

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Anderson County

Tennessee · Clinton · FIPS 47001 · Population 77,337 ·
Crosodo Index #1892*

STATE BASELINE

Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Tennessee Food Freedom Act, effective July 1, 2022; 2025 amendment expands to include certain TCS foods)

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
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.

TENNESSEE: ANDERSON COUNTY

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Anderson County

Population 77,337 · State baseline: Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Tennessee Food Freedom Act, effective July 1, 2022; 2025 amendment expands to include certain TCS foods) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Must be produced at a private residence. Non-TCS foods allowed without license or permit. 2025 amendment allows most TCS foods, but must be sold in-person or by producer's agent directly to consumer. Cannot use commercial kitchen, restaurant, church kitchen, or community kitchen.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law. Good sanitary practices expected.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (The Tennessee Food Freedom Act removes state-level licensing and permit requirements. Local zoning ordinances may apply. No Anderson County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Tennessee DOH or TDA may investigate upon complaint of foodborne illness or food safety concern.)

Home kitchen rules**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED**

Yes — Must be produced at a private residence. Non-TCS foods allowed without license or permit. 2025 amendment allows most TCS foods, but must be sold in-person or by producer's agent directly to consumer. Cannot use commercial kitchen, restaurant, church kitchen, or community kitchen.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state law. Good sanitary practices expected.

WATER SUPPLY

Residential potable water supply required.

HANDWASHING

Good sanitary practices recommended; not explicitly mandated for non-TCS foods.

FOOD STORAGE

Not specified beyond general good food safety practices. TCS foods require appropriate temperature controls.

Inspection & permitting**INSPECTION REQUIRED**

Upon-complaint — Tennessee DOH or TDA may investigate upon complaint of foodborne illness or food safety concern.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — The Tennessee Food Freedom Act removes state-level licensing and permit requirements. Local zoning ordinances may apply. No Anderson 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	Products may be sold at farmers markets, grocery stores, roadside stands, events, online with in-state shipping. TCS foods must be sold in person; no third-party platforms for TCS. Sales within Tennessee only.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No employee restriction specified in state cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Anderson County-specific cottage food code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Anderson County follows Tennessee's Food Freedom Act (Tenn. Code §53-1-125), which is among the more permissive state frameworks. The 2025 amendment significantly expanded allowed foods to include most TCS items. No Anderson County-specific overrides found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.andersoncounty.gov>

<https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/consumers/food-safety/tennessee-food-freedom-act.html>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Anderson County	Roane County	Knox County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state law. Good sanitary practices expected.	No specific TN state or Roane County rule.	No specific state cottage food pet restriction in Tennessee Food Freedom Act
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Products may be sold at farmers markets, grocery stores, roadside stands, events, online with in-state shipping. TCS foods must be sold in ...	No channel restrictions; direct, online, retail, delivery all permitted.	Direct sales to consumers within Tennessee: home, farmers markets, grocery stores, roadside stands, events, online with in-state shipping. ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must be produced at a private residence. Non-TCS foods allowed without license or permit. 2025 amendment allows most TCS foods, but must be...	All non-TCS homemade foods from producer's private residence. No license, permit, inspection, or sales cap.	Non-TCS foods only (do not require temperature control for safety). No registration required. No inspection required. Food may be sold dire...
FOOD STORAGE	Not specified beyond general good food safety practices. TCS foods require appropriate temperature controls.	Products must be non-TCS.	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-TCS foods
POPULATION	77,337	53,777	481,406

State context — Tennessee cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act)

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Yes — The Tennessee Food Freedom Act (Public Chapter 862, effective July 1, 2022) broadly exempts production and sale of non-TCS homemade food items from all licensing, permitting, inspecting, packaging, and labeling laws. Sales may be direct to consumer in person or remotely. Local government ordinances restricting homemade food sales are preempted. Note: Prior to the 2022 Food Freedom Act, the older domestic kitchen regulations (TDA Chapter 0080-4-11) required a permit, inspection, and food safety certification, and limited sales to 100 units/week; the Food Freedom Act supersedes these requirements for qualifying non-TCS homemade foods.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.justia.com/codes/tennessee/2021/title-53/chapter-8/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/food/food-manufacturing/domestic-kitchen.html>

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

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/tennessee/anderson-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

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LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Anderson County, Tennessee. 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 free on the Crosodo Forum.

crosodo.com/nb/tennessee/anderson-county-discuss

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