

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Palo Pinto County

Texas · Palo Pinto · FIPS 48363 · Population 28,000 ·
Crosodo Index #172*

STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

150000

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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.

TEXAS: PALO PINTO COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #172* · FIPS 48363 · Palo Pinto

Palo Pinto County

Population 28,000 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Palo Pinto County is a rural North-Central Texas county with lake tourism. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). Health departments have no authority to inspect cottage food operations. Strong state preemption — local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement under Texas cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; adequate handwashing expected.
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — DSHS or local health authority may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No — Palo Pinto County is a rural North-Central Texas county with lake tourism. No county-level zoning ordinance identified. Texas cottage food law preempts local health regulations. No home occupation permit required at county level.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through nonprofit organizations. No wholesale to retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not restricted by state cottage food law; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety Code §437.001 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

North-Central Texas county with Possum Kingdom Lake. State baseline governs. Texas has strong preemption of local health rules for cottage food. No Palo Pinto County-specific cottage food code identified. Texas SB 541 (2025) raised cap to \$150,000.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Palo Pinto County	Eastland County	Erath County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through n...	All channels permitted including direct to consumer, indirect sales, farmers markets, online, delivery, and through a registered cottage fo...	All channels permitted including direct to consumer, indirect sales, farmers markets, online, delivery, and through a registered cottage fo...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,...	Texas cottage food law (SB 541, 2025) is highly permissive. No registration required for most operators (registration optional for address ...	Texas cottage food law (SB 541, 2025) is highly permissive. No registration required for most operators (registration optional for address ...
FOOD STORAGE	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.	Non-TCS foods or TCS foods held at proper temperatures required. No refrigeration mandate for shelf-stable products.	Non-TCS foods or TCS foods held at proper temperatures required. No refrigeration mandate for shelf-stable products.
POPULATION	28,000	17,812	42,788

State context — Texas cottage food law

Palo Pinto 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/>

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/texas/palo-pinto-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 Palo Pinto County, Texas. 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/texas/palo-pinto-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise