

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Pulaski County

Arkansas · Little Rock · FIPS 05119 · Population 398,322 ·
Crosodo Index #63*

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.

ARKANSAS: PULASKI COUNTY

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Pulaski County

Population 398,322 · 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 (A.C.A. §20-57-201, Act 1040 of 2021) allows almost all nonperishable, non-potentially hazardous foods directly to consumers with no permit, registration, or inspection required. Interstate sales permitted. Retail and wholesale channels allowed if informed end consumer is final buyer. Must operate from primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use prohibited. State law expressly preempts both state AND local government restriction on home food producers — strongest preemption in the country.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restriction in Arkansas Food Freedom Act.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts both state and local government from restricting home food producers. No home occupation permit required for cottage food operations. Pulaski County and Little Rock cannot impose additional permits, licenses, or inspections on cottage food operations.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No inspection required or permitted under Arkansas Food Freedom Act. State preempts local regulation.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED Yes — Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201, Act 1040 of 2021) allows almost all nonperishable, non-potentially hazardous foods directly to consumers with no permit, registration, or inspection required. Interstate sales permitted. Retail and wholesale channels allowed if informed end consumer is final buyer. Must operate from primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use prohibited. State law expressly preempts both state AND local government restriction on home food producers — strongest preemption in the country.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN No

PET RESTRICTIONS No specific restriction in Arkansas Food Freedom Act.

WATER SUPPLY No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.

HANDWASHING No specific state requirement; standard food safety practices recommended.

FOOD STORAGE Non-perishable, non-potentially hazardous foods. Acidified foods (pickles, etc.) require pH testing at or below 4.6 with batch-number labeling.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED No — No inspection required or permitted under Arkansas Food Freedom Act. State preempts local regulation.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts both state and local government from restricting home food producers. No home occupation permit required for cottage food operations. Pulaski County and Little Rock cannot impose additional permits, licenses, or inspections on cottage food operations.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	No restrictions on sales channels: direct sales, farmers markets, online, interstate, retail, and wholesale to informed end consumers all permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified; commercial kitchen use prohibited.

Relevant county code

A.C.A. §20-57-201 et seq. (Arkansas Food Freedom Act) — expressly preempts all local government restrictions.

RESEARCH NOTES

Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) confirmed from state baseline. Enacted 2021 (Act 1040). Among the most permissive cottage food laws in the country. Expressly preempts all local government restrictions — Pulaski County/Little Rock cannot add permits, licenses, or inspections. Prohibited: perishable baked goods, low-acid canned goods, nut butters, oils, meat jerkies; acidified foods require pH testing. Interstate sales allowed (rare nationally). Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; Arkansas state dept cottage food URL was returning 404 per state baseline notes.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pulaskicounty.net>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Pulaski County	Faulkner County	Saline County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific restriction in Arkansas Food Freedom Act.	No specific state or county restrictions beyond standard sanitation.	No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	No restrictions on sales channels: direct sales, farmers markets, online, interstate, retail, and wholesale to informed end consumers all p...	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales including online, retail/wholesale channels, and interstate sales. No channel restrictions under ...	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales; online, retail/wholesale, and interstate sales all permitted. No channel restrictions under the ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	No	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	No	No
RESTRICTIONS	Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201, Act 1040 of 2021) allows almost all nonperishable, non-potentially hazardous foods directly t...	Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary resi...	Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary resi...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-perishable, non-potentially hazardous foods. Acidified foods (pickles, etc.) require pH testing at or below 4.6 with batch-number label...	Shelf-stable products stored per common food safety practices. Acidified foods (pickles) require pH testing (final pH ≤4.6) and batch-numbe...	Shelf-stable products; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records.
POPULATION	398,322	124,611	123,988

State context — Arkansas cottage food law

Pulaski 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.

<p>STATUTE A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021)</p> <p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED No</p> <p>KITCHEN INSPECTION No</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>ANNUAL SALES CAP —</p> <p>FOOD HANDLER CERT No</p> <p>DIRECT SALES ONLY No</p>
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For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Arkansas cottage food law report](#).

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?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/arkansas/pulaski-county-discuss>
