

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Montgomery County

Virginia · Christiansburg · FIPS 51121 · Population 99,373 ·
Crosodo Index #768*

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

Montgomery 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

No specific state restriction in the cottage food statute.

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: MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #768* · FIPS 51121 · Christiansburg

Montgomery County

Population 99,373 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private homes including candies, jams, jellies (not low-acid/acidified), 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 and acidified vegetables with equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower allowed with a \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. Direct-to-consumer only; no resale, consignment, or retail food establishments. No registration, permit, or inspection required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction in the cottage food statute.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Montgomery County and the Town of Christiansburg and Town of Blacksburg (home of Virginia Tech) may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Montgomery County cottage food ordinance identified beyond state law.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No permit or inspection requirements. Department may inspect upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private homes including candies, jams, jellies (not low-acid/acidified), 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 and acidified vegetables with equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower allowed with a \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. Direct-to-consumer only; no resale, consignment, or retail food establishments. No registration, permit, or inspection required.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction in the cottage food statute.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.

HANDWASHING

Standard food safety practices recommended but not legally mandated.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. TCS foods prohibited. Pickles and acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year (one of the lowest pickle-specific caps in the US). All-caps label required: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No permit or inspection requirements. Department may inspect upon consumer complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Montgomery County and the Town of Christiansburg and Town of Blacksburg (home of Virginia Tech) may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Montgomery County cottage food ordinance identified beyond state law.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only at home, farmers markets, events. No resale, consignment, or retail food establishments. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. General non-acidified cottage food has no stated dollar cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Montgomery County code section identified. State law governs: Va. Code §3.2-5130.

RESEARCH NOTES

Montgomery County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Montgomery County is home to Virginia Tech (Blacksburg). Virginia's \$9,000 pickle cap is notably restrictive. The all-caps label disclaimer requirement is a distinctive Virginia feature. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.montgomerycounty.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/montgomery-county-discuss

Montgomery County and nearby places

Regulation	Montgomery County	Roanoke County	Pulaski County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction in the cottage food statute.	No state restriction; local home occupation rules may apply.	VDACS home food processing permit pathway requires pets excluded from food prep, storage, packaging, and equipment cleaning areas at all ti...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Upon-complaint	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only at home, farmers markets, events. No resale, consignment, or retail food establishments. Pickles/acidified ve...	Virginia allows direct sales; Roanoke County home occupation rules require residential character be maintained and may restrict customer vi...	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	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Conditional
RESTRICTIONS	Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private homes including candies, jams, jellies (not low-acid/acidified), dried fruits, dry ...	Virginia state law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) allows home kitchen production of non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspec...	Virginia state cottage food exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) applies. Pulaski County has a comprehensive Unified Development Ordinance (UDO, ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. TCS foods prohibited. Pickles and acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year (one of the lowest pickle-spe...	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.	Proper storage to prevent contamination; pet exclusion required for VDACS permit pathway.
POPULATION	99,373	96,653	33,841

State context — Virginia cottage food law

Montgomery 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 Montgomery 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/montgomery-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 Montgomery 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/montgomery-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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