

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Georgia

A comprehensive guide to the cottage food statute, sales rules, and county-level zoning and health-department overlays for home bakers operating under O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19.

STATUTE

TIER

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 **Okay**

IJ GRADE

COUNTIES COVERED

LAST VERIFIED

D+**159****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.

OFFICIAL STATE HANDOUT

Cottage Food Update: House Bill 398 & Frequently Asked Questions

Georgia Department of Agriculture · HB 398 FAQ · effective July 1, 2025 · Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) · <https://agr.georgia.gov/sites/default/files/documents/assets/Cottage-Food-Update-HB398-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf>

House Bill 398 updates the production and sale requirements for cottage food items in Georgia. Governor Brian Kemp signed HB 398 on May 13, 2025. HB 398 officially takes effect on July 1, 2025.

House Bill 398 FAQ

<https://www.legis.ga.gov/legislation/70199>

What is House Bill 398 (HB 398), and when does it take effect?

- HB 398 is a new law that updates the production and sale requirements for cottage food items in Georgia. Governor Brian Kemp signed HB 398 on May 13, 2025. HB 398 officially takes effect on July 1, 2025.

What does HB 398 do at a high level?

- HB 398 keeps much of the current cottage food system, with positive modifications. Under HB 398, Georgians may still produce non-potentially hazardous food items at home.
- Producers may then sell those cottage food items to consumers directly or to retail food sales establishments like grocery stores, convenience stores, or restaurants.
- Consumers are informed by product labels, signage and separation at the point of sale, or verbally, that the cottage food product was produced at a residential property and about the producer.

What if I'm already a cottage food operator — what changes with this new law?

- Removed Licensing Requirement. Cottage food operators no longer need to obtain a license with the Georgia Department of Agriculture (GDA) or pay a licensing fee to the state.
- Expanded Sales. Prior to HB 398, cottage food operators could only sell products directly to consumers. Now, cottage food operators may also sell their products to retail food sales establishments like grocery stores, restaurants, and convenience stores.
- Fewer Inspections. With no licensing requirement, GDA will no longer conduct pre-licensing inspections at a cottage food operator's residence. GDA will still investigate consumer complaints, reports of foodborne illness, and public health emergencies.
- New Identification Number. Cottage food operators uncomfortable with providing their address on labels may request an "Identification Number" to use instead. You can obtain this number from GDA by using the form provided on the GDA cottage food webpage.

Does HB 398 affect city or county requirements for my business?

- Opt Out. Under HB 398, each city or county in Georgia may choose to pass an ordinance prohibiting cottage food operators from selling cottage food items through third-party vendors (e.g. grocery stores, restaurants, or convenience stores) within its jurisdiction.
- Restrictions on Local Government. HB 398 prohibits cities or counties from directly regulating cottage food except through the "opt out". HB 398 also prevents cities or counties from prohibiting commercial delivery companies from delivering cottage food items.
- Other Local Requirements Still Apply. HB 398 does not affect general local requirements like business licensing or zoning. Consult with your local authorities, as needed.

So, what's next?

- Now that HB 398 is effective, GDA will propose new regulations to implement the law. Prior regulations (<https://rules.sos.state.ga.us/gac/40-7-19>) will be amended, including by repealing portions inconsistent with HB 398 like licensing requirements and more restrictive sales.

- GDA will use its enforcement discretion in the meantime when an old requirement is no longer supported by HB 398, like the licensing requirement.
- Keep an eye on GDA's Legal Notices webpage for proposed rules: <https://agr.georgia.gov/news/legal-notices>.

Additional Resources

- Cottage food webpage: <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottagefood>
- Email: cottagefoodinfo@agr.georgia.gov
- Telephone: (404) 656-3627

Reproduced from the official GDA Cottage Food Update FAQ (HB 398). Verify current rules with GDA and your local city or county.

Table of Contents

Crosodo Index* (1 = most baker-friendly county per our model). See methodology at end of report. (Original pop rank available in data for reference.)

