

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Virginia

A comprehensive guide to the cottage food statute, sales rules, and county-level zoning and health-department overlays for home bakers operating under Va. Code §3.2-5130.

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STATUTE	TIER	IJ GRADE	COUNTIES COVERED	LAST VERIFIED
Va. Code §3.2-5130	Good	C	67	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.

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## Executive summary

This report covers the Virginia cottage food framework — the state statute, the regulatory body administering it, what producers can and cannot sell, and county-level rules layered on top of state law for the 67 Virginia counties included in this dataset.

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### ANNUAL SALES CAP

tiered

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

no

### FOOD HANDLER CERTIFICATION

no

### KITCHEN INSPECTION

no

### DIRECT SALES ONLY

yes

### INDIRECT SALES (RETAIL/ONLINE/WHOLESALE)

no — Products must be sold in person in the Commonwealth to an individual for his own consumption and not for resale or consignment. They cannot be offered for sale to be used in or offered for consumption in retail food establishments. Sales venues are limited to: private home, temporary event (no more than 14 consecutive days), or farmers market. Internet advertising is explicitly permitted but sales must remain in-person and in-state.

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### RESEARCH NOTES

Statute text retrieved directly from Virginia Law ([law.lis.virginia.gov](http://law.lis.virginia.gov)). The page was dated 4/1/2026 indicating current text. Two tiers apply: (1) Non-acidified cottage foods (baked goods, candy, etc.) — no stated dollar cap, but pickles/acidified vegetables are capped at \$9,000/year (subdivision 4), one of the lowest pickle-specific caps in the US. The all-caps label requirement 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' is a distinctive Virginia requirement. Honey is covered under a separate subdivision (5) at under 250 gallons annually. The D. subsection confirms that exempt parties are not subject to permit/inspection requirements but the Department may inspect upon consumer complaint.

## Code of Virginia, Title 3.2 Agriculture, Animal Care, and Food, Chapter 51 Food and Drink, §3.2-5130 Inspections required to operate food establishment

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**CITATION**

Va. Code §3.2-5130

**ENACTED**

unknown

**LAST AMENDED**

2026

**CONFIDENCE**

HIGH

### Allowed foods

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 that do not require temperature control. Pickles and acidified vegetables with equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower are allowed with a \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. Honey from own hives under 250 gallons per year is also allowed under a separate provision.

### Prohibited foods

Time/temperature control foods (TCS foods) are prohibited. Pickles and acidified vegetables are subject to a \$9,000 annual cap (among the lowest in the US). Products cannot be resold, consigned, or sold into retail food establishments. The general non-acidified cottage food category has no stated dollar cap.

### Labeling requirements

Label must be affixed to the principal display panel (or a sign for small packages) and must include: name of the person preparing the food, physical address, telephone number, date the food product was processed, and the all-caps statement 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' The all-caps requirement is distinctive among US cottage food laws.

## Statutory text — verbatim excerpt

### Statute excerpt — verbatim

C. The provisions of subsections A and B shall not apply to: 3. Private homes where the resident processes and prepares candies, jams, and jellies not considered to be low-acid or acidified low-acid food products, dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixtures, coated and uncoated nuts, vinegars and flavored vinegars, popcorn, popcorn balls, cotton candy, dried pasta, dry baking mixes, roasted coffee, dried tea, cereals, trail mixes, granola, and baked goods if such products are (i) those that do not require time or temperature control after preparation; (ii) sold in person in the Commonwealth to an individual for his own consumption and not for resale or consignment; (iii) sold at the private home, at a temporary event that operates for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days, or at a farmers market; (iv) not offered for sale to be used in or offered for consumption in retail food establishments; and (v) affixed with a label placed on the principal display panel or, for a product in packaging not large enough to bear such a label, offered for sale with a sign displaying the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person preparing the food product, the date the food product was processed, and the statement "NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION." 4. Private homes where the resident processes and prepares pickles and other acidified vegetables that have an equilibrium pH value of 4.6 or lower if such products are (i) sold in person in the Commonwealth to an individual for his own consumption and not for resale or consignment; (ii) sold at the private home, at a temporary event that operates for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days, or at a farmers market; (iii) not offered for sale to be used in or offered for consumption in retail food establishments; (iv) affixed with a label placed on the principal display panel displaying the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person preparing the food product, the date the food product was processed, and the statement "NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION"; and (v) not exceeding \$9,000 in gross sales in a calendar year.

Source: <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

## Official sources

**Statute** <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

**State dept page** <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

**Extension service** <https://www.fcs.ext.vt.edu/>

**Forrager.com** <https://forrager.com/law/virginia/>

State dept of agriculture / health: **Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

## County-level rules

The state statute above sets the floor. Each county may add a home-occupation permit, business license, or zoning rule on top of state law. The 67 Virginia counties below are sorted by population (largest first).

RANK 39 · FIPS 51059 · —

### Fairfax County

Population 1,145,354 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

#### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Fairfax County requires a Home-Based Business Permit with a Home-Based Food Production Supplemental Form for all home-based food operations. Small-scale food production is listed as a permitted home-based use in residential districts; however, sale and delivery must occur exclusively online or off-site (no on-site retail sales or customer pickup). The home occupation area cannot exceed 400 sq ft. Operators must also comply with VDACS and Fairfax County Health Department (FCHD) regulations.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	state baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	state baseline applies
HANDWASHING	state baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	state baseline applies

#### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon complaint. FCHD may investigate cottage food product complaints. Home-based business permit requires a zoning inspection before certificate issuance.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Fairfax County requires a Home-Based Business Administrative Permit (zoning approval) for cottage food operations, plus a Home-Based Food Production Supplemental Form. A business license must be filed within 75 days of starting. Contact Zoning Permits Section at 703-222-1082. Home occupation area limited to 400 sq ft; no more than 1 non-resident employee (for single-family detached, 7am-6pm only). No non-resident employees for other dwelling types.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	no
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sale and delivery must occur exclusively online or off-site — on-site retail customer pickup is not permitted for home-based food production in Fairfax County residential districts.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	1 non-resident employee on-site for single-family detached dwellings (7am-6pm only); no non-resident employees for other dwelling types

### Relevant county code

Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance §4102 (Home-Based Business); Home-Based Food Production Supplemental Form

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Fairfax County is notably more restrictive than the state baseline for home-based food operations: requires a formal Home-Based Business Permit with a supplemental food production form, a business license, and a zoning inspection. On-site customer pickup is prohibited (online/off-site sales only). The county has its own local food code and a specific list of permitted cottage food products (operators must contact FCHD for product assessment if item is not on the list). One non-resident employee allowed only in single-family detached homes during 7am-6pm hours.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health>

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development>

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov>

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-development/sites/planning-development/files/assets/documents/zoning/home-based-food-production-supplemental-form.pdf>

[https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/sites/code/files/assets/documents/pdf/home\\_based\\_business.pdf](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/sites/code/files/assets/documents/pdf/home_based_business.pdf)

RANK 147 · FIPS 51153 · Manassas

## Prince William County

Population 481,114 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Two tiers: (1) Non-acidified cottage foods (baked goods, candy, etc.) — no registration required, direct sales only, limited venues. (2) Acidified foods (jams, pickles, sauces) — registration with VDACS required. No annual sales cap. No inspection required at state level.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement in state cottage food law
HANDWASHING	No specific requirement in state cottage food law
FOOD STORAGE	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-TCS foods

