

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Bibb County

Georgia · Macon · FIPS 13021 · Population 156,554 · Crosodo Index #2778*

STATE BASELINE

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

STATE TIER

Okay

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

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.

GEORGIA: BIBB COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2778* · FIPS 13021 · Macon

Bibb County

Population 156,554 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

HIGH

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Macon-Bibb County requires an Occupation Tax Certificate (business license) for any business operating in the county. A Certificate of Zoning Compliance is required before a business license is issued. Home occupations in Macon-Bibb are governed by Section 23.01.04 of the Comprehensive Land Development Resolution — must be conducted solely by occupants, max 25% of gross floor area, no visible evidence to average neighbor, only one additional vehicle at a time, owner or tenant with written owner approval required. Zoning compliance applications submitted via Camino portal.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.

HANDWASHING

Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Yes — Macon-Bibb County requires an Occupation Tax Certificate (business license) for any business operating in the county. A Certificate of Zoning Compliance is required before a business license is issued. Home occupations in Macon-Bibb are governed by Section 23.01.04 of the Comprehensive Land Development Resolution — must be conducted solely by occupants, max 25% of gross floor area, no visible evidence to average neighbor, only one additional vehicle at a time, owner or tenant with written owner approval required. Zoning compliance applications submitted via Camino portal.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under Georgia HB 398: wholesale, retail, online, and direct sales all permitted. Customer traffic to home occupation limited to one additional vehicle at a time under Macon-Bibb zoning rules.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Home occupation must be conducted solely by occupants of the residence under Macon-Bibb zoning (Section 23.01.04). No outside employees or jobbers may meet or congregate at the residence.

Relevant county code

Macon-Bibb Comprehensive Land Development Resolution §23.01.04 (Home Occupations); O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Verified-large county with specific Macon-Bibb home occupation code confirmed. Macon-Bibb County Section 23.01.04 home occupation rules found: must be conducted solely by occupants, no external evidence, max 25% floor area, max 1 additional vehicle, no outside storage. Occupation Tax Certificate (business license) required. Zoning compliance required before business license. Signage prohibited for home occupations under standard rules. Cottage food food list restaurants/bars not listed as prohibited home occupations. Planning & Zoning Commission: 478-241-2554; applications via Camino portal.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://mbpz.org/>

<https://www.maconbibb.us>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

https://mbpz.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Chapter_23__SUPPLEMENTARY_REGULATIONS_USES-4-17-23-DRAFT.pdf

<https://www.maconbibb.us/businesslicenseprocess/>

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

State context — Georgia cottage food law

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

STATUTE O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY No
INDIRECT SALES Yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/georgia/bibb-county-discuss>