Executive summary	9
Georgia Code O.C.G.A. §§26-2-470 through 26-2-478 (enacted by HB 398, 2025); formerly Georgia Rules and Regulations Chapter 40-7-19 (Cottage Food Regulations) — O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19	11
County-level rules (159 counties)	12
#2201*Appling County · Baxley	13
#2261*Atkinson County · Pearson	15
#2260*Bacon County · Alma	17
#2259*Baker County · Newton	19
#2258*Baldwin County · Milledgeville	21
#2257*Banks County · Homer	23
#2633*Barrow County · Winder	25
#2268*Bartow County · Cartersville	27
#2256*Ben Hill County · Fitzgerald	29
#2255*Berrien County · Nashville	31
#2778*Bibb County · Macon	33
#2254*Bleckley County · Cochran	35
#2253*Brantley County · Nahunta	37
#2252*Brooks County · Quitman	39
#2251*Bryan County · Pembroke	41
#2751*Bulloch County · Statesboro	43
#2250*Burke County · Waynesboro	45
#2249*Butts County · Jackson	47
#2248*Calhoun County · Morgan	49
#2760*Camden County · Woodbine	51
#2247*Candler County · Metter	53
#2661*Carroll County · Carrollton	55
#2747*Catoosa County · Ringgold	57
#2246*Charlton County · Folkston	59
#2652*Chatham County · Savannah	61
#2245*Chattahoochee County · Cusseta	63
#2243*Chattooga County · Summerville	65
#2273*Cherokee County · Canton	67
#2777*Clarke County · Athens	69
#2242*Clay County · Fort Gaines	72
#2639*Clayton County · Jonesboro	74
#2241*Clinch County · Homerville	76

#2266*	Cobb County · Marietta	78
#2240*	Coffee County · Douglas	80
#2239*	Colquitt County · Moultrie	82
#2682*	Columbia County · Appling	84
#2262*	Cook County · Adel	86
#2684*	Coweta County · Newnan	88
#2263*	Crawford County · Knoxville	90
#2264*	Crisp County · Cordele	92
#2277*	Dade County · Trenton	94
#2287*	Dawson County · Dawsonville	96
#2286*	Decatur County · Bainbridge	98
#2267*	DeKalb County · Decatur	100
#2285*	Dodge County · Eastman	102
#2284*	Dooly County · Vienna	104
#2631*	Dougherty County · Albany	106
#2685*	Douglas County · Douglasville	108
#2766*	Early County · Blakely	110
#2767*	Echols County · Statenville	112
#2735*	Effingham County · Springfield	114
#2768*	Elbert County · Elberton	116
#2769*	Emanuel County · Swainsboro	118
#2772*	Evans County · Claxton	120
#2773*	Fannin County · Blue Ridge	122
#2689*	Fayette County · Fayetteville	124
#2591*	Floyd County · Rome	126
#2317*	Forsyth County · Cumming	128
#2774*	Franklin County · Carnesville	130
#2186*	Fulton County	132
#2739*	Gilmer County · Ellijay	134
#2728*	Glascocock County · Gibson	136
#2632*	Glynn County · Brunswick	138
#2755*	Gordon County · Calhoun	140
#2730*	Grady County · Cairo	142
#2731*	Greene County · Greensboro	144
#2202*	Gwinnett County · Lawrenceville	146
#2732*	Habersham County · Clarkesville	148
#2312*	Hall County · Gainesville	150
#2734*	Hancock County · Sparta	152
#2736*	Haralson County · Buchanan	154
#2726*	Harris County · Hamilton	156
#2738*	Hart County · Hartwell	158
#2740*	Heard County · Franklin	160

#2319*Henry County · McDonough	162
#2676*Houston County · Perry	164
#2742*Irwin County · Ocilla	166
#2752*Jackson County · Jefferson	168
#2743*Jasper County · Monticello	170
#2659*Jeff Davis County · Hazlehurst	172
#2636*Jefferson County · Louisville	174
#2635*Jenkins County · Millen	176
#2634*Johnson County · Wrightsville	178
#2618*Jones County · Gray	180
#2616*Lamar County · Barnesville	182
#2615*Lanier County · Lakeland	184
#2318*Laurens County · Dublin	186
#2614*Lee County · Leesburg	188
#2737*Liberty County · Hinesville	190
#2613*Lincoln County · Lincolnton	192
#2611*Long County · Ludowici	194
#2722*Lowndes County · Valdosta	196
#2610*Lumpkin County · Dahlonega	198
#2606*Macon County · Oglethorpe	200
#2655*Madison County · Danielsville	202
#2657*Marion County · Buena Vista	204
#2608*McDuffie County · Thomson	206
#2607*McIntosh County · Darien	208
#2691*Meriwether County · Greenville	210
#2701*Miller County · Colquitt	212
#2702*Mitchell County · Camilla	214
#2703*Monroe County · Forsyth	216
#2704*Montgomery County · Mount Vernon	218
#2705*Morgan County · Madison	220
#2706*Murray County · Chatsworth	222
#2311*Muscogee County · Columbus	224
#2709*Newton County · Covington	226
#2692*Oconee County · Watkinsville	228
#2237>Oglethorpe County · Lexington	230
#2327*Paulding County · Dallas	232
#2236*Peach County · Fort Valley	234
#2235*Pickens County · Jasper	236
#2207*Pierce County · Blackshear	238
#2206*Pike County · Zebulon	240
#2205*Polk County · Cedartown	242
#2204*Pulaski County · Hawkinsville	244