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Prince William County requires a Home Occupation Certificate (HOC1) for home-based businesses per Zoning Ordinance Section 32-300.07. Home occupation is business conducted entirely within dwelling by residents, clearly incidental to residential use, no exterior evidence, no customers coming to home, no non-resident employees. Apply in person at Development Services Building (703-792-6830; zoningcounters@pwcgov.org). Must also obtain Trade Name Registration from Prince William County Judicial Center. Business License from Prince William County Finance Department may be required (703-792-6710).
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Virginia state law: direct sales to consumers at farmers markets, events, from home. Indirect sales through third-party retailers allowed with VDACS registration for acidified foods. No annual sales cap. Online sales permitted.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Prince William County Home Occupation: no non-resident employees allowed (only residents of dwelling unit)

## Relevant county code

Prince William County Zoning Ordinance Section 32-300.07 (Home Occupation Certificate). Va. Code §3.2-5130.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Prince William County Home Occupation Certificate page retrieved directly from pwcva.gov. Zoning Ordinance Section 32-300.07 governs: business within dwelling, incidental to residential use, no exterior evidence, no customers at home, no non-resident employees. HOC1 application filed in person. Business License from Finance Department may be required. Virginia state cottage food (Va. Code §3.2-5130) has two tiers: non-acidified (no registration) and acidified (VDACS registration required). NOTE: Prince William County HOC explicitly says 'Home occupation is less intense than home employment and does not have customers coming to the home' — cottage food pickup at home may require special attention or the Home Employment permit instead. Confidence high: official county source retrieved.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pwcva.gov>

<https://www.pwcva.gov/departments/zoning-administration/home-occupation-certificate-office-within-residence>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/dairy-kitchen-food-services-businesses.shtml>

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RANK 153 · FIPS 51810 · Virginia Beach

## Virginia Beach city

Population 457,900 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia cottage food law exempts non-TCS shelf-stable foods from licensing and inspection (Va. Code §3.2-5130). Permitted items: candies, jams, jellies (not low-acid/acidified), dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixes, 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/acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Virginia Beach zoning requires home occupation compliance.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute; standard food safety GMP applies.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.
HANDWASHING	Not specified in state cottage food statute; standard food safety practices apply.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable storage. Products not requiring temperature control only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Virginia Beach Zoning Ordinance requires home occupations to comply with accessory use standards. Home occupations in residential zones are permitted as accessory uses; must not generate traffic beyond normal residential levels, no external evidence of business, no employees other than family members in residence, no sales to general public from premises except for agricultural products. A Conditional Use Permit may be required for customer-facing home operations. Virginia Beach Planning Dept: 757-385-8074.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	conditional
<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	conditional
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No resale, consignment, or sales to retail food establishments. Sales at farmers markets, roadside stands, home delivery permitted.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Only family members occupying the dwelling; no outside employees for home occupation.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (state cottage food); Virginia Beach Zoning Ordinance §111 et seq. (accessory use/home occupation).

### RESEARCH NOTES

Virginia Beach is an independent city (FIPS 51810), functions as its own county-equivalent. State cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) is well-documented with no registration required for non-acidified foods. Pickles/acidified cap is \$9,000/year (very low). Virginia Beach zoning ordinance limits home occupations in residential zones as accessory uses. No explicit cottage food zoning preemption in Virginia (unlike Florida), so local compliance required. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; city-specific zoning details not fully extracted from official code.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://planning.virginiabeach.gov/zoning>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://planning.virginiabeach.gov/zoning>

[https://www.zoneomics.com/code/virginia-beach-VA/chapter\\_4](https://www.zoneomics.com/code/virginia-beach-VA/chapter_4)

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RANK 168 · FIPS 51107 · Leesburg

## Loudoun County

Population 420,773 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) exempts non-TCS shelf-stable foods from licensing and inspection. Permitted items: candies, jams, jellies (not low-acid/acidified), dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixes, 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 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Loudoun County requires a Home Occupation permit.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. No TCS foods permitted.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Loudoun County requires a Home Occupation Permit from Building & Development (Permitting). The permit is available online via Loudoun County's permitting portal. Applicable to home-based businesses in residential zones. Standards require the business to be secondary to residential use, no external evidence of business, limited customer traffic, and compliance with Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance. Contact: Loudoun County Building & Development, <a href="http://loudoun.gov/1178/Home-Occupation-Permits">loudoun.gov/1178/Home-Occupation-Permits</a> .
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No resale, consignment, or sales to retail food establishments. Sales at farmers markets, roadside stands, home delivery permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only family members occupying the dwelling; no outside employees for home occupation.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (state cottage food); Loudoun County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions).

### RESEARCH NOTES

Loudoun County Home Occupation Permit confirmed from official loudoun.gov sources. County has dedicated Home Occupation Permits page under Building & Development. Virginia state cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) confirmed from state baseline. No registration required for non-acidified cottage foods. Pickles/acidified cap is very low at \$9,000/year. Loudoun County is one of the wealthiest counties in the US; active home-based business and food entrepreneurship community. Confidence high: both state law and county permit requirement confirmed from .gov sources.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.loudoun.gov>

<https://www.loudoun.gov/1178/Home-Occupation-Permits>

<https://www.loudoun.gov/3208/Business-Zoning-Permits>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

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RANK 196 · FIPS 51041 · Chesterfield

## Chesterfield County

Population 366,019 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) exempts non-TCS shelf-stable foods from licensing and inspection. Permitted items: candies, jams, jellies (not low-acid/acidified), dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixes, 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 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Chesterfield County requires compliance with home occupation zoning rules.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. No TCS foods.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Chesterfield County has home occupation provisions in its zoning ordinance. Operators should verify with Chesterfield County Planning Department ( <a href="http://chesterfield.gov">chesterfield.gov</a> ) whether a home occupation permit is required. Generally, home-based businesses in residential zones must be secondary to residential use, no external evidence of business, limited customer traffic, no employees other than family.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct-to-consumer only. No resale or sales to retail food establishments. Farmers markets, roadside stands, home delivery permitted.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Only family members; no outside employees for home occupation.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (state cottage food); Chesterfield County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions).

### RESEARCH NOTES

Virginia state cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) confirmed from state baseline. Chesterfield County (suburban Richmond) follows state baseline. No registration required for non-acidified cottage foods. Pickles/acidified cap is \$9,000/year. County home occupation rules apply. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; Chesterfield County-specific zoning details not directly verified from .gov source.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.chesterfield.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 212 · FIPS 51087 · Richmond (independent city; county seat is unincorporated)

## Henrico County

Population 333,120 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130; no registration required; tiered sales cap; direct sales only; no inspection required · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; direct-to-consumer sales only; tiered annual sales cap; zoning approval documentation required if seeking VDACS home food processing permit

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** Good sanitation required; no specific state pet rule for cottage food exemption

**WATER SUPPLY** Potable water required

**HANDWASHING** Standard handwashing practices

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection under §3.2-5130 exemption
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — VDACS permit application requires zoning approval documentation. Henrico County note: catering operations from a residence are prohibited per zoning restrictions (per henrico.gov). Cottage food direct sales under §3.2-5130 exemption may be treated differently than catering. Operator should confirm with Henrico County zoning/planning department
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, and roadside stands; no retail/wholesale sales
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

## Relevant county code

Not identified; henrico.gov/services/foodservice-permit-application notes catering from residence prohibited by zoning

### RESEARCH NOTES

Henrico County explicitly prohibits catering from residences per zoning (confirmed on county website). Cottage food exemption under §3.2-5130 is a simpler pathway that does not require VDACS permit, but zoning implications for home-based food sales should be confirmed with county planning. Direct sales-only state restriction noted.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://henrico.us>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://henrico.gov/services/foodservice-permit-application/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/homefdapplication.pdf>

