

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Dolores County

Colorado · Dove Creek · FIPS 08033 · Population 2,467 ·  
Crosodo Index #3103\*

## STATE BASELINE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614; CO tier: Great; [cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods](https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods)

## STATE TIER

Great

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

## CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

## LAST VERIFIED

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.

COLORADO: DOLORES COUNTY

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# Dolores County

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## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

True

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

False

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Possibly (Colorado cottage food law does not require a local permit. Dolores County is a very rural southwestern county. Producers should verify with Dolores County whether any home occupation permit is required under county zoning.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

True

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

False (Complaint-based only per state law (C.R.S. §25-4-1614))

## Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED**

True

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN**

False

**PET RESTRICTIONS**

No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

**WATER SUPPLY**

Potable water required; private well users should verify water quality

**HANDWASHING**

Required per CO cottage food food safety training requirements

**FOOD STORAGE**

Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)

## Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED**

False — Complaint-based only per state law (C.R.S. §25-4-1614)

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT**

Possibly — Colorado cottage food law does not require a local permit. Dolores County is a very rural southwestern county. Producers should verify with Dolores County whether any home occupation permit is required under county zoning.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE**

Unlikely; very rural county; confirm with Dolores County or Town of Dove Creek

## Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP**

True

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE**

Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES**

Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME**

Sole proprietor or LLC of 2 or fewer owners; no additional employees per state law

### Relevant county code

C.R.S. §25-4-1614 (Colorado Cottage Foods Act)

#### RESEARCH NOTES

No Dolores County-specific cottage food ordinance found beyond state baseline. Very rural southwestern Colorado county; Dove Creek known as 'Pinto Bean Capital of the World.' Colorado cottage food law does not preempt local zoning. \$10,000 annual cap per product type.

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#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dolorescounty.org/public-health>

<https://www.dolorescounty.org/planning>

<https://www.dolorescounty.org>

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/dehs/cottage-foods>

<https://assets.bouldercounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/cottage-foods-checklist.pdf>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Dolores County	Montezuma County	San Juan County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	<b>True</b>	True	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	<b>False</b>	False	False
PETS ALLOWED	<b>No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production</b>	No specific county rule; standard CO cottage food applies	No specific county rule; standard CO cottage food applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	<b>False</b>	Upon-complaint only	Upon-complaint only
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	<b>True</b>	True	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	<b>Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage</b>	No specific county restriction found; state disclaimer placard required at point of sale	No specific county restriction found; state disclaimer placard required at point of sale
DELIVERY / PICKUP	<b>Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores</b>	Direct-to-consumer only; no wholesale; may sell from residence, farmers markets, online (CO only)	Direct-to-consumer only; no wholesale; may sell from residence, farmers markets, online (CO only)
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	<b>Possibly</b>	Likely; verify with Montezuma County Planning	Likely; verify with San Juan County
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	<b>Unlikely; very rural county; confirm with Dolores County or Town of Dove Creek</b>	Possibly; verify with Montezuma County and City of Cortez	Possibly; verify with San Juan County Clerk or Town of Silverton
RESTRICTIONS	—	—	—
FOOD STORAGE	<b>Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)</b>	Standard sanitary storage; no additional county requirement found	Standard sanitary storage; no additional county requirement found
POPULATION	<b>2,329</b>	26,070	690

## State context — Colorado cottage food law

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

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<p><b>STATUTE</b> C.R.S. §25-4-1614</p> <p><b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes</p> <p><b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint</p> <p><b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Products cannot be resold; producers must sell directly to consumers but may designate a representative to sell on their behalf. Sales through restaurants or retail stores are not permitted, though the health department may allow direct sales at those locations on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p><b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> Tiered (see notes)</p> <p><b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> Yes (specific course)</p> <p><b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes</p>
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For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Colorado cottage food law report](#).

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: [https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2022a\\_158\\_signed.pdf](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2022a_158_signed.pdf)

State dept cottage food page: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods>

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

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/dolores-county-discuss>

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