

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# St. Lucie County

Florida · Fort Pierce · FIPS 12111 · Population 334,682 ·  
Crosodo Index #1915\*

## STATE BASELINE

Fla. Stat. §500.80; no registration or inspection required; \$250,000 annual sales cap; home kitchen allowed; limited indirect sales

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
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: ST. LUCIE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1915\* · FIPS 12111 · Fort Pierce

# St. Lucie County

Population 334,682 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. \$500.80; no registration or inspection required; \$250,000 annual sales cap; home kitchen allowed; limited indirect sales · **MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Non-TCS foods only; labeling required; \$250,000 annual cap; no state license or inspection)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Florida does not preempt local zoning. St. Lucie County and municipalities (Fort Pierce, Port St. Lucie) may have home occupation permit requirements; operator should verify with local planning department)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (FDACS may investigate on complaint; no routine inspection)

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Non-TCS foods only; labeling required; \$250,000 annual cap; no state license or inspection
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard food safety handwashing
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — FDACS may investigate on complaint; no routine inspection
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Florida does not preempt local zoning. St. Lucie County and municipalities (Fort Pierce, Port St. Lucie) may have home occupation permit requirements; operator should verify with local planning department
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	Yes
<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	Conditional
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Direct sales at home, farmers markets, events; limited indirect sales to retailers allowed; online permitted
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Not specified

### Relevant county code

Not identified

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Pattern-status county. FL state law is very permissive with high sales cap. No St. Lucie County-specific cottage food rules found. Local municipalities likely have home occupation rules.

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**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

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

**Questions?** Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/florida/st-lucie-county-discuss>

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	St. Lucie County	Indian River County	Martin County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.	No state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales at home, farmers markets, events; limited indirect sales to retailers allowed; online permitted	Direct sales, online sales, mail-order delivery all expressly permitted. No geographic restriction within Florida. No wholesale to food est...	Direct sales, online sales, mail-order delivery all expressly permitted. No geographic restriction within Florida. No wholesale to food est...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-TCS foods only; labeling required; \$250,000 annual cap; no state license or inspection	Florida allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. No food handler cert...	Florida allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration, permit, or inspection required before operations. No food handler cert...
FOOD STORAGE	Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage required.	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage required.
POPULATION	334,682	160,986	159,399

## State context — Florida cottage food law

St. Lucie 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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<b>STATUTE</b> Fla. Stat. §500.80	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 250000
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> No	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> No
<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.	

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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 St. Lucie County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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

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