

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Clay County

South Dakota · Vermillion · FIPS 46027 · Population 15,245 ·
Crosodo Index #360*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
SDCL §34-18-35	Good	—	MEDIUM	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.

How to start — 60-second path

Clay County, South Dakota — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific pet restriction in South Dakota cottage food law.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under South Dakota cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ South Dakota home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[South Dakota label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

SOUTH DAKOTA: CLAY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #360* · FIPS 46027 · Vermillion

Clay County

Population 15,245 · State baseline: SDCL §34-18-35 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (South Dakota cottage food law (SDCL §34-18-35, expanded by SL 2022 ch 106) exempts non-temperature-controlled foods, home-processed baked goods, and canned goods produced at a private residence from licensure. No sales cap. Indirect sales are allowed (farmers markets, online, retail). Sellers of certain home-processed canned goods must complete a state-certified online training (DOH) once every five years. State law preempts any county or municipal ordinance that would restrict these homemade food sales, so Clay County may not impose additional cottage food restrictions beyond state law.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific pet restriction in South Dakota cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (No state-level permit or registration required for cottage food production under SDCL §34-18-35. State law preempts county/municipal restrictions. Clay County has no identified separate home occupation permit requirement for cottage food operations compliant with state law. A general business license from Vermillion or Clay County may be required for any commercial activity, but is not specific to cottage food.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required. The SD Department of Health may respond to foodborne illness complaints but does not conduct pre-operational inspections for cottage food producers.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — South Dakota cottage food law (SDCL §34-18-35, expanded by SL 2022 ch 106) exempts non-temperature-controlled foods, home-processed baked goods, and canned goods produced at a private residence from licensure. No sales cap. Indirect sales are allowed (farmers markets, online, retail). Sellers of certain home-processed canned goods must complete a state-certified online training (DOH) once every five years. State law preempts any county or municipal ordinance that would restrict these homemade food sales, so Clay County may not impose additional cottage food restrictions beyond state law.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific pet restriction in South Dakota cottage food law.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific water testing requirement under SDCL §34-18-35.

HANDWASHING

No specific handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practices in state cottage food law.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-temperature-controlled (shelf-stable) foods only; refrigerated or hot-held foods require standard licensure.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection required. The SD Department of Health may respond to foodborne illness complaints but does not conduct pre-operational inspections for cottage food producers.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No — No state-level permit or registration required for cottage food production under SDCL §34-18-35. State law preempts county/municipal restrictions. Clay County has no identified separate home occupation permit requirement for cottage food operations compliant with state law. A general business license from Vermillion or Clay County may be required for any commercial activity, but is not specific to cottage food.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales both permitted. Allowed channels include home pickup, farmers markets, roadside stands, online sales, in-state shipping, and retail consignment. No sales cap under state law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified for Clay County. State preemption under SDCL §34-18-35 prevents local restriction of qualifying homemade food sales.

RESEARCH NOTES

South Dakota state law (SDCL §34-18-35, substantially amended by SL 2022 ch 106) governs cottage food statewide and explicitly preempts county and municipal ordinances from restricting qualifying homemade food sales. Clay County (county seat: Vermillion) is a rural South Dakota county with no identified county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance beyond the state framework. No sales cap. Sellers of home-processed canned goods must complete the DOH-certified online training once every five years (~\$40). Defaulted to state baseline; county-specific search returned no additional restrictions.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.claycounty.gov>

<https://doh.sd.gov/topics/food-protection/cottage-foods/>

https://sdlegislature.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/2050018

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/south-dakota/clay-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Clay County	Turner County	Union County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific pet restriction in South Dakota cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law; standard food hygiene practices apply.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law; standard food hygiene practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and indirect sales both permitted. Allowed channels include home pickup, farmers markets, roadside stands, online sales, in-state sh...	Direct and indirect sales permitted. Online, in-person, delivery, farmers markets, and retail stores all allowed under SDCL §34-18-35.	Direct and indirect sales permitted. Online, in-person, delivery, farmers markets, and retail stores all allowed under SDCL §34-18-35.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	South Dakota cottage food law (SDCL §34-18-35, expanded by SL 2022 ch 106) exempts non-temperature-controlled foods, home-processed baked g...	South Dakota SDCL §34-18-35 exempts homemade foods prepared at a residence from licensure. The 2022 amendment (SL 2022, ch 106) expanded be...	South Dakota SDCL §34-18-35 exempts homemade foods prepared at a residence from licensure. The 2022 amendment (SL 2022, ch 106) expanded be...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-temperature-controlled (shelf-stable) foods only; refrigerated or hot-held foods require standard licensure.	No specific state cottage food storage requirement; non-temperature-controlled foods must be stored appropriately.	No specific state cottage food storage requirement; non-temperature-controlled foods must be stored appropriately.
POPULATION	14,953	8,687	16,700

State context — South Dakota cottage food law

Clay County's rules sit on top of South Dakota's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
SDCL §34-18-35	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	Recommended
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Yes — The statute does not restrict sales to direct-to-consumer channels only. Items are subject to sales tax. Local governments (counties, townships, municipalities) may not pass ordinances restricting, prohibiting, or imposing licensure on homemade food item sales under SDCL §34-18-1 definitions.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [South Dakota cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/south-dakota.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://sdlegislature.gov/Statutes/Codified_Laws/2050018

State dept cottage food page: <https://doh.sd.gov/topics/food-protection/cottage-foods/>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/south-dakota/>

Questions about Clay County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/south-dakota/clay-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Clay County, South Dakota. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/south-dakota/clay-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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