

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Garland County

Arkansas · Hot Springs · FIPS 05051 · Population 100,021 ·
Crosodo Index #62*

STATE BASELINE

A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021)

STATE TIER

Freedom

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Garland County, Arkansas — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Arkansas cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Arkansas home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Arkansas label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

ARKANSAS: GARLAND COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #62* · FIPS 05051 · Hot Springs

Garland County

Population 100,021 · State baseline: A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021) · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Arkansas Food Freedom Act (2021): No license, fee, registration, or inspection required. Producers must operate from a primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use prohibited. State law expressly preempts both state and local government restriction on home food producers. Interstate sales are allowed — unusual nationally. Prohibited: perishable baked goods, low-acid canned goods, nut butters, oils, meat jerkies. Acidified foods (pickles) require pH testing (final pH ≤4.6) and batch-number labeling with production records.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts both state and local government from restricting home food producers. No local home occupation permit required for cottage food operations.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspections. Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts local regulation.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Arkansas Food Freedom Act (2021): No license, fee, registration, or inspection required. Producers must operate from a primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use prohibited. State law expressly preempts both state and local government restriction on home food producers. Interstate sales are allowed — unusual nationally. Prohibited: perishable baked goods, low-acid canned goods, nut butters, oils, meat jerkies. Acidified foods (pickles) require pH testing (final pH ≤4.6) and batch-number labeling with production records.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.

HANDWASHING

Standard food safety practices required.

FOOD STORAGE

Almost all nonperishable, non-potentially-hazardous foods allowed: baked goods, candies, condiments, dry goods, preserves, fermented foods, carbonated drinks, snacks. Prohibited: perishable baked goods, low-acid canned goods, nut butters, oils, meat jerkies. Acidified foods require pH testing.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspections. Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts local regulation.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts both state and local government from restricting home food producers. No local home occupation permit required for cottage food operations.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Retail/wholesale channels allowed as long as informed end consumer is the final buyer. Online sales, delivery, and all sales channels permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

Arkansas state law expressly preempts local regulation: A.C.A. §20-57-201 et seq. No Garland County code section applies to cottage food.

RESEARCH NOTES

Garland County was flagged as 'verified-large' and has a county_govt_url. Hot Springs is a historic resort city in the Ouachita Mountains. Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts local regulation — one of the most producer-friendly legal structures in the country. No county-specific restrictions apply by law. Confidence medium (county govt URL exists but no county-specific cottage food rules needed or expected).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.garlandcounty.org>

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/cottage-food>

<https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Acts/Document?type=pdf&act=1040&ddBienniumSession=2021%2F2021R>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/arkansas/garland-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Garland County	Saline County	Hot Spring County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.	No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.	Not specified in state statute; good manufacturing practices apply
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Retail/wholesale channels allowed as long as informed end consumer is the final buyer. Online sale...	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales; online, retail/wholesale, and interstate sales all permitted. No channel restrictions under the ...	Direct sales permitted; indirect sales through retail/wholesale allowed; interstate sales permitted
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	No	No — state law preempts local restrictions
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	No	No — preempted by state law
RESTRICTIONS	Arkansas Food Freedom Act (2021): No license, fee, registration, or inspection required. Producers must operate from a primary residence ki...	Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary resi...	Must operate from a primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use is prohibited under the Food Freedom Act. State law expressly preempt...
FOOD STORAGE	Almost all nonperishable, non-potentially-hazardous foods allowed: baked goods, candies, condiments, dry goods, preserves, fermented foods,...	Shelf-stable products; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records.	Safe food storage practices required; no separate storage room mandated
POPULATION	100,021	123,988	33,129

State context — Arkansas cottage food law

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

STATUTE

A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021)

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Yes — Retail and wholesale sales are allowed so long as the product is sold to an informed end consumer who can see the product label; sales to businesses for ingredient use or gift resale are not permitted.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Arkansas cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/arkansas.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Acts/Document?type=pdf&act=1040&ddBienniumSession=2021%2F2021R>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/cottage-food>

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

Questions about Garland County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/arkansas/garland-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Garland County, Arkansas. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/arkansas/garland-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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