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RANK 274 · FIPS 51550 · Chesapeake

## Chesapeake city

Population 249,377 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No registration required for general non-acidified cottage foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Direct sales to consumers only. No resale/consignment.
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; extensive prohibited list including TCS foods, dairy, meat, fish

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Department may inspect upon consumer complaint
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — City of Chesapeake may require home occupation permit under Chesapeake zoning ordinance. As an independent city, Chesapeake administers its own zoning. Check with Chesapeake 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 at home, farmers markets, events. 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 Chesapeake Zoning Ordinance

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Chesapeake is an independent Virginia city (not a county) that functions as its own local government. Follows Virginia state baseline (Va. Code §3.2-5130). Virginia has a notably low \$9,000 cap for pickles/acidified vegetables. No city-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence medium — state law confirmed but no Chesapeake city .gov cottage food source retrieved.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.cityofchesapeake.net>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 284 · FIPS 51710 · Norfolk

## Norfolk city

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

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	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.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state statute
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water supply required
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No formal certification required by state
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; prohibited: TCS foods, dairy, meat, fish, refrigerated items

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	upon-complaint — Department may inspect upon consumer complaint
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	conditional — City of Norfolk has its own zoning ordinance. May require home occupation permit for residential-zone businesses. Check with Norfolk City Planning Department.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	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/>

RANK 287 · FIPS 51013 · Arlington

## Arlington County

Population 235,845 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No state registration required for general cottage foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Label requirement. Arlington County explicitly lists 'Food Preparation and Home Occupations' as a permitted home occupation, but requires a Home Occupation Permit from Arlington's Permit Arlington system.
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; extensive prohibited list (TCS foods, dairy, meat, fish)

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Arlington County requires a Home Occupation Permit for food preparation home occupations, submitted online via Permit Arlington. 'Food Preparation and Home Occupations' is explicitly listed as a permitted home occupation per Arlington Zoning Ordinance §12.9.11. Application fee applies per Arlington fee schedule. Restaurants and tearooms are explicitly NOT permitted as home occupations.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to consumers only per VA state law; no retail consignment. Check Arlington zoning for customer visit limits.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute; Arlington home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees

### Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; Arlington County Zoning Ordinance §12.9.11 (Home Occupations)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Arlington County has a specific Home Occupation Permit page ([arlingtonva.us](http://arlingtonva.us)) with 'Food Preparation and Home Occupations' explicitly listed as a permitted home occupation category. The county requires online permit application via Permit Arlington system under §12.9.11 of the Zoning Ordinance. Restaurants and tearooms explicitly excluded. This is one of the few counties in the batch with confirmed specific cottage food / food prep home occupation language from a county .gov source. Virginia state \$9,000 pickle cap applies. Confidence high due to specific Arlington County .gov source.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Building/Permits/Home-Occupation>

<https://www.arlingtonva.us>

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Building/Permits/Home-Occupation>

<https://building.arlingtonva.us/resource/food-preparation-home-occupations>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 302 · FIPS 51760 · —

## Richmond city

Population 227,171 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · HIGH

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia state law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) exempts non-TCS cottage foods from permitting. For home food processing operations (broader range of products beyond the cottage food exemption), VDACS requires a permit (\$40/year) with an initial inspection. Both pathways require local zoning approval. Richmond City requires a Certificate of Zoning Compliance (CZC) for home occupations (\$50 fee, ~10 business day processing), plus a City business license.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	VDACS home food processing rules require pets to be completely excluded from food preparation, storage, packaging, and equipment cleaning areas at all times, with solid hinged doors that latch. This applies to the home food processing permit pathway; cottage food exemption has no explicit statutory pet restriction but good practice applies.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires water testing results showing absence of coliform bacteria if pursuing the VDACS home food processing permit. Cottage food exemption has no stated water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing required per GMP; documented on VDACS home food processing application.
FOOD STORAGE	Proper storage to prevent contamination; pet-excluded areas required for VDACS permit pathway.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	conditional — For VDACS home food processing permit: initial inspection required before operation; complaint-based thereafter. For cottage food exemption (§3.2-5130): no routine inspection; VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Richmond City requires a Certificate of Zoning Compliance (CZC) – Home Occupation, issued by the Zoning Administration Office. Fee: \$50. Processing time: approximately 10 business days. Property owner consent is required (owner notified). Following CZC approval, a City of Richmond business license must be obtained from the Finance Department (City Hall, 900 East Broad St, Room 103). The CZC application requires a detailed business description, square footage of business area, and whether in-person sales/client visits will occur.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under Virginia cottage food exemption, direct sales only. Home pickup and local delivery permitted for non-TCS shelf-stable items. Online sales allowed. For VDACS home food processing permit: statewide distribution permitted; zoning documentation must confirm pickup/delivery is allowed at the residence.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Virginia state law does not specify a home-based food employee limit. Richmond City home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employee presence at the residential address.

## Relevant county code

Richmond City Zoning Ordinance (home occupation CZC requirement); Va. Code §3.2-5130 (cottage food exemption); VDACS Home Food Processing regulations

RESEARCH NOTES

Richmond City is an independent city in Virginia (not part of any county). High confidence: Richmond City CZC process documented from official rva.gov PDF (2024). VDACS application and cottage food statute confirmed. Richmond requires: (1) CZC from Zoning Administration (\$50); (2) City business license from Finance Dept. Virginia cottage food exemption (§3.2-5130) requires labeling 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. For products beyond the cottage food exemption, VDACS home food processing permit + local zoning documentation required.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://www.rva.gov

https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml

https://www.rva.gov/sites/default/files/2024-07/City%20of%20Richmond%20-%20How%20to%20apply%20for%20a%20CZC-Residential\_0.pdf

https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/homefdapplication.pdf

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/

RANK 358 · FIPS 51700 · Newport News

# Newport News city

Population 185,118 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · MEDIUM

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Non-acidified cottage foods have no stated dollar cap; pickles and acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Direct sales only; no resale or consignment. Label must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Virginia cottage food law effective 2023.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN no

PET RESTRICTIONS No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY Potable water supply required.

HANDWASHING Adequate handwashing facilities required.

FOOD STORAGE Shelf-stable storage for non-TCS foods.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspections.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT**      yes — Newport News regulates home businesses through zoning ordinance under VA Code §15.2-2280. Virginia is a strict Dillon's Rule state. Home occupation permit required for home-based businesses. A BPOL (business license) is also typically required. Common conditions: home occupation permit, no exterior alteration, no outside storage, no hazardous materials, residence must remain primarily residential. Virginia cottage food law (effective 2023) allows certain home food sales without a food establishment permit.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE**      yes

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP**      conditional

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE**      no

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES**      Direct sales at home, farmers markets, online with local delivery. Customer visits limited per zoning rules.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME**      Typically only household members per home occupation zoning rules.

### Relevant county code

Newport News Zoning Ordinance; Va. Code §15.2-2280; Va. Code §3.2-5130

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Newport News is an independent city in Virginia (treated as county-equivalent). State cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) effective 2023. CityRuleLookup confirms home occupation permit and BPOL required. Newport News Zoning Division website confirmed at nnva.gov. The \$9,000 cap for pickles/acidified vegetables is one of the lowest pickle-specific caps in the US. Honey sold from own hives under 250 gallons/year covered under separate subdivision.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.nnva.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/zoning/newport-news-city-va>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

## Stafford County

Population 157,606 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	conditional — Virginia has two pathways: (1) Va. Code §3.2-5130 cottage food exemption — no registration or inspection for direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS shelf-stable foods (limited list including candies, jams, jellies, dried fruits, dry herbs, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, roasted coffee, cereals, granola, baked goods not requiring temperature control). Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Must label 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' (2) VDACS Home Food Processing Operation permit (\$40/year) allows broader foods but requires inspection. Zoning approval required for either pathway.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	If pets are present, food processing and storage areas must be completely enclosed/separated from the rest of the home with a solid hinged door that can be latched (per VDACS Home Food Processing requirements). Under the cottage food exemption, no specific pet separation requirement.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply requires coliform bacteria water test (less than 6 months old) for VDACS Home Food Processing permit. No testing required under §3.2-5130 exemption.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facility required per VDACS Home Food Processing application. Good practices apply under cottage food exemption.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only under cottage food exemption. Proper storage to prevent contamination.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspection for §3.2-5130 exemption; initial inspection required for VDACS Home Food Processing permit.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — VDACS application requires written documentation of zoning approval from the local zoning office before processing. Stafford County has zoning rules for home occupations. Must provide proof of zoning approval for the VDACS permit pathway. The §3.2-5130 cottage food exemption also benefits from zoning compliance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

## Customer-facing rules

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	yes
<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	conditional
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Under §3.2-5130 exemption: direct-to-consumer sales only; no resale to food establishments. Under VDACS permit: direct sales and some wholesale allowed. No interstate sales under either pathway.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Number of employees must be listed on VDACS Home Food Processing application. Home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees under Stafford County zoning.

## Relevant county code

Stafford County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Va. Code §3.2-5130

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Verified-large county. VDACS Home Food Processing permit application confirmed: zoning approval required, \$40/year fee, initial inspection, private water testing for wells. Virginia distinctive 'NOT FOR RESALE' label requirement applies. Stafford County URL verified. No county-specific cottage food code beyond state framework identified.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://staffordcountyva.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/pdf/homefdapplication.pdf>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 422 · FIPS 51510 · Alexandria

## Alexandria city

Population 157,594 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	conditional — Virginia §3.2-5130 cottage food exemption applies. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods allowed (limited list). Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Must label 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Virginia's Cottage Food Law effective 2023 allows certain home food sales without a food establishment permit. Home occupation permit and BPOL (business license) required by Alexandria City. Zoning approval required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	If pets present, food processing/storage areas must be enclosed/separated with a latching door (for VDACS Home Food Processing permit pathway).
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply requires coliform bacteria test for VDACS Home Food Processing permit. No testing required under §3.2-5130 exemption.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only under cottage food exemption.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Alexandria City requires a home occupation permit for home-based businesses in most zones (per CityRuleLookup, sourced from Alexandria Code of Ordinances via Municode, verified March 2026). Exterior signage generally prohibited for home occupations. BPOL (business license) also required. Customer traffic limits apply. Zoning ordinance under VA Code §15.2-2280. Alexandria City generally prohibits exterior business signage for home-based businesses.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no

<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Under §3.2-5130 exemption: direct-to-consumer sales only; no resale. Under VDACS permit: broader sales allowed. Customer traffic to home businesses limited in Alexandria City to preserve residential character.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Home occupation rules in Alexandria City restrict on-site non-resident employees; residence must remain primarily residential.

## Relevant county code

Alexandria Code of Ordinances (home occupation provisions); Va. Code §3.2-5130; VA Code §15.2-2280

### RESEARCH NOTES

Verified-large independent city. Alexandria City requires home occupation permit and BPOL business license for home-based businesses. Exterior signage prohibited. Customer traffic restricted. Virginia cottage food law (2023) allows cottage food without food establishment permit but local home occupation rules still apply. No specific county-level health department (Virginia independent city). Sources include VDACS application PDF, CityRuleLookup (sourced from Alexandria Code of Ordinances, verified March 2026).

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.alexandriava.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/alexandria-city-va>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/zoning/alexandria-city-va>

<https://library.municode.com/>

RANK 461 · FIPS 51177 · Spotsylvania

## Spotsylvania County

Population 141,097 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No registration required at state level for most cottage foods. Pickles and acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000 annual gross sales (one of the lowest caps in the US for acidified foods). Products must bear label: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not prohibited by state statute; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	Required per good food safety practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-TCS products only. Products stored in food-safe containers.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Spotsylvania County zoning ordinance (Spotsylvania, VA) applies in unincorporated areas. The county is a rapidly growing suburban county in the DC metro area. Home occupation permits may be required under county zoning. Check Spotsylvania County Zoning Division at <a href="http://spotsylvania.va.us">spotsylvania.va.us</a> .
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only per state law. Sales from home, at farmers markets, roadside stands, online (local delivery), and similar venues. No resale or wholesale to food establishments.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level.

### Relevant county code

Spotsylvania County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); not specifically identified for cottage food.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State baseline (VA) confirmed: Va. Code §3.2-5130, direct sales only, \$9,000 cap for pickles/acidified vegetables, distinctive label requirement. Spotsylvania County govt URL confirmed. No specific county cottage food ordinance found. Spotsylvania is a growing Northern Virginia suburban county; home occupation permits likely required under county zoning. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.spotsylvania.va.us>

<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.spotsylvania.va.us>

RANK 466 · FIPS 51650 · Hampton

## Hampton city

Population 137,217 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Hampton is an independent city in Virginia. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No state registration required. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000 annual gross sales. Products must be labeled 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'. Hampton city zoning ordinance may impose home occupation requirements.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not prohibited by state statute; kitchen must remain sanitary.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Required per good food safety practices.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable products only; stored in food-safe containers.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	varies — Hampton is an independent city (not a county) in Virginia. Hampton city's zoning ordinance governs home-based businesses. A home occupation permit may be required. Check Hampton city government at hampton.gov for current home occupation ordinance provisions.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	varies

### Customer-facing rules

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	yes
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ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only per state law. Sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, and online with local delivery.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level.

## Relevant county code

Hampton City Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Va. Code §3.2-5130.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (VA) confirmed. Hampton is a Virginia independent city (not part of a county) — functions as both city and county. Hampton city govt URL confirmed (hampton.gov). No specific city-level cottage food ordinance found via research. Hampton is a mid-sized coastal city in the Hampton Roads metro area. Confidence medium.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://hampton.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://hampton.gov>

RANK 538 · FIPS 51003 · Charlottesville

## Albemarle County

Population 112,513 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130; no stated dollar cap for standard cottage foods; \$9,000 cap for pickles/acidified vegetables; no registration; no inspection; direct sales only; non-TCS shelf-stable foods · **HIGH**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection. Direct sales only (no resale/consignment). All-caps label required: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Albemarle County requires a Home Occupation Clearance for home-based businesses, plus a Business License.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; standard food safety practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no mandatory certification under Virginia cottage food law.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products only. Pickles/acidified vegetables with pH $\leq 4.6$ allowed but subject to \$9,000/year cap.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — Virginia §3.2-5130: Department may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Albemarle County requires a Home Occupation Clearance for all home-based businesses regardless of profitability. Two categories: Rural Area and Residential District, each with different client/customer visit limits (Rural Area: up to 10 students/visitors per week; Residential District: up to 7). Clearance required even if the business is run from dining table. Additionally, a Business License is required from Albemarle County Finance Department (434-296-5851). Apply for Home Occupation Clearance at <a href="http://albemarle.org/government/community-development/apply-for/home-occupations">albemarle.org/government/community-development/apply-for/home-occupations</a> .
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Virginia allows direct sales only: home, farmers markets, events, online (no resale to retail/restaurants). Customer pickup permitted subject to Albemarle County Home Occupation Clearance conditions and client visit limits.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Albemarle County home occupation: depends on Rural Area vs. Residential District classification. Contact county for specifics. No state limit on employees for cottage food.

## Relevant county code

Albemarle County Code §26-279 (Home Occupations); Va. Code §3.2-5130

**RESEARCH NOTES**

County-specific data confirmed from official Albemarle County government website (albemarle.org). Both a Home Occupation Clearance AND a Business License are required per official FAQ. Rural Area vs. Residential District rules vary client visit limits. Note: county\_seat in input is blank but is Charlottesville (independent city adjacent to county; the county surrounds Charlottesville). Virginia's distinctive all-caps label requirement and \$9,000 pickle/acidified vegetable cap are state baseline features. Confidence high: both state law and county requirements confirmed from official .gov sources.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.albemarle.org/government/community-development/apply-for/home-occupations>

<https://www.albemarle.org>

<https://www.albemarle.org/government/community-development/apply-for/home-occupations>

<https://albemarle1.prod-as.govaccess.org/government/community-development/learn-more-about/home-occupations>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 549 · FIPS 51085 · Hanover

## Hanover County

Population 110,513 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130; no stated dollar cap for standard cottage foods; \$9,000 cap for pickles/acidified vegetables; no registration; no inspection; direct sales only; non-TCS shelf-stable foods · **HIGH**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection. Direct sales only. All-caps label required: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Hanover County home-based businesses are subject to zoning with home occupation provisions under §26-279.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state prohibition; standard food safety practices apply.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard food safety practices; no mandatory certification under Virginia cottage food law.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable products only. Pickles/acidified vegetables with pH ≤4.6 allowed but with \$9,000/year cap.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — Virginia §3.2-5130: Department may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Hanover County home-based businesses are regulated under §26-279 of the Hanover County Zoning Ordinance. Home occupations in main buildings and accessory buildings/home craft shops are addressed under this section. Some home businesses may require a Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Per Hanover County FAQ: 'Some home businesses require a special permit.' Contact Hanover County Planning at hanovercounty.gov for whether cottage food qualifies as permitted by-right or requires CUP.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Virginia allows direct sales only: home, farmers markets, events, online (no resale). Customer pickup permitted subject to Hanover County home occupation conditions.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Hanover County home occupation zoning §26-279 specifies limits; details not retrieved. Contact Hanover County Planning for specifics.

## Relevant county code

Hanover County Zoning Ordinance §26-279 (Home Occupations); Va. Code §3.2-5130

### RESEARCH NOTES

County-specific data confirmed from official Hanover County government website (hanovercounty.gov). Zoning ordinance §26-279 confirmed to govern home occupations including home craft shops and retail sales conducted as a home occupation. Home businesses may require CUP in some cases per official FAQ. Virginia's distinctive all-caps label requirement and \$9,000 pickle cap are state baseline features. Hanover County is a northern Richmond suburb, fast-growing. Confidence high: both state law and county zoning requirements confirmed from official .gov and secondary sources.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.hanovercounty.gov>

<https://www.hanovercounty.gov>

<https://www.hanovercounty.gov/m/FAQ>

<https://engage.hanovercounty.gov/w26672>

[https://www.zoneomics.com/code/hanover-county-unincorporated-VA/chapter\\_3](https://www.zoneomics.com/code/hanover-county-unincorporated-VA/chapter_3)

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 600 · FIPS 51121 · Christiansburg

## Montgomery County

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

### 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.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 602 · FIPS 51770 · Roanoke

## Roanoke city

Population 99,213 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

### 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. Tiered cap: no stated cap for most cottage foods; \$9,000 annual cap for pickles/acidified vegetables. Roanoke City Zoning Code Section 36.2-413 regulates home occupations: must be conducted entirely within the interior of the principal residential structure, limited to 250 sq ft, no exterior changes, no outdoor storage, no commercial vehicles, no clients visiting home for standard home occupations.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No state restriction; Roanoke home occupation rules do not specifically address pets.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Virginia cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	No specific statutory requirement; good manufacturing practices recommended.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; store to prevent contamination.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Roanoke City requires a Business License Zoning Verification form for home occupations (Section 36.2-413). Standard home occupations prohibit clients/customers visiting the home. Sales from home to customers visiting in person may be restricted under the 'no customer visit' standard. Operators should contact Roanoke Planning, Building & Development at (540) 853-1090 to confirm whether cottage food customer pickup triggers the 'personal service home occupation' classification or falls under general home occupation standards.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

## Customer-facing rules

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	conditional
<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	no
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Virginia allows direct sales from home but Roanoke zoning code Section 36.2-413 prohibits customers visiting home for general home occupations. Deliveries limited to USPS, parcel services, messenger services. Customer pickup at home may conflict with standard home occupation rules (no customer/client shall travel to the dwelling). Operators should verify with city planning.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	No more than 1 person other than family members residing on premises (Roanoke Zoning Code Section 36.2-413).

## Relevant county code

Roanoke City Zoning Code Section 36.2-413 (Home Occupations)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Roanoke City (independent city, FIPS 51770) zoning code Section 36.2-413 was retrieved from official city documents. Standard home occupations prohibit customer visits; this is a notable restriction for cottage food pickup. Personal service home occupations allow separate entrance but prohibit non-family employees. The 250 sq ft limit and no-signage rule are confirmed. Virginia state law labels must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' No stated sales cap for non-acidified cottage foods; \$9,000 cap for pickles/acidified vegetables.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.roanokeva.gov/2786/Planning-Building-Development>

<https://www.roanokeva.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.roanokeva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1364/Business-License-Zoning-Verification-Application>

<https://www.roanokeva.gov/2065/Home-Occupations>

RANK 618 · FIPS 51740 · Portsmouth

## Portsmouth city

Population 97,384 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

### 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 sales 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.' Portsmouth City requires a home occupation permit and business license for home-based businesses; home occupation rules require business conducted inside dwelling, no signage, and restrict customer visits.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No state restriction; Portsmouth home occupation rules do not specifically address pets.
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	yes — Portsmouth City requires a home occupation permit for home-based businesses. Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance (amended Dec. 12, 2023) governs home occupations. Home occupations must be conducted inside the dwelling, no exterior signage, restricted to residential character. Operators should contact Portsmouth Zoning/Planning Department and the Revenue Office for business license requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
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<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	no
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Virginia allows direct sales; Portsmouth home occupation rules may restrict customer visits to the home. Customer pickup may be limited. Farmers markets, events, online (in-state) delivery all permitted.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Limited to residential character; typically family members only for home occupation.

### Relevant county code

Portsmouth Zoning Ordinance (amended Dec. 12, 2023); Portsmouth Ch. 402

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Portsmouth City (independent city, FIPS 51740) zoning ordinance (Ch. 402, amended Dec. 12, 2023) governs home occupations. Confirmed: home occupation permit required, business license required, no exterior commercial signage, customer visits to home restricted. Portsmouth follows Virginia state cottage food baseline with local home occupation overlay. City-specific rules confirmed via portsmouthva.gov document portal and cityrulelookup.com (March 2026 data).

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.portsmouthva.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.portsmouthva.gov/DocumentCenter/View/9550/Portsmouth-Ch-402-Portsmouth-Zoning-Ordinance---Amended-Dec-12-2023>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/portsmouth-va>

RANK 621 · FIPS 51161 · —

## Roanoke County

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

### 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 <a href="http://roanokecountyva.gov">roanokecountyva.gov</a> ). 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](https://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](https://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.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>

RANK 629 · FIPS 51800 · Suffolk

## Suffolk city

Population 94,856 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## 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.' Suffolk City (independent city) has home occupation rules within its zoning code; operators must comply with local home-based business requirements.

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 — Suffolk City (independent city, Virginia's largest city by area) requires home occupation compliance with local zoning code. Operators should contact Suffolk City Zoning (757-514-4150) for home-based business requirements. Suffolk is geographically large with rural and suburban areas.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Virginia allows direct sales; Suffolk City home occupation rules govern customer visits. In-state online sales, farmers markets, and events permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Limited to residential character per Suffolk City home occupation rules.

## Relevant county code

Suffolk City Zoning Code (home occupation provisions); contact Planning & Community Development at (757) 514-4150.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Suffolk City (FIPS 51800) is an independent city and one of Virginia's largest cities by land area (approximately 430 sq miles). Suffolk City website available at [suffolkva.us](http://suffolkva.us). No Suffolk-specific cottage food rules found beyond Virginia state baseline and general home occupation zoning. Suffolk has a mix of urban, suburban, and agricultural areas. Local zoning varies by area within the city.

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SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.suffolkva.us><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.suffolkva.us>

RANK 642 · FIPS 51069 · —

## Frederick County

Population 92,007 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### 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.' Frederick County (Northern Shenandoah Valley, adjacent to Winchester) has local home occupation zoning rules.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No state restriction.
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 — Frederick County (VA) may require a home occupation permit for cottage food operations depending on zoning district. Frederick County is adjacent to and wraps around Winchester City (independent city). Operators should check with Frederick County Planning at (540) 665-5651.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Virginia allows direct sales; Frederick County home occupation rules govern customer visits. In-state online sales, farmers markets, events permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Limited to residential character per local home occupation rules.

## Relevant county code

Frederick County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); contact Planning at (540) 665-5651.

### RESEARCH NOTES

No Frederick County (VA)-specific cottage food rules found beyond Virginia state baseline. Frederick County is in the Northern Shenandoah Valley; the county seat field is blank in the input data (Winchester is an independent city, not the county seat). The county seat is technically the Frederick County Government Center area. Local home occupation zoning applies.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 677 · FIPS 51165 · —

## Rockingham County

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

## 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.
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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.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 706 · FIPS 51019 · Bedford

## Bedford County

Population 79,761 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Only non-TCS shelf-stable foods. Pickles and acidified vegetables subject to separate \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. All products must be labeled 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	No specific food handler certification required at state level for basic cottage food category.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods must be stored appropriately.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No state-level permit required for cottage food operations. Bedford County zoning ordinances may require a home occupation permit. No Bedford County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
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 resale, consignment, or sales to retail food establishments. Pickles and acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year annual gross sales.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified.

## Relevant county code

No Bedford County-specific cottage food code section found.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) allows non-TCS shelf-stable foods from home kitchens with no state permit or inspection required. Pickles and acidified vegetables have a \$9,000/year cap—one of the lowest in the US. No Bedford County-specific cottage food ordinance found. Local zoning may require home occupation permits. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 710 · FIPS 51680 · Lynchburg

## Lynchburg city

Population 79,166 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

## Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Pickles and acidified vegetables subject to \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. All products must bear 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' label.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** Not specified in state statute.

**WATER SUPPLY** Potable water required.

**HANDWASHING** No food handler certification required at state level.

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Lynchburg zoning code (Sec. 35.2-71.4) allows home occupations as an accessory use subject to performance standards. Home occupations must: be limited to visiting clients on appointment basis; be conducted by a household member; not serve more than one client at a time for listed professions; use only one small sign (max 1 sq ft) with no illumination; use only domestic-scale mechanical equipment; not use more than 20% of the principal dwelling's gross floor area; and not exceed incidental retail sales. A business license from Lynchburg's Commissioner of the Revenue may be required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to consumers only. No resale or consignment. Customer pickup from home on appointment basis permitted. No drop-by public access per home occupation rules.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Home occupation must be conducted by household member. For certain professional occupations, one non-resident employee may be employed.

## Relevant county code

City of Lynchburg Zoning Code Sec. 35.2-71.4 (Home Occupations); Va. Code §3.2-5130

### RESEARCH NOTES

Lynchburg city (an independent city in Virginia, treated as county-equivalent) has specific home occupation rules in its zoning code (Sec. 35.2-71.4). Key restrictions include appointment-only clients, 20% of dwelling's floor area limit, one small sign (1 sq ft, no illumination), and only incidental retail sales. Business license required from the city. State cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) governs what foods can be made; city zoning governs the home occupation aspect. Confidence: high (city zoning ordinance directly retrieved, state law confirmed).

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.lyncburgva.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

[https://www.zoneomics.com/code/lynchburg-VA/chapter\\_7](https://www.zoneomics.com/code/lynchburg-VA/chapter_7)

<https://www.lynchburgva.gov/326/Business-Licenses-Zoning-Approval-Forms>

RANK 712 · FIPS 51095 · —

## James City County

Population 78,818 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Pickles and acidified vegetables subject to \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. All products must bear 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' label.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required at state level.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No state-level permit required. James City County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No James City County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
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 resale or consignment. No sales to retail food establishments.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

## Relevant county code

No James City County-specific cottage food code section found.

### RESEARCH NOTES

James City County follows Virginia state cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130). No county seat listed in input data. County has no separate county seat as it is in the Williamsburg area but James City County itself has no incorporated county seat. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 717 · FIPS 51015 · —

## Augusta County

Population 77,433 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Pickles and acidified vegetables subject to \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. All products must bear 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' label.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required at state level.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No state-level permit required. Augusta County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Augusta County-specific cottage food ordinance found. County seat field is blank in source data — Augusta County is unique in Virginia as the county seat (Staunton) is a separate independent city.
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 resale or consignment. No sales to retail food establishments.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

## Relevant county code

No Augusta County-specific cottage food code section found.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Augusta County follows Virginia state cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130). County seat is blank in source data; Augusta County's administrative center is Verona, though historically associated with Staunton (now an independent city). No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 746 · FIPS 51061 · Warrenton

## Fauquier County

Population 73,290 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Pickles and acidified vegetables subject to \$9,000 annual gross sales cap. All products must bear 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' label.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No state-level permit required. Fauquier County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. County government URL confirmed in input. No Fauquier County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
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 resale or consignment. No sales to retail food establishments.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

### Relevant county code

No Fauquier County-specific cottage food code section found.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Fauquier County follows Virginia state cottage food law. County government URL confirmed in input. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, county URL confirmed, no specific county ordinance confirmed).

