

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Dickenson County

Virginia · Clintwood · FIPS 51051 · Population 13,411 · Crosodo
Index #1383*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Va. Code §3.2-5130	Good	Tiered	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.

VIRGINIA: DICKENSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1383* · FIPS 51051 · Clintwood

Dickenson County

Population 13,411 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ordering prohibited; no wholesale or interstate sales. All products must bear the required label including the statement 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Local business license may be required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state cottage food pet restriction; good sanitation practices expected.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Dickenson County may require a local business license. Operators should contact the Dickenson County administrator or county clerk for local requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspection under cottage food exemption.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Virginia Home Kitchen Food Processing Exemption (Va. Code §3.2-5130) permits direct-to-consumer sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a private home. No state permit, registration, or inspection required. No general sales cap; pickles and acidified vegetables (pH 4.6 or lower) capped at \$9,000/year. Sales must be direct to consumers at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (14 consecutive days or fewer). Online sales/ordering prohibited; no wholesale or interstate sales. All products must bear the required label including the statement 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Local business license may be required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; good sanitation practices expected.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific state cottage food handwashing mandate; standard food safety practices expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint. No routine inspection under cottage food exemption.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Virginia state cottage food law requires no permit. Dickenson County may require a local business license. Operators should contact the Dickenson County administrator or county clerk for local requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Likely

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only at home, farmers markets, or temporary events (up to 14 consecutive days). No online ordering, no shipping, no wholesale, no interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No Dickenson County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law governs.

RESEARCH NOTES

Rural southwestern Virginia county. State cottage food law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) applies. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found in search. Local business license likely required.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dickensoncounty.net>

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

<https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/dickenson-county-discuss>

State context — Virginia cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Va. Code §3.2-5130

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Products must be sold in person in the Commonwealth to an individual for his own consumption and not for resale or consignment. They cannot be offered for sale to be used in or offered for consumption in retail food establishments. Sales venues are limited to: private home, temporary event (no more than 14 consecutive days), or farmers market. Internet advertising is explicitly permitted but sales must remain in-person and in-state.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/3.2-5130/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/food-information-for-vendors-and-businesses-home-food-processors.shtml>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/virginia/dickenson-county-discuss>
