

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Bulloch County

Georgia · Statesboro · FIPS 13031 · Population 79,829 ·
Crosodo Index #2751*

STATE BASELINE

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

STATE TIER

Okay

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.

GEORGIA: BULLOCH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2751* · FIPS 13031 · Statesboro

Bulloch County

Population 79,829 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Since July 2025 (HB 398), no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Must operate from home kitchen.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source. No specific pet restriction in current law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license requirement. No state-level permit required. Local zoning home occupation permits may still apply in Bulloch County. No Bulloch County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025), no GDA licensing inspections; complaint-based only.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Since July 2025 (HB 398), no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Must operate from home kitchen.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source. No specific pet restriction in current law.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required. Private well users must conduct annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required (specific course). Proper handwashing is part of food safety training.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025), no GDA licensing inspections; complaint-based only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license requirement. No state-level permit required. Local zoning home occupation permits may still apply in Bulloch County. No Bulloch County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Since July 2025, wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales, and interstate sales are all allowed. Allowed foods greatly expanded by HB 398.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in the current law.

Relevant county code

No Bulloch County-specific cottage food code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded the cottage food law: no license/fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online permitted, much broader allowed foods. No Bulloch County-specific overrides found. Private well users must conduct annual coliform testing per prior GDA requirements. Confidence: medium (state law transition verified via state baseline, no Bulloch County-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.bullochcounty.gov>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Bulloch County	Effingham County	Bryan County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source. No specific pet restriction in current law.	No specific prohibition under new law; good manufacturing practice applies	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Since July 2025, wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales, and interstate sales are all allowed. Allowed foods greatly expanded by HB 39...	Direct and indirect sales allowed; wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales permitted since July 2025. Interstate sales also allowed.	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all pe...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Since July 2025 (HB 398), no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only....	Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-PHF food. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Food handle...	Must be produced in operator's primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods; proper storage required	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence
POPULATION	79,829	65,314	44,995

State context — Georgia cottage food law

Bulloch 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

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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 Bulloch County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/georgia/bulloch-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 Bulloch County, Georgia. 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 free on the Crosodo Forum.

crosodo.com/nb/georgia/bulloch-county-discuss

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