

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Walton County

Georgia · Monroe · FIPS 13297 · Population 97,752 · Crosodo Index #2597*

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: WALTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2597* · FIPS 13297 · Monroe

Walton County

Population 97,752 · 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 allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed, broad non-TCS food list. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

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

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Walton County (Monroe) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food permit identified. Operators should check with Walton County Planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only 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 allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed, broad non-TCS food list. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source.
HANDWASHING	Food handler training required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Walton County (Monroe) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food permit identified. Operators should check with Walton County Planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

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

Relevant county code

No Walton County-specific cottage food code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

No Walton County-specific cottage food rules found. Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) significantly expanded cottage food law. Walton County is a fast-growing exurb of Atlanta. State tier 'Okay' in input data reflects pre-July 2025 law; current Georgia law is substantially more permissive.

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/walton-county-discuss>

State context — Georgia cottage food law

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

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