#2721*Putnam County · Eatonton	246
#2203*Quitman County · Georgetown	248
#2185*Rabun County · Clayton	250
#2200*Randolph County · Cuthbert	252
#2326*Richmond County · Augusta	254
#2654*Rockdale County · Conyers	256
#2199*Schley County · Ellaville	258
#2197*Screven County · Sylvania	260
#2196*Seminole County · Donalsonville	262
#2744*Spalding County · Griffin	264
#2195*Stephens County · Toccoa	266
#2194*Stewart County · Lumpkin	268
#2193*Sumter County · Americus	270
#2192*Talbot County · Talbotton	272
#2191*Taliaferro County · Crawfordville	274
#2190*Tattnall County · Reidsville	276
#2189*Taylor County · Butler	278
#2188*Telfair County · McRae	280
#2187*Terrell County · Dawson	282
#2208*Thomas County · Thomasville	284
#2198*Tift County · Tifton	286
#2209*Toombs County · Lyons	288
#2211*Towns County · Hiawassee	290
#2234*Treutlen County · Soperton	292
#2749*Troup County · LaGrange	294
#2233*Turner County · Ashburn	296
#2232*Twiggs County · Jeffersonville	298
#2231*Union County · Blairsville	300
#2230*Upson County · Thomaston	302
#2748*Walker County · LaFayette	304
#2597*Walton County · Monroe	306
#2229*Ware County · Waycross	308
#2228*Warren County · Warrenton	310
#2227*Washington County · Sandersville	312
#2226*Wayne County · Jesup	314
#2225*Webster County · Preston	316
#2224*Wheeler County · Alamo	318
#2223*White County · Cleveland	320
#2269*Whitfield County · Dalton	322
#2222*Wilcox County · Abbeville	324
#2221*Wilkes County · Washington	326
#2220*Wilkinson County · Irwinton	328

Executive summary

This report covers the Georgia cottage food framework — the state statute, the regulatory body administering it, what producers can and cannot sell, and county-level rules layered on top of state law for the 159 Georgia counties included in this dataset.

ANNUAL SALES CAP —	REGISTRATION REQUIRED No
FOOD HANDLER CERTIFICATION Yes (specific course)	KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint
DIRECT SALES ONLY No	INDIRECT SALES (RETAIL/ONLINE/WHOLESALE) Yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.

RESEARCH NOTES

MAJOR 2025 UPDATE: Georgia HB 398 became effective July 1, 2025, dramatically expanding the cottage food law and making it one of the best in the country. Key changes: no license or fee required (previously \$100/year), no GDA licensing inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed, and a much broader list of permitted foods. The Crosodo input fields (tier 'Okay', ij_grade 'D+', registration_url for license) reflect the pre-July 2025 state of the law and should be updated to reflect the new regime. The excerpt provided is from the pre-HB-398 regulations (GA R&R 40-7-19), which is the best available verbatim official text; the new O.C.G.A. sections (26-2-470 to 26-2-478) were not accessible for direct scraping but their content is corroborated by the GDA announcement and Forrager. Private water testing (annual coliform) is still required if using a private water source.

TOP QUESTIONS HOME BAKERS ASK ABOUT GEORGIA

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

Not specified in state data — check county

PETS ALLOWED?

Varies by county — see below

STATE REGISTRATION REQUIRED?

No

HEALTH DEPT INSPECTION?

Upon-complaint

SALES CAP

—

ONLINE / SHIPPING ALLOWED?

