

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Jackson County

Georgia · Jefferson · FIPS 13157 · Population 77,033 ·
Crosodo Index #2752*

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: JACKSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2752* · FIPS 13157 · Jefferson

Jackson County

Population 77,033 · 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. Expanded food list includes almost all non-TCS foods plus interstate sales.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license. No state-level permit required. Jackson County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Jackson County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

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

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. Expanded food list includes almost all non-TCS foods plus interstate sales.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required. Private well users must conduct annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required (specific course).
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025), complaint-based only; no GDA licensing inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license. No state-level permit required. Jackson County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Jackson 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 all allowed. Broad allowed food list under HB 398.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in current law.

Relevant county code

No Jackson County-specific cottage food code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Jackson County follows Georgia state cottage food law as dramatically expanded by HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025). No county-specific overrides found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<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/jackson-county-discuss>

State context — Georgia cottage food law

Jackson 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.

<p>STATUTE O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19</p>	<p>ANNUAL SALES CAP —</p>
<p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED No</p>	<p>FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)</p>
<p>KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint</p>	<p>DIRECT SALES ONLY No</p>
<p>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.</p>	

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

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