

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Walker County

Alabama · Jasper · FIPS 01127 · Population 64,978 · Crosodo Index #1586*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Ala. Code §22-20-5.1	Good	—	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.

ALABAMA: WALKER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1586* · FIPS 01127 · Jasper

Walker County

Population 64,978 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must complete state-approved food safety course (e.g., Learn2Serve ~\$7 or ACES course) before selling. Application to local county health department required with proof of training, sample label, and product list. Fees vary by county. Direct sales only; online/in-state shipping allowed since 2021. No sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Walker County Health Department administers cottage food approvals. Application with proof of food safety training, sample label, and product list required. Contact Walker County Health Department at (205) 387-2547.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; Walker County Health Department may investigate complaints)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must complete state-approved food safety course (e.g., Learn2Serve ~\$7 or ACES course) before selling. Application to local county health department required with proof of training, sample label, and product list. Fees vary by county. Direct sales only; online/in-state shipping allowed since 2021. No sales cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing required per food safety course training
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods; proper storage required

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; Walker County Health Department may investigate complaints
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Walker County Health Department administers cottage food approvals. Application with proof of food safety training, sample label, and product list required. Contact Walker County Health Department at (205) 387-2547.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only; online sales and in-state shipping allowed since 2021. No interstate shipping.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit stated

Relevant county code

Walker County Health Department application process

RESEARCH NOTES

Alabama requires food safety course completion and county health department application. Walker County is a rural western Alabama coal country county near Birmingham. No specific Walker County overrides beyond standard AL framework found. No county URLs in input.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

State context — Alabama cottage food law

Walker 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.

STATUTE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Indirect sales to grocery stores, restaurants, or wholesale are not permitted; producers may use an agent for delivery but cannot sell through retailers.

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

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/>

Questions?

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

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