

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Covington County

Alabama · Andalusia · FIPS 01039 · Population 37,748 ·  
Crosodo Index #1645\*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)
Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (AL cottage food law)	Good	—

CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
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.

ALABAMA: COVINGTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1645\* · FIPS 01039 · Andalusia

# Covington County

Population 37,748 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (AL cottage food law) · **MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Must produce non-potentially hazardous foods only (no meat/poultry/fish). Sales direct to consumer only within Alabama. Must complete ADPH-approved food safety course. Must submit cottage food review form to Covington County Health Department.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not specified in state statute.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (No state requirement. Covington County is rural in south Alabama. No county-level home occupation ordinance found.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (Cottage food operations not subject to routine inspection per §22-20-5.1(b).)

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Must produce non-potentially hazardous foods only (no meat/poultry/fish). Sales direct to consumer only within Alabama. Must complete ADPH-approved food safety course. Must submit cottage food review form to Covington County Health Department.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state statute.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Not specified in state statute.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Not specified in state statute; covered by food safety course.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Not specifically regulated.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — Cottage food operations not subject to routine inspection per §22-20-5.1(b).
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — No state requirement. Covington County is rural in south Alabama. No county-level home occupation ordinance found.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	Yes
<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	Yes
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Direct to consumer only within Alabama.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Not regulated at state level for cottage food.

### Relevant county code

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Covington County is a rural county in south Alabama. State law governs cottage food. Note: Covington County is listed in ADPH Southeastern District coverage. No county-level overrides found.

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**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covington/>

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covington/>

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

## State context — Alabama cottage food law

Covington County's rules sit on top of Alabama'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> Ala. Code §22-20-5.1	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> —
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> Yes (specific course)
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> No	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Indirect sales to grocery stores, restaurants, or wholesale are not permitted; producers may use an agent for delivery but cannot sell through retailers.	

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/code-of-alabama>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

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

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/alabama/covington-county-discuss>

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