

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Roanoke County

Virginia · — · FIPS 51161 · Population 96,653 · Crosodo Index #2123*

STATE BASELINE

Va. Code §3.2-5130

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

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

Roanoke 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?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No state restriction; local home occupation rules may apply.

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: ROANOKE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2123* · FIPS 51161 · —

Roanoke County

Population 96,653 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Virginia state law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) allows home kitchen production of non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection required. Direct sales only; no wholesale. No stated cap for non-acidified cottage foods; \$9,000 annual cap for pickles/acidified vegetables. Label must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Roanoke County (distinct from Roanoke City) has home occupation regulations requiring home-based businesses to be accessory uses in residential dwellings; contact Planning and Zoning at (540) 772-2068 for specifics.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No state restriction; local home occupation rules may apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Roanoke County has home occupation regulations (view Home Occupation Regulations at roanokecountyva.gov). More than one home occupation permitted per dwelling but each must meet set standards and maintain residential character. Contact Roanoke County Planning and Zoning at (540) 772-2068 for permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Virginia state law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) allows home kitchen production of non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection required. Direct sales only; no wholesale. No stated cap for non-acidified cottage foods; \$9,000 annual cap for pickles/acidified vegetables. Label must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Roanoke County (distinct from Roanoke City) has home occupation regulations requiring home-based businesses to be accessory uses in residential dwellings; contact Planning and Zoning at (540) 772-2068 for specifics.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No state restriction; local home occupation rules may apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement under Virginia cottage food law.

HANDWASHING

No specific statutory requirement.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Roanoke County has home occupation regulations (view Home Occupation Regulations at roanokecountyva.gov). More than one home occupation permitted per dwelling but each must meet set standards and maintain residential character. Contact Roanoke County Planning and Zoning at (540) 772-2068 for permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Virginia allows direct sales; Roanoke County home occupation rules require residential character be maintained and may restrict customer visits. Farmers markets, events, and in-state online delivery permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Limited to residential character per Roanoke County home occupation rules.

Relevant county code

Roanoke County home occupation regulations (roanokecountyva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5647)

RESEARCH NOTES

Roanoke County (FIPS 51161) is distinct from Roanoke City (FIPS 51770). Roanoke County FAQ confirms home-based businesses are allowed as accessory uses in residential dwellings; multiple home occupations per unit permitted but each must meet set standards. Home Occupation Regulations document at roanokecountyva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5647. No county-specific cottage food permit beyond Virginia state requirements. The county has no independent city status and does not include the City of Roanoke.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.roanokecountyva.gov>

<https://www.roanokecounty.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/>

<https://www.roanokecountyva.gov/FAQ.aspx?QID=301>

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

Roanoke County and nearby places

Regulation	Roanoke County	Roanoke city	Montgomery County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No state restriction; local home occupation rules may apply.	No state restriction; Roanoke home occupation rules do not specifically address pets.	No specific state restriction in the cottage food statute.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	No	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Virginia allows direct sales; Roanoke County home occupation rules require residential character be maintained and may restrict customer vi...	Virginia allows direct sales from home but Roanoke zoning code Section 36.2-413 prohibits customers visiting home for general home occupati...	Direct-to-consumer sales only at home, farmers markets, events. No resale, consignment, or retail food establishments. Pickles/acidified ve...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	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 law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) allows home kitchen production of non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspec...	Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private homes including candies, jams, jellies (not low-acid/acidified), dried fruits, dry ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; store to prevent contamination.	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. TCS foods prohibited. Pickles and acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year (one of the lowest pickle-spe...
POPULATION	96,653	99,213	99,373

State context — Virginia cottage food law

Roanoke 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 Roanoke 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/roanoke-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 Roanoke 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/roanoke-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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