

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Rockingham County

Virginia · — · FIPS 51165 · Population 83,905 · Crosodo Index  
#1606\*

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: ROCKINGHAM COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1606\* · FIPS 51165 · —

# Rockingham County

Population 83,905 · State baseline: Va. Code §3.2-5130 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Virginia cottage food: non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. Allowed: candies, jams, jellies, dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixtures, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, cotton candy, dried pasta, dry baking mixes, roasted coffee, dried tea, cereals, trail mixes, granola, baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) allowed but capped at \$9,000/year. Labels must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' in all caps. No registration, no inspection.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not specified in state law.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Rockingham County (Harrisonburg area) may have home occupation ordinances. No specific Rockingham County cottage food ordinance identified. Producers should check with Rockingham County Planning and Community Development. Note: the county seat field was blank in the input; Harrisonburg is the independent city at the county seat location.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (Department may inspect upon consumer complaint (§3.2-5130(D)).)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Virginia cottage food: non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. Allowed: candies, jams, jellies, dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonings, dry mixtures, nuts, vinegars, popcorn, cotton candy, dried pasta, dry baking mixes, roasted coffee, dried tea, cereals, trail mixes, granola, baked goods not requiring temperature control. Pickles/acidified vegetables (pH ≤4.6) allowed but capped at \$9,000/year. Labels must include 'NOT FOR RESALE — PROCESSED AND PREPARED WITHOUT STATE INSPECTION' in all caps. No registration, no inspection.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific statutory requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific statutory requirement.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	No specific statutory requirement.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — Department may inspect upon consumer complaint (§3.2-5130(D)).
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Rockingham County (Harrisonburg area) may have home occupation ordinances. No specific Rockingham County cottage food ordinance identified. Producers should check with Rockingham County Planning and Community Development. Note: the county seat field was blank in the input; Harrisonburg is the independent city at the county seat location.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only (in-person). No resale, no consignment, no sales to retail food establishments. Products must be sold directly from producer to end consumer.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law.

### Relevant county code

No Rockingham County-specific cottage food code identified. Va. Code §3.2-5130 governs.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Rockingham County is in the Shenandoah Valley (Harrisonburg is the independent city co-located with county seat). Virginia cottage food is notably restrictive on acidified/pickled foods (\$9,000/year cap). No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium: state law confirmed from official Virginia Law source; county-level rules not verified.

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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/rockingham-county-discuss>

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Rockingham County	Augusta County	Albemarle County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law.	Not specified in state statute.	No specific state prohibition; standard food safety practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only (in-person). No resale, no consignment, no sales to retail food establishments. Products must be sold directly from produ...	Direct sales to consumers only. No resale or consignment. No sales to retail food establishments.	Virginia allows direct sales only: home, farmers markets, events, online (no resale to retail/restaurants). Customer pickup permitted subje...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Virginia cottage food: non-TCS shelf-stable foods from private home. Allowed: candies, jams, jellies, dried fruits, dry herbs, dry seasonin...	Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Pickles and acidified vegetables subject to \$9,000 ann...	Virginia allows non-TCS shelf-stable cottage foods with no registration or inspection. Direct sales only (no resale/consignment). All-caps ...
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory requirement.	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.	Non-TCS shelf-stable products only. Pickles/acidified vegetables with pH ≤4.6 allowed but subject to \$9,000/year cap.
POPULATION	83,905	77,433	112,513

## State context — Virginia cottage food law

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

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

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