

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Floyd County

Georgia · Rome · FIPS 13115 · Population 98,541 · Crosodo Index #2591\*

## 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)

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## 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: FLOYD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2591\* · FIPS 13115 · Rome

# Floyd County

Population 98,541 · 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) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required (previously \$100/year). Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Broad list of permitted non-TCS foods. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Floyd County and City of Rome may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Floyd County-specific cottage food permit identified. Georgia state law does not expressly preempt local zoning for cottage food; operators should verify with Floyd County Planning.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (Georgia Department of Agriculture may inspect upon consumer complaint under §26-2-470 et seq.)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required (previously \$100/year). Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Broad list of permitted non-TCS foods. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Food handler training required (specific course); no specific statutory handwashing mandate beyond training.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; must prevent contamination.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — Georgia Department of Agriculture may inspect upon consumer complaint under §26-2-470 et seq.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Floyd County and City of Rome may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Floyd County-specific cottage food permit identified. Georgia state law does not expressly preempt local zoning for cottage food; operators should verify with Floyd County Planning.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under post-July 2025 law, sales allowed at farmers markets, online, from home, to retail stores, restaurants, wholesale. Interstate sales now expressly allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No limit specified in current Georgia cottage food law.

### Relevant county code

No Floyd County-specific cottage food code section identified.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

No Floyd County-specific cottage food rules found. Georgia’s HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) is a major update: removed licensing fees, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, broader food list, and retail/wholesale/online now permitted. Data source tier ‘Okay’ reflects pre-July 2025 law; current law is substantially more permissive. Operators should consult GDA at [agr.georgia.gov](http://agr.georgia.gov) for current guidance under the new §26-2-470 et seq.

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#### 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/floyd-county-discuss>

## State context — Georgia cottage food law

Floyd 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.

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**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.

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

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**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/>

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## Questions?

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

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

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