

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Austin County

Texas · Bellville · FIPS 48015 · Population 32,546 · Crosodo
Index #2915*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
—	Great	150000	MEDIUM	

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.

TEXAS: AUSTIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2915* · FIPS 48015 · Bellville

Austin County

Population 32,546 · State baseline: — · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

—

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

—

PETS ALLOWED?

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

—

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

—

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

—

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED —

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN —

PET RESTRICTIONS —

WATER SUPPLY —

HANDWASHING —

FOOD STORAGE —

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED —

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT —

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE —

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP —

ON-SITE SIGNAGE —

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES —

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME —

RESEARCH NOTES

No Austin County-specific cottage food or zoning rules found. Texas Local Government Code §231.282 preempts county zoning bans on cottage food operations. Defaulting to Texas state baseline (Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

State context — Texas cottage food law

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

STATUTE Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.	ANNUAL SALES CAP 150000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION No	DIRECT SALES ONLY No

INDIRECT SALES
 Limited (see notes) — Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

- State statute: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>
 - State dept cottage food page: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>
 - Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/texas/>
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Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/texas/austin-county-discuss>