Yes (As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Varies by county — see county details below

HOME KITCHEN BASELINE

Varies by county

County rules can add restrictions on top of the state baseline. Always verify with your local health department and planning office.

KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR BAKERS IN GEORGIA

- Georgia (Okay tier) — annual sales cap: see statute.
- Home kitchen rules vary by county — use the county sections below for permits, inspections, and zoning overlays.
- Check whether your county requires a separate dedicated kitchen, home occupation permit, or local business license.
- Labeling and registration requirements are set by state law; confirm exact wording with Georgia Department of Agriculture.
- Registration required: No.
- Direct vs indirect sales: Yes (As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.).

PORCH / ON-SITE SALES

These are frequently more restricted by local zoning than by cottage food law. Check the county-level "On-site / porch pickup" answers and confirm with county planning.

RECOMMENDED FIRST STEPS

1. Confirm your county rules using the county sections below or the standalone county PDF.
2. Check if you need any local business license or home occupation permit (most don't).
3. Prepare labels with the required home-kitchen disclosure (wording varies by state/county).
4. Register with the state if your projected sales or product type requires it (check the registration field).
5. Start with direct sales at farmers markets or on-site — often the easiest path in Georgia.

Georgia Code O.C.G.A. §§26-2-470 through 26-2-478 (enacted by HB 398, 2025); formerly Georgia Rules and Regulations Chapter 40-7-19 (Cottage Food Regulations)

CITATION O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19	ENACTED 2012
LAST AMENDED 2025	CONFIDENCE HIGH

Allowed foods

Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food, including baked goods, candies, condiments (mustards, nut butters, oils, pickles, syrups, vinegars), dry goods, pastries, preserves, snacks, and carbonated drinks. Georgia also allows interstate sales of cottage food products, which is rare among states.

Prohibited foods

Prohibited items include perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, and meat jerkies. All TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods requiring refrigeration are not permitted.

Labeling requirements

Labels must include the business name, address or GDA-issued identification number, phone number, and the statement 'This product was produced at a residential property that is exempt from state inspection. This product may contain allergens.' in at least 10-point type. Operators may obtain a GDA identifier in lieu of a home address.

Statutory text — verbatim excerpt

STATUTE EXCERPT — VERBATIM

Rule 40-7-19-.01 Purpose: The purpose of this Chapter is to allow individuals using home kitchens to prepare, manufacture, and sell non-potentially hazardous foods to the public. Rule 40-7-19-.02 Definitions: (3) 'Cottage food operator' means a person who produces cottage food products only in the home kitchen of that person's primary domestic residence and only for sale directly to the consumer. (4) 'Cottage food products' means non-potentially hazardous baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves, and other non-potentially hazardous foods produced in the home kitchen of a domestic residence. (11) 'Home kitchen' means a kitchen primarily intended for use by the residents of a home. It may contain one or more stoves or ovens, which may be a double oven, designed for residential use. It must not include commercial types of equipment. Rule 40-7-19-.05 Cottage Food Limitations: (1) May only produce non-potentially hazardous foods. Examples include: (a) Loaf breads, rolls, and biscuits; (b) Cakes (except those that require refrigeration due to cream cheese icing, fillings, or high moisture content such as tres leche); (c) Pastries and cookies; (d) Candies and confections; (e) Fruit pies; (f) Jams, jellies, and preserves; (g) Dried fruits; (h) Dry herbs, seasonings and mixtures; (i) Cereals, trail mixes, and granola; (j) Coated or uncoated nuts; (k) Vinegar and flavored vinegars; (l) Popcorn, popcorn balls, and cotton candy.

Source: <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/qac/40-7-19>

Official sources

Statute <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

State dept page <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

Registration <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-license>

Extension service <https://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.html?number=B1418>

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

State dept of agriculture / health: [Georgia Department of Agriculture](#)

County-level rules

The state statute above sets the floor. Each county may add a home-occupation permit, business license, or zoning rule on top of state law. The 159 Georgia counties below are listed alphabetically (Crosodo Index* shown for reference — see methodology at end of report). The Crosodo Index is our internal ranking of U.S. counties by how permissive the combined state + county rules are for home cottage food operations.

