

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Sumter County

South Carolina · Sumter · FIPS 45085 · Population 105,199 ·
Crosodo Index #734*

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

How to start — 60-second path

Sumter County, South Carolina — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state pet restriction for cottage food operations.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under South Carolina cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ South Carolina home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[South Carolina label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

SOUTH CAROLINA: SUMTER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #734* · FIPS 45085 · Sumter

Sumter County

Population 105,199 · State baseline: S.C. Code §44-1-145 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (South Carolina allows non-potentially hazardous foods from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence including baked goods, candy, jams, jellies, and other shelf-stable foods. The 2022 amendment expanded distribution to retail stores and grocery stores. No sales cap for operations with net earnings above \$1,500 (below \$1,500 is fully exempt). No registration, no inspection required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state pet restriction for cottage food operations.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Sumter County and the City of Sumter may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Sumter County cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspections required. SC Dept. of Agriculture took over oversight from DHEC effective July 1, 2024.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — South Carolina allows non-potentially hazardous foods from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence including baked goods, candy, jams, jellies, and other shelf-stable foods. The 2022 amendment expanded distribution to retail stores and grocery stores. No sales cap for operations with net earnings above \$1,500 (below \$1,500 is fully exempt). No registration, no inspection required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement beyond standard sanitation.
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing practices required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Foods with pH above 5.6 (non-acid) or pH above 4.6 (acidified) presumed potentially hazardous and prohibited unless product assessment confirms otherwise.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspections required. SC Dept. of Agriculture took over oversight from DHEC effective July 1, 2024.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Sumter County and the City of Sumter may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Sumter County cottage food ordinance identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales permitted. Sales to retail stores and grocery stores allowed (2022 amendment). Online and mail order sales permitted. All sales within South Carolina.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Sumter County code section identified. State law governs: S.C. Code §44-1-145.

RESEARCH NOTES

Sumter County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. South Carolina's 2022 amendment expanded to allow retail/grocery store sales and online/mail order. SC Dept. of Agriculture took over from DHEC in 2024. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.sumtercounty.gov>

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

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

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/south-carolina/sumter-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Sumter County	Florence County	Kershaw County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food operations.	Not prohibited by state statute; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.	No specific state prohibition on pets; good manufacturing practice applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales permitted. Sales to retail stores and grocery stores allowed (2022 amendment). Online and mail order ...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, and roadside stands, as well as indirect sales to retail stores and online/mail order within SC. W...	Direct and indirect sales allowed; retail stores, grocery stores, online sales, and mail order all permitted since 2022 amendment.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	South Carolina allows non-potentially hazardous foods from the kitchen of a primary domestic residence including baked goods, candy, jams, ...	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. The 2022 amendment (Act No. 208) expanded distribution to retail stores and grocery stores, allows on...	Allowed for non-potentially hazardous foods prepared in operator's primary domestic residence. No license, permit, or mandatory application...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Foods with pH above 5.6 (non-acid) or pH above 4.6 (acidified) presumed potentially hazardous and pro...	Non-potentially hazardous (non-TCS) products only; stored in food-safe containers.	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods only; proper storage required
POPULATION	105,199	137,015	65,779

State context — South Carolina cottage food law

Sumter 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

S.C. Code §44-1-145

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

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** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/south-carolina.

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 about Sumter County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/south-carolina/sumter-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Sumter County, South Carolina. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/south-carolina/sumter-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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