

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Rio Grande County

Colorado · — · FIPS 08105 · Population 11,132 · Crosodo Index #3113\*

## STATE BASELINE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614; CO tier: Great

## 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.

## How to start — 60-second path

Rio Grande County, Colorado — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

### HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

**True**

### STATE SALES CAP

**Tiered (see notes)**

### HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

**Likely; verify with Rio Grande County Planning**

### ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

**True**

### INSPECTION

**Upon-complaint only**

### PETS

**No specific county rule; standard CO cottage food applies**

### BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Colorado 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
- ☐ Colorado home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

### CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Colorado label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

## COLORADO: RIO GRANDE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #3113\* · FIPS 08105 · —

# Rio Grande County

Population 11,132 · State baseline: C.R.S. §25-4-1614; CO tier: Great · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

True

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

False

## PETS ALLOWED?

No specific county rule; standard CO cottage food applies

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Likely; verify with Rio Grande County Planning (No county-specific home occupation code located. Town of Del Norte is county seat. Confirm with Rio Grande County Planning &amp; Zoning.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

True

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint only (CDPHE complaint-based inspection under C.R.S. §25-4-1614)

**Home kitchen rules**

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED True

SEPARATE DEDICATED  
KITCHEN False

PET RESTRICTIONS No specific county rule; standard CO cottage food applies

WATER SUPPLY No state or county-specific requirement for cottage food

HANDWASHING Good manufacturing practices expected per CDPHE guidance

FOOD STORAGE Standard sanitary storage; no additional county requirement found

**Inspection & permitting**

INSPECTION REQUIRED Upon-complaint only — CDPHE complaint-based inspection under C.R.S. §25-4-1614

HOME OCCUPATION  
PERMIT Likely; verify with Rio Grande County Planning — No county-specific home occupation code located. Town of Del Norte is county seat. Confirm with Rio Grande County Planning & Zoning.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE Possibly; verify with Rio Grande County Clerk

**Customer-facing rules**ON-SITE CUSTOMER  
PICKUP True

ON-SITE SIGNAGE No specific county restriction found; state disclaimer placard required at point of sale

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Direct-to-consumer only; no wholesale; may sell from residence, farmers markets, online (CO only)

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Sole proprietor or LLC of 2 or fewer owners per state law

**RESEARCH NOTES**

No Rio Grande County-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance surfaced in search. State baseline (C.R.S. §25-4-1614) governs. Food safety training required before operations. Per-product \$10,000 annual cap.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

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

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

<https://www.riograndecounty.org>

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

<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb12-048>

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/colorado/rio-grande-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/rio-grande-county-discuss)

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation                 | Rio Grande County                                                                                 | Alamosa County                                                                                                                | Archuleta County                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | True                                                                                              | True                                                                                                                          | True                                                                                                                                        |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | False                                                                                             | False                                                                                                                         | False                                                                                                                                       |
| PETS ALLOWED               | No specific county rule; standard CO cottage food applies                                         | No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production                        | No specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production                                      |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Upon-complaint only                                                                               | False                                                                                                                         | False                                                                                                                                       |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | True                                                                                              | True                                                                                                                          | True                                                                                                                                        |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | No specific county restriction found; state disclaimer placard required at point of sale          | Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage                                                | Not regulated at state level; local home occupation rules may restrict signage                                                              |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct-to-consumer only; no wholesale; may sell from residence, farmers markets, online (CO only) | Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores                 | Direct-to-consumer sales only; product must be sold in Colorado; cannot sell to restaurants or grocery stores                               |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Likely; verify with Rio Grande County Planning                                                    | Possibly                                                                                                                      | Possibly                                                                                                                                    |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Possibly; verify with Rio Grande County Clerk                                                     | Possibly; City of Alamosa may require a city business license for operations within city limits; confirm with City of Alamosa | Possibly; Town of Pagosa Springs may require a town business license for operations within town limits; confirm with Town of Pagosa Springs |
| RESTRICTIONS               | —                                                                                                 | —                                                                                                                             | —                                                                                                                                           |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Standard sanitary storage; no additional county requirement found                                 | Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)         | Standard food safety storage per C.R.S. §25-4-1614; all products must be non-potentially hazardous (non-refrigerated)                       |
| POPULATION                 | 11,442                                                                                            | 16,460                                                                                                                        | 13,509                                                                                                                                      |

## State context — Colorado cottage food law

Rio Grande 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.

### STATUTE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

### KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

### INDIRECT SALES

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.

### ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

### FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

### DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

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

### 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/>

**Questions about Rio Grande 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/colorado/rio-grande-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/rio-grande-county-discuss)

## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Rio Grande County, Colorado. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/colorado/rio-grande-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/rio-grande-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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