GEORGIA: APPLING COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2201* · FIPS 13001 · Baxley

Appling County

Population 18,669 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted. Production limited to the home kitchen area of the primary residence.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law (O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.) does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Appling County and the City of Baxley to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. GDA registration form previously required operators to confirm local compliance; under HB 398 (no state license required) local zoning still applies.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon receipt of a consumer complaint, foodborne illness outbreak, or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted. Production limited to the home kitchen area of the primary residence.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence; no commercial storage facilities

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon receipt of a consumer complaint, foodborne illness outbreak, or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law (O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.) does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Appling County and the City of Baxley to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. GDA registration form previously required operators to confirm local compliance; under HB 398 (no state license required) local zoning still applies.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. No wholesale distribution through intermediaries. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) removed state licensing requirement, expanded allowed foods to almost any non-potentially hazardous food, allowed retail/restaurant/online/interstate sales, and made inspections complaint-based only. Appling County is a small rural south Georgia county; no county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Operators must still verify local zoning in Appling County and Baxley for home occupation compliance. ANSI-accredited food safety training (Food Handler level acceptable) is still required under state law. Defaulted to GA state baseline with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://dph.georgia.gov/appling-county>
- <https://www.applingcounty.org>
- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>
- <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: ATKINSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2261* · FIPS 13003 · Pearson

Atkinson County

Population 8,435 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Atkinson County and the City of Pearson to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon receipt of a consumer complaint, foodborne illness outbreak, or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well

HANDWASHING

Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required

FOOD STORAGE

Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon receipt of a consumer complaint, foodborne illness outbreak, or public health emergency.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Atkinson County and the City of Pearson to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. No wholesale distribution through intermediaries. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Atkinson County is a very small, rural south Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398, July 2025) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/atkinson-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BACON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2260* · FIPS 13005 · Alma

Bacon County

Population 11,045 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Bacon County and the City of Alma to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Bacon County and the City of Alma to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Bacon County is a small rural south Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/bacon-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BAKER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2259* · FIPS 13007 · Newton

Baker County

Population 2,732 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Baker County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Baker County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Baker County is one of Georgia’s smallest and most rural counties in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/baker-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BALDWIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2258* · FIPS 13009 · Milledgeville

Baldwin County

Population 43,644 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district. Milledgeville as a college town (Georgia College & State University) may have specific home occupation provisions in its land use code.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Baldwin County and the City of Milledgeville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district. Milledgeville as a college town (Georgia College & State University) may have specific home occupation provisions in its land use code.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Baldwin County seat is Milledgeville, home to Georgia College & State University. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found in available sources. Local zoning verification is especially important in Milledgeville given the urban/college-town context. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/baldwin-county>

<https://www.baldwincountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BANKS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2257* · FIPS 13011 · Homer

Banks County

Population 20,318 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Banks County and the Town of Homer to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Banks County and the Town of Homer to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Banks County is a small rural northeast Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/banks-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BARROW COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2633* · FIPS 13013 · Winder

Barrow County

Population 84,399 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Same as all Georgia counties under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad non-PHF food types allowed; food handler certification required; interstate and indirect sales now permitted. Annual coliform test if private water source.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in revised law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Barrow County (growing suburb of Atlanta) and the City of Winder may have home occupation ordinances. No specific Barrow County cottage food ordinance identified. Barrow County Planning and Development should be consulted.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Same as all Georgia counties under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad non-PHF food types allowed; food handler certification required; interstate and indirect sales now permitted. Annual coliform test if private water source.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in revised law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source (well) requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Standard food handler hygiene from certification.
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirements.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Barrow County (growing suburb of Atlanta) and the City of Winder may have home occupation ordinances. No specific Barrow County cottage food ordinance identified. Barrow County Planning and Development should be consulted.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	All channels open under HB 398: direct, indirect, retail, wholesale, online, restaurant, interstate.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in new Georgia law.

