

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Roane County

Tennessee · Kingston · FIPS 47145 · Population 53,777 ·  
Crosodo Index #887\*

## STATE BASELINE

Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Tennessee Food Freedom Act, eff. July 1, 2022)

## STATE TIER

Good

## 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.

TENNESSEE: ROANE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #887\* · FIPS 47145 · Kingston

# Roane County

Population 53,777 · State baseline: Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Tennessee Food Freedom Act, eff. July 1, 2022) · **MEDIUM**

### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (All non-TCS homemade foods from producer’s private residence. No license, permit, inspection, or sales cap.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific TN state or Roane County rule.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (TN Food Freedom Act preempts local food licensing. Roane County (between Knoxville and Oak Ridge) may have home occupation zoning provisions. Contact Roane County government in Kingston.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (Only DOH may investigate foodborne illness.)

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — All non-TCS homemade foods from producer’s private residence. No license, permit, inspection, or sales cap.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific TN state or Roane County rule.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No formal requirement; recommended best practices.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Products must be non-TCS.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — Only DOH may investigate foodborne illness.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — TN Food Freedom Act preempts local food licensing. Roane County (between Knoxville and Oak Ridge) may have home occupation zoning provisions. Contact Roane County government in Kingston.
<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>	No channel restrictions; direct, online, retail, delivery all permitted.
<b>MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME</b>	Not specified in TN statute.

### Relevant county code

Tenn. Code §53-1-125; no Roane County-specific ordinance identified

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Roane County is between Knoxville and Oak Ridge (nuclear energy heritage). TN Food Freedom Act applies. No county-specific rules found.

---

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

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

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

## State context — Tennessee cottage food law

Roane 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.

---

<b>STATUTE</b> Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act)	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> —
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> No	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> No	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> 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 Roane County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/tennessee/roane-county-discuss>

---