

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Frederick County

Virginia · — · FIPS 51069 · Population 92,007 · Crosodo Index #2274\*

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

VIRGINIA: FREDERICK COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2274\* · FIPS 51069 · —

# Frederick County

Population 92,007 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

### HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Virginia state law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) allows home kitchen production of non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection required. Direct sales only; no wholesale. No stated cap for non-acidified cottage foods; \$9,000 annual cap for pickles/acidified vegetables. Label must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Frederick County (Northern Shenandoah Valley, adjacent to Winchester) has local home occupation zoning rules.)

### SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

### PETS ALLOWED?

No state restriction.

### HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Frederick County (VA) may require a home occupation permit for cottage food operations depending on zoning district. Frederick County is adjacent to and wraps around Winchester City (independent city). Operators should check with Frederick County Planning at (540) 665-5651.)

### ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

### INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Virginia state law (Va. Code §3.2-5130) allows home kitchen production of non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection required. Direct sales only; no wholesale. No stated cap for non-acidified cottage foods; \$9,000 annual cap for pickles/acidified vegetables. Label must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION.' Frederick County (Northern Shenandoah Valley, adjacent to Winchester) has local home occupation zoning rules.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No state restriction.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement under Virginia cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific statutory requirement.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — VDACS may inspect upon consumer complaint per Va. Code §3.2-5130(D).
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — Frederick County (VA) may require a home occupation permit for cottage food operations depending on zoning district. Frederick County is adjacent to and wraps around Winchester City (independent city). Operators should check with Frederick County Planning at (540) 665-5651.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Virginia allows direct sales; Frederick County home occupation rules govern customer visits. In-state online sales, farmers markets, events permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Limited to residential character per local home occupation rules.

### Relevant county code

Frederick County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); contact Planning at (540) 665-5651.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

No Frederick County (VA)-specific cottage food rules found beyond Virginia state baseline. Frederick County is in the Northern Shenandoah Valley; the county seat field is blank in the input data (Winchester is an independent city, not the county seat). The county seat is technically the Frederick County Government Center area. Local home occupation zoning applies.

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#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

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

## State context — Virginia cottage food law

Frederick 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.

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### 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.

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

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### 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/>

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## Questions?

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

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

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