

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Caledonia County

Vermont · Saint Johnsbury · FIPS 50005 · Population 30,535  
· Crosodo Index #2217\*

## STATE BASELINE

18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025) cottage food operator exemption

## STATE TIER

Okay

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

30000

## 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.

VERMONT: CALEDONIA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2217\* · FIPS 50005 · Saint Johnsbury

# Caledonia County

Population 30,535 · State baseline: 18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025) cottage food operator exemption ·

**MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Vermont state cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025; 18 V.S.A. §4351) applies. Gross annual sales must be \$30,000 or less. Vermont counties have no county-level government and do not administer zoning. Zoning is municipal (town-level). Producers must contact their individual town or village zoning office for home occupation compliance.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No explicit statutory pet restriction under the cottage food exemption.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (Vermont counties have no county government and no county zoning. Producers in Caledonia County must contact their specific town or village planning/zoning office (e.g., Town of Saint Johnsbury) for home occupation requirements.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Conditional

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Conditional (Complaint-based; Vermont Department of Health may inspect upon complaint.)

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Vermont state cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025; 18 V.S.A. §4351) applies. Gross annual sales must be \$30,000 or less. Vermont counties have no county-level government and do not administer zoning. Zoning is municipal (town-level). Producers must contact their individual town or village zoning office for home occupation compliance.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No explicit statutory pet restriction under the cottage food exemption.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No water testing requirement stated under the cottage food exemption.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard food safety practices required under Vermont manufactured food rules.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Proper storage; cottage foods must not require refrigeration or temperature control for safety.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Conditional — Complaint-based; Vermont Department of Health may inspect upon complaint.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — Vermont counties have no county government and no county zoning. Producers in Caledonia County must contact their specific town or village planning/zoning office (e.g., Town of Saint Johnsbury) for home occupation requirements.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Conditional

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Vermont cottage food exemption: direct sales only. Farmers markets and farm stands permitted. No indirect/wholesale sales under the exemption.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Vermont cottage food rules do not specify employee limits. Production must occur in the operator's private residential dwelling.

### Relevant county code

18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025) cottage food operator exemption; individual town zoning bylaws (varies by municipality)

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Vermont counties have no county government structure. All zoning at municipal level. State baseline for Vermont applies. Medium confidence.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://healthvermont.gov/health-environment/food-lodging/home-based-food-establishments>

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/085/04351>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Caledonia County	Essex County	Lamoille County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit statutory pet restriction under the cottage food exemption.	No explicit statutory pet restriction under the cottage food exemption.	No explicit statutory pet restriction under the cottage food exemption.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Vermont cottage food exemption: direct sales only. Farmers markets and farm stands permitted. No indirect/wholesale sales under the exempti...	Vermont cottage food exemption: direct sales only. Farmers markets and farm stands permitted. No indirect/wholesale sales under the exempti...	Vermont cottage food exemption: direct sales only. Farmers markets and farm stands permitted. No indirect/wholesale sales under the exempti...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
RESTRICTIONS	Vermont state cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025; 18 V.S.A. §4351) applies. Gross annual sales must be \$30,000 or less. Vermont ...	Vermont state cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025; 18 V.S.A. §4351) applies. Gross annual sales must be \$30,000 or less. Vermont ...	Vermont state cottage food operator exemption (Act 42, 2025; 18 V.S.A. §4351) applies. Gross annual sales must be \$30,000 or less. Vermont ...
FOOD STORAGE	Proper storage; cottage foods must not require refrigeration or temperature control for safety.	Proper storage; cottage foods must not require refrigeration or temperature control for safety.	Proper storage; cottage foods must not require refrigeration or temperature control for safety.
POPULATION	30,418	5,976	25,977

## State context — Vermont cottage food law

Caledonia County's rules sit on top of Vermont'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> 18 V.S.A. §4351; Act 42 (2025) cottage food operator exemption	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 30000
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Food made under a license exemption cannot be sold to restaurants or other licensed food establishments. Sales must be direct to final consumers. Exempt producers must file an annual attestation with the Vermont Department of Health by January 15 each year and complete online food safety training.	

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/085/04351>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/environment/food-lodging-program/home-based-food-licenses-and-exemptions>

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

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/vermont/caledonia-county-discuss>

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