

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Norfolk city

Virginia · Norfolk · FIPS 51710 · Population 236,973 · Crosodo  
Index #1826\*

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

Norfolk city, 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

**Upon-complaint**

PETS

**Not specified in state 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: NORFOLK CITY

CROSODO INDEX #1826\* · FIPS 51710 · Norfolk

## Norfolk city

Population 236,973 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · MEDIUM

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No registration required. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Direct sales only. Norfolk as an independent city has its own zoning.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (City of Norfolk has its own zoning ordinance. May require home occupation permit for residential-zone businesses. Check with Norfolk City Planning Department.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Department may inspect upon consumer complaint)

## Home kitchen rules

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No registration required. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Direct sales only. Norfolk as an independent city has its own zoning.

## SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

## PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state statute

## WATER SUPPLY

Potable water supply required

## HANDWASHING

No formal certification required by state

## FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; prohibited: TCS foods, dairy, meat, fish, refrigerated items

## Inspection &amp; permitting

## INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — Department may inspect upon consumer complaint

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — City of Norfolk has its own zoning ordinance. May require home occupation permit for residential-zone businesses. Check with Norfolk City Planning Department.

## LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

## Customer-facing rules

## ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP

Yes

## ON-SITE SIGNAGE

Conditional

## DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES

Direct sales to consumers only; no retail store sales, no consignment, no wholesale.

## MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME

Not specified in state statute

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; City of Norfolk Zoning Ordinance

### RESEARCH NOTES

Norfolk is an independent Virginia city. Follows Virginia state baseline (Va. Code §3.2-5130). Virginia has notably low \$9,000 cap for pickles. No city-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence medium — state law confirmed but no specific Norfolk .gov cottage food source retrieved.

---

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.norfolk.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/norfolk-city-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/norfolk-city-discuss)

## Norfolk city and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Norfolk city                                                                                                                                    | Chesapeake city                                                                                                                                 | Hampton city                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                              | No                                                                                                                                              | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Not specified in state statute                                                                                                                  | Not specified in state statute                                                                                                                  | Not prohibited by state statute; kitchen must remain sanitary.                                                                                 |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                  | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                  | No                                                                                                                                             |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                     | Conditional                                                                                                                                     | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct sales to consumers only; no retail store sales, no consignment, no wholesale.                                                            | Direct sales to consumers only at home, farmers markets, events. No retail store sales, no consignment, no wholesale.                           | Direct sales only per state law. Sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, and online with local delivery.                            |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Conditional                                                                                                                                     | Conditional                                                                                                                                     | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                          | Varies                                                                                                                                          | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No registration required. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Label must state 'NOT FOR RE... | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No registration required for general non-acidified cottage foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$... | Hampton is an independent city in Virginia. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No state registration required. Pickles/acidified vegetables c... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; prohibited: TCS foods, dairy, meat, fish, refrigerated items                                                        | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; extensive prohibited list including TCS foods, dairy, meat, fish                                                    | Non-TCS shelf-stable products only; stored in food-safe containers.                                                                            |
| POPULATION                 | 236,973                                                                                                                                         | 249,377                                                                                                                                         | 137,217                                                                                                                                        |

## State context — Virginia cottage food law

Norfolk city'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 Norfolk city?** 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/norfolk-city-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/norfolk-city-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 Norfolk city, 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/norfolk-city-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/norfolk-city-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)