6) allowed with \$9,000 annual cap. No TCS foods. No resale/consignment. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law.
WATER SUPPLY	Not specified in state law.
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices; not explicitly required.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be shelf-stable and non-TCS.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. Department may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Henry County may have home occupation zoning requirements. The City of Martinsville (an independent city adjacent to Henry County) has separate zoning. Recommend verifying with Henry County Planning and Zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No resale or consignment through retail food establishments. All-caps label disclaimer required.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law.

Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; Henry County Zoning Code (home occupation provisions)

RESEARCH NOTES

Virginia state law allows cottage food from home without inspection or registration. No Henry County-specific cottage food rules found. Note: county_seat field in input was blank; county seat is Martinsville (an independent city). The \$9,000 cap for acidified/pickle products is among the lowest in the US.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.henrycounty.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/henry-county-discuss

Henry County and nearby places

Regulation	Henry County	Franklin County	Pittsylvania County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law.	No specific VA or Franklin County restriction.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No resale or consignment through retail food establishments. All-caps label disclaimer required.	Direct sales to end consumers only. No consignment or retail store sales.	Direct sales only — no resale, no consignment, no retail food establishment sales. Home pickup, farmers markets, events, roadside stands, o...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must be primary private home. Products must be non-TCS shelf-stable foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) allowed with \$9,000 annua...	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. No registration, permit, or inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: candies, jams/jellies (no...	Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. No registration or inspection required. No stated dollar cap for non-acidifie...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be shelf-stable and non-TCS.	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Mandatory label: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.	Products must be shelf-stable and non-TCS.
POPULATION	50,760	54,838	60,541

State context — Virginia cottage food law

Henry 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.

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 Henry 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/henry-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 Henry County, Virginia. 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/virginia/henry-county-discuss

Free ad space available

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