

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Forrest County

Mississippi · Hattiesburg · FIPS 28035 · Population 77,917 ·  
Crosodo Index #2440\*

## STATE BASELINE

Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951

## STATE TIER

Good

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

35000

## 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.

MISSISSIPPI: FORREST COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2440\* · FIPS 28035 · Hattiesburg

# Forrest County

Population 77,917 · State baseline: Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951 · **MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Non-potentially hazardous food products as defined by MSDH. \$35,000 annual sales cap. Direct sales only — no internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail establishment sales.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not specified in state statute, but standard sanitary practices apply.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (No state-level home occupation permit required. Forrest County may have local zoning requirements. No Forrest County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (MSDH may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspection required.)

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Non-potentially hazardous food products as defined by MSDH. \$35,000 annual sales cap. Direct sales only — no internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail establishment sales.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state statute, but standard sanitary practices apply.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No food handler certification required at state level.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-potentially hazardous products must be stored appropriately.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — MSDH may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspection required.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — No state-level home occupation permit required. Forrest County may have local zoning requirements. No Forrest County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

<b>ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP</b>	Yes
<b>ON-SITE SIGNAGE</b>	Conditional
<b>DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES</b>	Direct sales to consumers only. In-person sales at home, farmers markets, events. No internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail store sales.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Not specified.

### Relevant county code

No Forrest County-specific cottage food code section found.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

NOTE: The input data for this county has scrambled fields — county\_health\_url shows 'Good' (a tier value) and county\_govt\_url shows 'Mississippi State Department of Health' (a dept name). These appear to be data entry errors. The state\_cottage\_food\_url in the input also appears malformed. State baseline confirms Mississippi cottage food law (§75-29-951) with \$35,000 annual cap and direct sales only restriction. No Forrest County-specific ordinance found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, input data has field errors that reduce confidence).

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

Good

Mississippi State Department of Health

[https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/30,0,77,620.html](https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,77,620.html)

<https://law.justia.com/codes/mississippi/title-75/chapter-29/article-21/section-75-29-951/>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Forrest County	Jones County	Lamar County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute, but standard sanitary practices apply.	Not specified in state law	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales to consumers only. In-person sales at home, farmers markets, events. No internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail store sales.	Direct-to-consumer only; no internet or mail order sales	Direct sales at home, farmers markets, and events. No internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail establishment sales.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-potentially hazardous food products as defined by MSDH. \$35,000 annual sales cap. Direct sales only — no internet, mail order, wholesal...	Annual sales cap \$35,000. No food handler cert required. No registration required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales...	Non-PHF foods only. \$35,000 annual sales cap. Direct sales only (no internet, mail order, wholesale, or retail establishment sales). No reg...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous products must be stored appropriately.	Non-PHF shelf-stable products; appropriate storage required	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods; proper storage required
POPULATION	77,917	67,152	64,425

## State context — Mississippi cottage food law

Forrest County’s rules sit on top of Mississippi’s state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

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<b>STATUTE</b> Miss. Code Ann. §75-29-951	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 35000
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> No	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Mississippi prohibits Internet sales, mail order, wholesale, and retail establishment sales. Cottage food products may only be sold through in-person direct-to-consumer channels including events, farmers markets, home sales, and roadside stands. Advertising on the Internet including social media is permitted even though sales through those channels are not.	

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.justia.com/codes/mississippi/title-75/chapter-29/article-21/section-75-29-951/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://msdh.ms.gov/page/30,0,76.html>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/mississippi/>

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/mississippi/forrest-county-discuss>

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