

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Washington County

Florida · Chipley · FIPS 12133 · Population 26,503 · Crosodo  
Index #1183\*

## STATE BASELINE

Fl. Stat. §500.80 (Home Sweet Home Act, 2021)

## STATE TIER

Great

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

250000

## CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

## LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

**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: WASHINGTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1183\* · FIPS 12133 · Chipley

# Washington County

Population 26,503 · State baseline: Fla. Stat. §500.80 (Home Sweet Home Act, 2021) · **MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s home kitchen only; no garages, sheds, barns, or outbuildings. Motor home kitchens are not permitted. Products must be non-TCS (no time/temperature control for safety required). Production and storage must occur within the single-family domestic residence.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (State law (§500.80(6)) preempts local government from restricting cottage food operations. Cottage food operations must comply with applicable county and municipal laws regulating traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours of retail operation per §559.955. Contact Washington County Planning for any applicable home occupation standards.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (Complaint only per Fla. Stat. §500.80(7). No routine state inspections. Washington County has no additional inspection authority under state preemption.)

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s home kitchen only; no garages, sheds, barns, or outbuildings. Motor home kitchens are not permitted. Products must be non-TCS (no time/temperature control for safety required). Production and storage must occur within the single-family domestic residence.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Only potable water from a properly constructed on-site well or municipal water system
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard sanitation practices required
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Ingredients and finished products must be stored in the single-family domestic residence; no garage/shed/barn storage

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — Complaint only per Fla. Stat. §500.80(7). No routine state inspections. Washington County has no additional inspection authority under state preemption.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — State law (§500.80(6)) preempts local government from restricting cottage food operations. Cottage food operations must comply with applicable county and municipal laws regulating traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours of retail operation per §559.955. Contact Washington County Planning for any applicable home occupation standards.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed from residence, online, by mail-order, at farmers markets, flea markets, and roadside stands. Mail delivery explicitly permitted since 2021. No wholesale to restaurants or grocery stores.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

### Relevant county code

Fla. Stat. §500.80; local zoning compliance required for traffic/parking/noise/signage/hours

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Florida’s strong state preemption (Fla. Stat. §500.80(6)) means Washington County cannot restrict cottage food operations beyond traffic, parking, noise, signage, and hours rules. Washington County is a rural Florida Panhandle county; no county-specific ordinance variations were found. Defaulted to FL state baseline with medium confidence.

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#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://washington.floridahealth.gov>

<https://www.washingtoncountyfl.com>

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

[https://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&URL=0500-0599/0500/Sections/0500.80.html](https://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/washington-county-discuss>

## State context — Florida cottage food law

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

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

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