

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Douglas County

Georgia · Douglasville · FIPS 13097 · Population 144,735 ·
Crosodo Index #2685*

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

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: DOUGLAS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2685* · FIPS 13097 · Douglasville

Douglas County

Population 144,735 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

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?

Varies (Douglas County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

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	Varies — Douglas County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398: wholesale, retail, online, and direct sales all permitted. Delivery allowed. Interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Douglas County Zoning Ordinance; O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 2025) governs. No Douglas County-specific cottage food code identified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

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

State context — Georgia cottage food law

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

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