

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Rockwall County

Texas · Rockwall · FIPS 48397 · Population 110,631 · Crosodo Index #996\*

## STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.; \$150,000 annual sales cap (2025); no registration; no inspection; direct and limited indirect sales; state preempts local health inspections

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	150000	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.

TEXAS: ROCKWALL COUNTY

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### QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Texas state law allows cottage food from home kitchen. Health departments cannot inspect. Rockwall County follows state baseline. Rockwall is a fast-growing Dallas suburb.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific Texas state requirement; standard food safety practices recommended.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Rockwall County and city of Rockwall may have home occupation permit requirements under local zoning. Texas state law requires compliance with home-based business rules under §559.955. No specific county-level details found.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (Texas law prohibits health departments from inspecting cottage food operations except for immediate/serious threats to human life or health.)

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Texas state law allows cottage food from home kitchen. Health departments cannot inspect. Rockwall County follows state baseline. Rockwall is a fast-growing Dallas suburb.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific Texas state requirement; standard food safety practices recommended.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard food safety practices; no mandatory training or certification.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Shelf-stable non-TCS products stored per food safety standards.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — Texas law prohibits health departments from inspecting cottage food operations except for immediate/serious threats to human life or health.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Rockwall County and city of Rockwall may have home occupation permit requirements under local zoning. Texas state law requires compliance with home-based business rules under §559.955. No specific county-level details found.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Texas allows direct sales and limited indirect sales. Online/delivery allowed. \$150,000 annual cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local home occupation rules may apply.

### Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied (TX tier Great). Rockwall County is the smallest Texas county by area but one of the fastest-growing; it is part of Dallas metro. No county-specific URLs provided. Confidence medium.

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#### 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/rockwall-county-discuss>

## State context — Texas cottage food law

Rockwall 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.

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

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

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### 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 Rockwall County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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

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