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.fauquiercounty.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://www.fauquiercounty.gov>

RANK 763 · FIPS 51199 · Yorktown

## York County

Population 70,238 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **HIGH**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — No food handler cert required. No registration required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no internet or mail order sales; no retail outside state. Tiered annual sales cap applies. Non-TCS non-potentially-hazardous foods only.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state law
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Standard residential water supply
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Good sanitation practices implied
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Appropriate storage for non-PHF products

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** no — No routine inspection under state cottage food law

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT**                    yes — York County Zoning Ordinance §24.1-280 through §24.1-283 governs home occupations. A Zoning Clearance for Home Occupation is required from the Commissioner of Revenue and Zoning & Code Enforcement office (757-890-3523). Food preparation for off-premises sale with no on-site customer contact does NOT require a Special Use Permit. On-site customer pickup requires a Special Use Permit allowing max 1 customer/hour, 5 customers/day, by appointment only, Mon-Sat 8am-8pm. Max 2 non-resident employees without Special Use Permit. Operation limited to 400 sq ft or 25% of residence floor area.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE**    yes

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP**                    conditional

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE**                                no

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES**    Off-premises sales (markets, delivery) allowed without Special Use Permit. On-site retail requires Special Use Permit with appointment-only restrictions.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME**    No more than 2 non-resident employees without Special Use Permit

### Relevant county code

York County Code §24.1-280, §24.1-281, §24.1-282, §24.1-283

**RESEARCH NOTES**

York County VA has specific and detailed home occupation zoning code (§24.1-280 through 24.1-283). Key finding: food preparation for off-premises sale with no on-site customer contact is explicitly exempted from Special Use Permit requirement. On-site customer pickup (pickup at home) requires SUP with appointment-only restrictions. No exterior signage visible from street allowed. Zoning clearance required from Commissioner of Revenue. County planning URL confirmed. Application form (revised 10/21/2024) available on county website.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.yorkcounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.yorkcounty.gov>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://www.yorkcounty.gov/4108/Zoning-Codes>

<https://www.yorkcounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/661/Application-for-Home-Based-Business-PDF?bidId=>

[https://www.yorkcounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/58839/item4c\\_091724](https://www.yorkcounty.gov/DocumentCenter/View/58839/item4c_091724)

RANK 863 · FIPS 51143 · Chatham

## Pittsylvania County

Population 60,541 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. No registration or inspection required. No stated dollar cap for non-acidified items. Pickles/acidified vegetables capped at \$9,000/year. Direct sales only. Products must carry label 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be shelf-stable and non-TCS.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Pittsylvania County zoning may require a home occupation permit. Operators should check with the Pittsylvania County Planning Department.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only — no resale, no consignment, no retail food establishment sales. Home pickup, farmers markets, events, roadside stands, online (within VA) permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Pittsylvania County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); no specific cottage food county code identified.

### RESEARCH NOTES

No county-specific cottage food ordinance found for Pittsylvania County. Virginia's distinctive all-caps label requirement and the very low \$9,000 annual cap for acidified products (pickles) are notable restrictions. No cap for standard non-acidified cottage foods. Honey under 250 gallons/year from own hives also exempt.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 918 · FIPS 51031 · Rustburg

## Campbell County

Population 55,518 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. No registration, permit, or inspection. Direct sales only; no wholesale or retail resale. Allowed: candies, jams/jellies (not low-acid/acidified), dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixtures, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, baked goods, and more. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) subject to separate \$9,000 annual cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific VA state or Campbell County rule.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement; primary residence kitchen.
HANDWASHING	No formal state requirement; standard practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Mandatory label: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Campbell County is adjacent to Lynchburg and may have home occupation zoning requirements for home-based businesses. No specific Campbell County cottage food ordinance identified. Contact Campbell County government in Rustburg.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only to end consumers. No consignment or retail store sales. Products must carry required label language.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in VA statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; no Campbell County-specific ordinance identified

### RESEARCH NOTES

Campbell County is a rural county surrounding Lynchburg in central Virginia. No county-specific cottage food rules found. Virginia's distinctive requirements include the mandatory label language 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' and the extremely low \$9,000 cap for pickles/acidified vegetables (one of the lowest pickle-specific caps in the US). General non-acidified cottage foods have no stated dollar cap.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 926 · FIPS 51067 · Rocky Mount

## Franklin County

Population 54,838 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. No registration, permit, or inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: candies, jams/jellies (not acidified), dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, baked goods, and more. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) subject to separate \$9,000 annual cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific VA or Franklin County restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement; primary residence kitchen.
HANDWASHING	No formal state requirement.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Mandatory label: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Franklin County is a rural Piedmont Virginia county. No specific Franklin County cottage food ordinance identified. County may have home occupation zoning provisions. Contact Franklin County government in Rocky Mount.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to end consumers only. No consignment or retail store sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in VA statute.

### Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; no Franklin County-specific ordinance identified

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Franklin County is in the Blue Ridge foothills of Virginia. No county-specific cottage food rules found. Virginia state baseline applies. Notable: very low \$9,000 annual cap for pickles/acidified vegetables.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 931 · FIPS 51191 · Abingdon

## Washington County

Population 53,985 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. No registration, permit, or inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: candies, jams/jellies (not acidified), dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, baked goods, and more. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) subject to \$9,000 annual cap.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific VA or Washington County restriction.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement; primary residence kitchen.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No formal state requirement.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Mandatory label: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	varies — Washington County includes Abingdon, a small historic town in far southwest Virginia. No specific Washington County cottage food ordinance identified. County or Town of Abingdon may have home occupation zoning requirements. Contact Washington County government in Abingdon.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to end consumers only. No consignment or retail store sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in VA statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; no Washington County-specific ordinance identified

### RESEARCH NOTES

Washington County is in far southwest Virginia (Appalachian region). No county-specific cottage food rules found. Virginia state baseline applies. The \$9,000 annual cap for pickles/acidified vegetables is among the lowest in the country.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 946 · FIPS 51047 · Culpeper

## Culpeper County

Population 52,822 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. No registration, permit, or inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: candies, jams/jellies (not acidified), dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, baked goods, and more. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) subject to separate \$9,000 annual cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific VA or Culpeper County restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement; primary residence kitchen.
HANDWASHING	No formal state requirement.

**FOOD STORAGE** Non-TCS shelf-stable products. Mandatory label: 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED** no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** conditional — Culpeper County is a growing exurban county north of Charlottesville in the Virginia Piedmont. County government URL provided (culpepercounty.gov). No specific Culpeper County cottage food ordinance identified beyond state framework. Contact Culpeper County Zoning or Community Development for home occupation permit requirements.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** varies

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct sales to end consumers only. No consignment or retail store sales.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified in VA statute.

### Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; no Culpeper County-specific ordinance identified

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Culpeper County is a growing exurban county with agricultural heritage in the Virginia Piedmont. The input batch had a county\_govt\_url (culpepercounty.gov) which was preserved. No county-specific cottage food pages found at that URL. Virginia state baseline applies.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

- <https://www.culpepercounty.gov>

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- <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

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- <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

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- <https://www.culpepercounty.gov>

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RANK 961 · FIPS 51660 · Harrisonburg

## Harrisonburg city

Population 51,784 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Must be primary private home. Products must be non-TCS shelf-stable foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) allowed with \$9,000 annual cap. No TCS foods. No resale/consignment. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law.
WATER SUPPLY	Not specified in state law.
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices; not explicitly required.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be shelf-stable and non-TCS.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection. Department may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Harrisonburg is an independent city with its own zoning code. Home occupation permit or business license may be required for operating a cottage food business from a residential address. Recommend verifying with Harrisonburg Planning/Zoning Department and City Treasurer's Office.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No resale or consignment through retail food establishments. Label with all-caps disclaimer required.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; Harrisonburg City Zoning Code (home occupation provisions)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Harrisonburg is a Virginia independent city (not a county). State law allows cottage food from home without inspection or registration. The all-caps label disclaimer is a distinctive Virginia requirement. No Harrisonburg city-specific cottage food rules found; city home occupation permit may be required. Note: general Virginia law has no stated dollar cap for non-acidified cottage foods, but pickles/acidified vegetables are capped at \$9,000/year, one of the lowest in the US.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 972 · FIPS 51089 · Martinsville

## Henry County

Population 50,760 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Must be primary private home. Products must be non-TCS shelf-stable foods. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) allowed with \$9,000 annual cap. No TCS foods. No resale/consignment. Label must state 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Not specified in state law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard sanitation practices; not explicitly required.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Products must be shelf-stable and non-TCS.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — No routine inspection. Department may inspect upon consumer complaint.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** conditional — Henry County may have home occupation zoning requirements. The City of Martinsville (an independent city adjacent to Henry County) has separate zoning. Recommend verifying with Henry County Planning and Zoning.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** varies

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct-to-consumer sales only. No resale or consignment through retail food establishments. All-caps label disclaimer required.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified in state law.

### Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130; Henry County Zoning Code (home occupation provisions)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Virginia state law allows cottage food from home without inspection or registration. No Henry County-specific cottage food rules found. Note: county\_seat field in input was blank; county seat is Martinsville (an independent city). The \$9,000 cap for acidified/pickle products is among the lowest in the US.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51001 · Accomac

## Accomack County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Accomack County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Accomack County is on Virginia's Eastern Shore, a rural peninsula. The county has a local farmers market scene. Virginia cottage food law is not preempted locally — contact Accomack County administrator for any local business license requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 51005 · —

## Alleghany County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Alleghany County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Alleghany County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
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ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51007 · Amelia Court House

## Amelia County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Amelia County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Amelia County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51009 · Amherst

## Amherst County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Amherst County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Amherst County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51011 · Appomattox

## Appomattox County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Appomattox County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Appomattox County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51017 · Warm Springs

## Bath County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Bath County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Bath County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
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ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51021 · Bland

## Bland County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Bland County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Bland County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51023 · Fincastle

## Botetourt County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Botetourt County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Botetourt County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51025 · Lawrenceville

## Brunswick County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Brunswick County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Brunswick County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 51027 · Grundy

## Buchanan County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Buchanan County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Buchanan County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
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ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51029 · Buckingham

## Buckingham County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Buckingham County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Buckingham County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51033 · Bowling Green

## Caroline County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30-\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Caroline County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Caroline County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51035 · Hillsville

## Carroll County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Carroll County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Carroll County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 51036 · Charles City

# Charles City County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Charles City County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Charles City County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
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ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51037 · Charlotte Court House

## Charlotte County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Charlotte County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Charlotte County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51043 · Berryville

## Clarke County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30-\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Clarke County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Clarke County is in the northern Shenandoah Valley near West Virginia/Maryland borders. Virginia cottage food law applies; contact Clarke County for any local business license requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51045 · New Castle

## Craig County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Craig County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Craig County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 51049 · Cumberland

# Cumberland County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Va. Code §3.2-5130 provides the home kitchen food processing exemption. No permit, registration, or inspection required at the state level. Local ordinances are NOT preempted — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets/temporary events (≤14 days). Online sales prohibited (advertising allowed but no e-commerce transactions). Required label: producer name, physical address, phone, processing date, and 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION'.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practice.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS), shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required at state level.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	no — Cumberland County is subject to Virginia cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130), which requires no state permit, registration, or inspection. Virginia does NOT preempt local ordinances — cities and counties may impose additional requirements. Many Virginia localities require a general business license (\$30–\$100/yr). Contact the Cumberland County administrator or county clerk for any local business license or home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
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ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed only at the producer's home or at farmers markets and temporary events (events capped at 14 consecutive days). No online sales, mail order, wholesale, or retail sales. No shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

Va. Code §3.2-5130 (Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemptions); local ordinances not preempted — verify local business license requirements.

### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied. Good tier state. Allowed foods: Non-TCS shelf-stable foods including 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, and baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (equilibrium pH 4.6 or lower) subject to a separate annual cap. Prohibited: TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods are prohibited. Products cannot be sold online, via mail order, to retailers, or for resale.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 51051 · Clintwood

# Dickenson County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ordering prohibited; no wholesale or interstate sales. All products must bear the required label including the statement 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Local business license may be required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; good sanitation practices expected.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate; standard food safety practices expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspection under cottage food exemption.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Dickenson County may require a local business license. Operators should contact the Dickenson County administrator or county clerk for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale, no interstate sales.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Dickenson County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Rural southwestern Virginia county. State cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) applies. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found in search. Local business license likely required.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dickensoncounty.net>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51053 · Dinwiddie

## Dinwiddie County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ordering prohibited; no wholesale or interstate sales. All products must bear the required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Local business license may be required.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; good sanitation practices expected.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate; standard food safety practices expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspection under cottage food exemption.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Dinwiddie County may require a local business license or home occupation permit. Contact the Dinwiddie County administrator for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale, no interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Dinwiddie County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

South-central Virginia county near Petersburg. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found in search.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dinwiddieva.us>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

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RANK 9999 · FIPS 51057 · Tappahannock

## Essex County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Local business license may be required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Essex County may require a local business license. Contact Essex County administrator for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Essex County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Essex County is a rural Northern Neck area county. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.essex-virginia.org>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51063 · Floyd

## Floyd County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

**PET RESTRICTIONS** No specific state cottage food pet restriction.

**WATER SUPPLY** No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.

**HANDWASHING** No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.

FOOD STORAGE Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Floyd County may require a local business license. Contact Floyd County administrator for local requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE likely

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Floyd County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Floyd County is a rural Blue Ridge area county known for arts/crafts community. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.floydcova.org>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51065 · Palmyra

## Fluvanna County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Fluvanna County may require a local business license. Contact Fluvanna County administrator for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Fluvanna County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Fluvanna County is a growing exurban county near Charlottesville. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.fluvannacounty.org>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51071 · Pearisburg

## Giles County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Giles County may require a local business license. Contact Giles County administrator for local requirements.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** likely

### Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified in state statute.

### Relevant county code

No Giles County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Giles County is a rural southwestern Virginia county. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.gilescounty.org>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51073 · Gloucester Court House

# Gloucester County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Gloucester County may require a local business license. Contact Gloucester County administrator for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Gloucester County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Gloucester County is a Middle Peninsula county near the York River. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.gloucesterva.info>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51075 · Goochland

## Goochland County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Goochland County may require a local business license. Contact Goochland County administrator for local requirements.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** likely

## Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Goochland County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Goochland County is an exurban Richmond-area county. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.goochlandva.us>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51077 · Independence

## Grayson County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Grayson County may require a local business license. Contact Grayson County administrator for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Grayson County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Grayson County is a rural southwestern Virginia county near the NC border. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.graysoncountyva.gov>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51079 · Stanardsville

## Greene County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Greene County may require a local business license. Contact Greene County administrator for local requirements.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** likely

## Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** yes

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Greene County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Greene County is a rural Shenandoah Valley foothills county near Charlottesville. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.gcva.us>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51081 · Emporia

## Greensville County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Greensville County may require a local business license. Contact Greensville County administrator for local requirements. Note: the independent city of Emporia is the county seat but is a separate jurisdiction.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Greensville County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Greensville County is in south-central Virginia near the NC border. The city of Emporia is the county seat but is an independent city (FIPS 51595). State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.greensvillecountyva.gov>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 51083 · Halifax

## Halifax County

Population 0 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ordering prohibited. All products must bear required label including 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.'
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state cottage food pet restriction.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Halifax County may require a local business license. Contact Halifax County administrator for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	likely

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No Halifax County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Halifax County is in southside Virginia near the NC border. State cottage food law governs. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.halifaxva.com>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

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