

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Cobb County

Georgia · Marietta · FIPS 13067 · Population 765,813 ·
Crosodo Index #2266*

STATE BASELINE

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, 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: COBB COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2266* · FIPS 13067 · Marietta

Cobb County

Population 765,813 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (State baseline applies. As of HB 398 (July 1, 2025): no state license required. ANSI-accredited food safety training (food handler level acceptable) required. Annual coliform testing for private water supply.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified; standard sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Cobb County has an Occupational Tax Certificate requirement for home-based businesses. Contact Cobb County Business License Division. Cobb County Community Development handles zoning. For businesses inside incorporated cities (Marietta, Smyrna, Powder Springs, etc.), contact that municipality.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — State baseline applies. As of HB 398 (July 1, 2025): no state license required. ANSI-accredited food safety training (food handler level acceptable) required. Annual coliform testing for private water supply.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified; standard sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Municipal water or approved private supply; private well requires annual coliform testing
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation per food safety training
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage practices

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Cobb County has an Occupational Tax Certificate requirement for home-based businesses. Contact Cobb County Business License Division. Cobb County Community Development handles zoning. For businesses inside incorporated cities (Marietta, Smyrna, Powder Springs, etc.), contact that municipality.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	As of HB 398 (July 2025): direct-to-consumer, online, retail store sales, and wholesale permitted. No state cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; Cobb County Business License/Occupational Tax regulations

RESEARCH NOTES

Cobb County follows Georgia state baseline. HB 398 (July 1, 2025) significantly liberalized Georgia cottage food law — no state license required, no cap, retail sales allowed. Cobb County likely requires an Occupational Tax Certificate for home-based businesses. No specific Cobb County ordinance restricting cottage food beyond state baseline was found. The county has both unincorporated areas and several incorporated cities.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.cobbcounty.gov/health>

<https://www.cobbcounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.cobbcounty.org>

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

<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/cobb-county-discuss>

State context — Georgia cottage food law

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

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