

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Colleton County

South Carolina · Walterboro · FIPS 45029 · Population
38,892 · Crosodo Index #1510*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
S.C. Code §44-1-145	Good	—	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

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.

SOUTH CAROLINA: COLLETON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1510* · FIPS 45029 · Walterboro

Colleton County

Population 38,892 · State baseline: S.C. Code §44-1-145 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (South Carolina allows cottage food from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence (S.C. Code §44-1-145). No registration, permit, or inspection required. The 2022 amendment (Act No. 208) expanded to allow retail store and grocery store sales, online/mail order, and added option to use department-issued ID number in lieu of home address on labels. No sales cap. Operations with net earnings below \$1,500 are exempt from the section entirely. Must label products 'Homemade food, not inspected by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.')

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state pet restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Colleton County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning for commercial activity in residential zones. Operators should check with county planning or zoning office.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Complaint-based only. SC Dept. of Agriculture (formerly DHEC, transferred July 1, 2024) may inspect upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — South Carolina allows cottage food from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence (S.C. Code §44-1-145). No registration, permit, or inspection required. The 2022 amendment (Act No. 208) expanded to allow retail store and grocery store sales, online/mail order, and added option to use department-issued ID number in lieu of home address on labels. No sales cap. Operations with net earnings below \$1,500 are exempt from the section entirely. Must label products 'Homemade food, not inspected by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture.'
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state pet restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under SC cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS) foods only. Products must be stored safely.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Complaint-based only. SC Dept. of Agriculture (formerly DHEC, transferred July 1, 2024) may inspect upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Colleton County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning for commercial activity in residential zones. Operators should check with county planning or zoning office.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer, online, mail-order, and indirect retail sales (grocery stores, retail stores) allowed under the 2022 amendment. No geographic restriction within SC.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; must be primary domestic residence.

Relevant county code

Colleton County zoning ordinance (home occupation provisions), S.C. Code §44-1-145

RESEARCH NOTES

State cottage food law (S.C. Code §44-1-145) provides baseline with no sales cap, no registration required, and no inspection required. Food safety oversight transferred from DHEC to SC Dept. of Agriculture effective July 1, 2024 (Act No. 60). Rural SC Lowcountry county. Walterboro is county seat. SC §44-1-145 governs. No county-specific cottage food restrictions found. County-specific zoning rules not researched at ordinance level. Confidence medium: state rules well-documented; local home occupation rules not confirmed.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.colletoncounty.org>

<https://www.colletoncounty.org>

<https://agriculture.sc.gov/programs-services/cottage-food-operations/>

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t44c001.php>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Colleton County	Allendale County	Bamberg County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state pet restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	No explicit state pet restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	No explicit state pet restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer, online, mail-order, and indirect retail sales (grocery stores, retail stores) allowed under the 2022 amendment. No geog...	Direct-to-consumer, online, mail-order, and indirect retail sales (grocery stores, retail stores) allowed under the 2022 amendment. No geog...	Direct-to-consumer, online, mail-order, and indirect retail sales (grocery stores, retail stores) allowed under the 2022 amendment. No geog...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	South Carolina allows cottage food from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence (S.C. Code §44-1-145). No registration, permit, or insp...	South Carolina allows cottage food from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence (S.C. Code §44-1-145). No registration, permit, or insp...	South Carolina allows cottage food from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence (S.C. Code §44-1-145). No registration, permit, or insp...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS) foods only. Products must be stored safely.	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS) foods only. Products must be stored safely.	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS) foods only. Products must be stored safely.
POPULATION	38,892	8,876	13,311

State context — South Carolina cottage food law

Colleton County's rules sit on top of South Carolina's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
S.C. Code §44-1-145	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Yes — Since the 2022 amendment, home-based food operations may sell to retail stores and grocery stores in addition to direct-to-consumer sales including online and mail order. Retail stores that sell home-based food products must post clearly visible signage indicating the products are not subject to commercial food regulations.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t44c001.php>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agriculture.sc.gov/programs-services/cottage-food-operations/>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/south-carolina/>

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/south-carolina/colleton-county-discuss>
