

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Nassau County

Florida · Fernandina Beach · FIPS 12089 · Population 91,538 ·  
Crosodo Index #562\*

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: NASSAU COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #562\* · FIPS 12089 · Fernandina Beach

# Nassau County

Population 91,538 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Florida cottage food law (§500.80) is highly permissive: no registration, no permit, no inspection unless upon complaint. \$250,000 annual sales cap (raised 2021). Allowed: all non-TCS foods (foods that do not require temperature control for safety). Broad standard — any shelf-stable food qualifies. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. State preemption clause (§500.80(6)): local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific restriction under Florida cottage food law.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

No (Florida §500.80(6) preempts local government restrictions on cottage food operations. Home-based business rules under §559.955 still apply for general home occupation but cottage food operations are protected from local restriction.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

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

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Florida cottage food law (§500.80) is highly permissive: no registration, no permit, no inspection unless upon complaint. \$250,000 annual sales cap (raised 2021). Allowed: all non-TCS foods (foods that do not require temperature control for safety). Broad standard — any shelf-stable food qualifies. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. State preemption clause (§500.80(6)): local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific restriction under Florida cottage food law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific statutory requirement.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS foods only; foods that do not require temperature control for safety.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — Inspections only upon receipt of a complaint (§500.80(7)).
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	No — Florida §500.80(6) preempts local government restrictions on cottage food operations. Home-based business rules under §559.955 still apply for general home occupation but cottage food operations are protected from local restriction.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed. Online sales and mail-order delivery expressly permitted. No wholesale to retailers under the cottage food framework.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No limit specified under Florida cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

No Nassau County-specific cottage food code; state preemption applies.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

No Nassau County-specific cottage food rules found. Florida’s state preemption clause (§500.80(6)) is among the strongest in the nation — local governments cannot restrict cottage food operations. Nassau County (Fernandina Beach, Amelia Island) is in northeast Florida near the Georgia border. The \$250,000 cap is one of the highest in the country.

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#### 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](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/nassau-county-discuss>

## State context — Florida cottage food law

Nassau 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.

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<p><b>STATUTE</b> Fla. Stat. §500.80</p> <p><b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> No</p> <p><b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint</p> <p><b>INDIRECT SALES</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 250000</p> <p><b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No</p> <p><b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> No</p>
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For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Florida cottage food law report](#).

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### 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](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/>

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## Questions?

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

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

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