

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Indian River County

Florida · Vero Beach · FIPS 12061 · Population 160,986 ·
Crosodo Index #1212*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Fla. Stat. \$500.80	Great	250000	MEDIUM	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.

FLORIDA: INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1212* · FIPS 12061 · Vero Beach

Indian River County

Population 160,986 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Florida allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. No food handler certification required. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations (§500.80(6)). Annual sales cap of \$250,000. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (While state law preempts local health restrictions, Indian River County may require compliance with home-based business rules under Florida §559.955. A local business tax receipt may be required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Inspections may only occur upon receipt of a consumer complaint (§500.80(7)).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Florida allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. No food handler certification required. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations (§500.80(6)). Annual sales cap of \$250,000. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Florida cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Inspections may only occur upon receipt of a consumer complaint (§500.80(7)).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — While state law preempts local health restrictions, Indian River County may require compliance with home-based business rules under Florida §559.955. A local business tax receipt may be required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales, online sales, mail-order delivery all expressly permitted. No geographic restriction within Florida. No wholesale to food establishments.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state cottage food law.

Relevant county code

Indian River County Code (home occupation/business zoning); Fla. Stat. §500.80

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. Florida has strong preemption of local restrictions on cottage food. No Indian River County-specific cottage food code identified. \$250,000 annual cap applies.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html

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

State context — Florida cottage food law

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

STATUTE Fla. Stat. §500.80	ANNUAL SALES CAP 250000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY No
INDIRECT SALES Limited (see notes) — Florida prohibits wholesale sales but allows online, mail-order, and in-person sales including delivery to consumers; state law preempts local restrictions on cottage food operations.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Florida cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.fdacs.gov/Business-Services/Food/Cottage-Foods>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/florida/>

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/florida/indian-river-county-discuss>
