

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in St. Mary's County, Maryland?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-05.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Depends

HOME OCCUPATION

Varies

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

\$50,000 / year

MARYLAND RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Maryland permits PDF](#)[Maryland cottage food law page](#)[Maryland Department of Health cottage food program](#)[Statute: MD COMAR 10.15.03.27](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what it takes to sell from a home kitchen in St. Mary's County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

St. Mary's County, Maryland. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Depends

ANNUAL SALES CAP

\$50,000 / year

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Varies

LOCAL HEALTH

Upon-complaint

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Yes

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

If you want a shop or a rented commercial kitchen, these rows do not apply.

CONTINUE ONLINE

Maryland permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maryland.pdf>

Maryland cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/maryland>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/maryland/st-mary-s-county>

St. Mary's County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/maryland/st-mary-s-county>

Not legal advice. Rules change. Confirm with the office before you file.

Where to file

State

Maryland registration: Depends. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. Sales at retail food stores (indirect) are allowed but require prior submission of labels and documentation of ANSI-accredited food safety course completion to the Maryland Department of Health before any retail sales can commence. The Department must notify the producer in writing that requirements are met before retail sales begin.

Maryland permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maryland.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/maryland

Maryland Department of Health: <https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Pages/Cottage-Food.aspx>

Statute: [MD COMAR 10.15.03.27](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Varies. No specific St. Mary's County home occupation permit requirements found for cottage food. Maryland state cottage food law does not require local permits. St. Mary's County zoning may require home occupation approval for home-based businesses. Contact St. Mary's County Department of Land Use and Growth Management.

Health

Upon-complaint. MDH may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspections for standard cottage food track.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Maryland allows direct sales and limited indirect retail sales (requires food handler cert for retail channel). Online and mail order prohibited. \$50,000 annual cap.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

MDH and local health license food facilities. Maryland cottage food is not a food-service facility license. A commissary is a food service facility licensed by the local health department.

Official source: [MDH food protection](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.stmarysmd.com>

This file is the home-kitchen path. A rented kitchen uses a different permit. Ask the kitchen manager which license they expect, then call the local health office.

SOURCES

<https://www.stmarysmd.com>

<https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Pages/Cottage-Food.aspx>

<https://regs.maryland.gov/us/md/exec/comar/10.15.03.27>

St. Mary's County and nearby places

Regulation	St. Mary's County	Calvert County	Charles County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; standard food safety sanitation practices apply.	No specific restriction under Maryland cottage food law.	No explicit state restriction; MDH guidelines address sanitation.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Maryland allows direct sales and limited indirect retail sales (requires food handler cert for retail channel). Online and mail order prohi...	Direct and limited indirect sales. Retail stores allowed with optional registration. Online/mail order within Maryland. No out-of-state sal...	Direct sales at home, online within Maryland, limited retail store sales with food safety training.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Maryland allows non-PHF cottage foods from residential kitchen. \$50,000 annual revenue cap. Registration (free online ID) optional unless s...	Maryland cottage food law (COMAR 10.15.03.27): \$50,000 annual sales cap. No routine inspection (complaint-based only). Registration optiona...	Annual revenue cap \$50,000. Non-PHF foods only — no acidified foods, pickles, salsas, ketchup, mustard, or fermented foods. Inspections upo...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF shelf-stable products only. No refrigerated or TCS foods. Acidified foods, fermented foods, pickles, salsas prohibited. Separate On...	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods only. Prohibited: acidified foods, fermented foods, TCS foods.	Shelf-stable storage; no refrigerated products.
POPULATION	113,814	93,244	167,035

More pages for this place

These Crosodo pages cover the same home cottage-food path:

Maryland permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maryland.pdf

Maryland cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/maryland

St. Mary's County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/maryland/st-mary-s-county