

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Madera County

California · Madera · FIPS 06039 · Population 157,243 ·
Crosodo Index #2322*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

CALIFORNIA: MADERA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2322* · FIPS 06039 · Madera

Madera County

Population 157,243 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety training (ANSI-accredited, every 3 years). Class B (direct and indirect to retail/restaurants, ~\$172,411 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration plus home kitchen inspection. Madera County Environmental Health handles registration and permits. Only foods on the official state-approved foods list permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Madera County requires a county permit/registration for cottage food operations through Environmental Health. Local zoning preempted statewide for cottage food by Cal. Gov't Code §51035. A home occupation permit under local zoning may still be required for other business activity aspects.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: home kitchen inspection required for permit. Complaint-based enforcement possible.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety training (ANSI-accredited, every 3 years). Class B (direct and indirect to retail/restaurants, ~\$172,411 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration plus home kitchen inspection. Madera County Environmental Health handles registration and permits. Only foods on the official state-approved foods list permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement under CA cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required as part of cottage food operation standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Only state-approved non-PHF foods. Products must be in compliant packaging.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Class A: no routine inspection. Class B: home kitchen inspection required for permit. Complaint-based enforcement possible.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Madera County requires a county permit/registration for cottage food operations through Environmental Health. Local zoning preempted statewide for cottage food by Cal. Gov't Code §51035. A home occupation permit under local zoning may still be required for other business activity aspects.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct sales only, online and shipping within California. Class B: direct sales plus retail stores and restaurants. Both classes: California only, no interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted statewide.

Relevant county code

Madera County Environmental Health Cottage Food regulations; Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. California permits handled by county Environmental Health departments. Madera County Environmental Health administers cottage food permits; specific Madera County fee schedule not confirmed. No Madera County-specific cottage food code identified beyond state framework.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/california/madera-county-discuss>

State context — California cottage food law

Madera County’s rules sit on top of California’s state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

<p>STATUTE Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758</p> <p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes</p> <p>KITCHEN INSPECTION No</p> <p>INDIRECT SALES Limited (see notes) — Class B permit holders may sell indirectly through retail stores and restaurants statewide; Class A registrants are limited to direct sales only and may not sell through any retail or wholesale venue.</p>	<p>ANNUAL SALES CAP Tiered (see notes)</p> <p>FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)</p> <p>DIRECT SALES ONLY No</p>
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For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [California cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

- State statute: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758
 - State dept cottage food page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf
 - Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/california/>
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Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Madera County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/california/madera-county-discuss>
