

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Rockingham County

Virginia · — · FIPS 51165 · Population 83,905 · Crosodo Index
#1620*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

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: ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1620* · FIPS 51165 · —

Rockingham County

Population 83,905 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Virginia cottage food: non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. Allowed: 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, baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) allowed but capped at \$9,000/year. Labels must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' in all caps. No registration, no inspection.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Rockingham County (Harrisonburg area) may have home occupation ordinances. No specific Rockingham County cottage food ordinance identified. Producers should check with Rockingham County Planning and Community Development. Note: the county seat field was blank in the input; Harrisonburg is the independent city at the county seat location.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Department may inspect upon consumer complaint (§3.2-5130(D)).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Virginia cottage food: non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. Allowed: 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, baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) allowed but capped at \$9,000/year. Labels must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' in all caps. No registration, no inspection.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state law.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific statutory requirement.

HANDWASHING

No specific statutory requirement.

FOOD STORAGE

No specific statutory requirement.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — Department may inspect upon consumer complaint (§3.2-5130(D)).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — Rockingham County (Harrisonburg area) may have home occupation ordinances. No specific Rockingham County cottage food ordinance identified. Producers should check with Rockingham County Planning and Community Development. Note: the county seat field was blank in the input; Harrisonburg is the independent city at the county seat location.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only (in-person). No resale, no consignment, no sales to retail food establishments. Products must be sold directly from producer to end consumer.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law.

Relevant county code

No Rockingham County-specific cottage food code identified. Va. Code §3.2-5130 governs.

RESEARCH NOTES

Rockingham County is in the Shenandoah Valley (Harrisonburg is the independent city co-located with county seat). Virginia cottage food is notably restrictive on acidified/pickled foods (\$9,000/year cap). No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium: state law confirmed from official Virginia Law source; county-level rules not verified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.rockinghamcounty.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/rockingham-county-discuss

Rockingham County and nearby places

Regulation	Rockingham County	Augusta County	Albemarle County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law.	Not specified in state statute.	No specific state prohibition; standard food safety practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only (in-person). No resale, no consignment, no sales to retail food establishments. Products must be sold directly from produ...	Direct sales to consumers only. No resale or consignment. No sales to retail food establishments.	Virginia allows direct sales only: home, farmers markets, events, online (no resale to retail/restaurants). Customer pickup permitted subje...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Virginia cottage food: non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. Allowed: candies, jams, jellies, dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonin...	Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Pickles and acidified vegetables subject to \$9,000 ann...	Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection. Direct sales only (no resale/consignment). All-caps ...
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory requirement.	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.	Non-TCS shelf-stable products only. Pickles/acidified vegetables with pH ≤4.6 allowed but subject to \$9,000/year cap.
POPULATION	83,905	77,433	112,513

State context — Virginia cottage food law

Rockingham 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 Rockingham 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/rockingham-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 Rockingham 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/rockingham-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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