Relevant county code

No Barrow County-specific cottage food code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

Barrow County is in the Atlanta metro area (I-85 corridor). Follows the new HB 398 Georgia cottage food framework. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: BARTOW COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2268* · FIPS 13015 · Cartersville

Bartow County

Population 109,410 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply. If using private water source, annual coliform water testing required.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Bartow County and the City of Cartersville may have home occupation zoning requirements. Georgia state law (HB 398, 2025) eliminated the GDA licensing requirement for cottage food, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. No Bartow County-specific cottage food ordinance was identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only per O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. No routine inspections required.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply. If using private water source, annual coliform water testing required.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety handwashing practices required per food handler certification.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous, non-TCS foods only. Perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, and meat jerkies prohibited.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only per O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. No routine inspections required.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Bartow County and the City of Cartersville may have home occupation zoning requirements. Georgia state law (HB 398, 2025) eliminated the GDA licensing requirement for cottage food, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. No Bartow County-specific cottage food ordinance was identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Wholesale, retail, online, and direct-to-consumer sales all allowed under the 2025 law. Restaurant sales also permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Bartow County code section identified. State law governs: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Bartow County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Major 2025 update: Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food — no license, no fee, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant permitted. The input tier 'Okay' reflects pre-July 2025 law. Current law is among the best in the country. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: BEN HILL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2256* · FIPS 13017 · Fitzgerald

Ben Hill County

Population 16,945 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Ben Hill County and the City of Fitzgerald to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Ben Hill County is a small rural south Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://dph.georgia.gov/ben-hill-county>
- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>
- <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/georgia/ben-hill-county-discuss>

GEORGIA: BERRIEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2255* · FIPS 13019 · Nashville

Berrien County

Population 18,666 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Berrien County and the City of Nashville, GA to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Berrien County and the City of Nashville, GA to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Berrien County is a small rural south Georgia county (county seat Nashville, GA — not Tennessee). No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/berrien-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BIBB COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2778* · FIPS 13021 · Macon

Bibb County

Population 156,554 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

HIGH

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Macon-Bibb County requires an Occupation Tax Certificate (business license) for any business operating in the county. A Certificate of Zoning Compliance is required before a business license is issued. Home occupations in Macon-Bibb are governed by Section 23.01.04 of the Comprehensive Land Development Resolution — must be conducted solely by occupants, max 25% of gross floor area, no visible evidence to average neighbor, only one additional vehicle at a time, owner or tenant with written owner approval required. Zoning compliance applications submitted via Camino portal.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Macon-Bibb County requires an Occupation Tax Certificate (business license) for any business operating in the county. A Certificate of Zoning Compliance is required before a business license is issued. Home occupations in Macon-Bibb are governed by Section 23.01.04 of the Comprehensive Land Development Resolution — must be conducted solely by occupants, max 25% of gross floor area, no visible evidence to average neighbor, only one additional vehicle at a time, owner or tenant with written owner approval required. Zoning compliance applications submitted via Camino portal.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under Georgia HB 398: wholesale, retail, online, and direct sales all permitted. Customer traffic to home occupation limited to one additional vehicle at a time under Macon-Bibb zoning rules.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Home occupation must be conducted solely by occupants of the residence under Macon-Bibb zoning (Section 23.01.04). No outside employees or jobbers may meet or congregate at the residence.

Relevant county code

Macon-Bibb Comprehensive Land Development Resolution §23.01.04 (Home Occupations); O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Verified-large county with specific Macon-Bibb home occupation code confirmed. Macon-Bibb County Section 23.01.04 home occupation rules found: must be conducted solely by occupants, no external evidence, max 25% floor area, max 1 additional vehicle, no outside storage. Occupation Tax Certificate (business license) required. Zoning compliance required before business license. Signage prohibited for home occupations under standard rules. Cottage food food list restaurants/bars not listed as prohibited home occupations. Planning & Zoning Commission: 478-241-2554; applications via Camino portal.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://mbpz.org/>

<https://www.maconbibb.us>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

https://mbpz.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Chapter_23__SUPPLEMENTARY_REGULATIONS_USES-4-17-23-DRAFT.pdf

<https://www.maconbibb.us/businesslicenseprocess/>

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

GEORGIA: BLECKLEY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2254* · FIPS 13023 · Cochran

Bleckley County

Population 12,626 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Bleckley County and the City of Cochran to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Bleckley County and the City of Cochran to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Bleckley County is a small rural central Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://dph.georgia.gov/bleckley-county>

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

- <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BRANTLEY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2253* · FIPS 13025 · Nahunta

Brantley County

Population 18,795 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Brantley County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Brantley County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Brantley County is a small rural southeast Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://dph.georgia.gov/brantley-county>

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

- <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BROOKS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2252* · FIPS 13027 · Quitman

Brooks County

Population 16,344 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Brooks County and the City of Quitman to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Brooks County and the City of Quitman to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Brooks County is a small rural south Georgia county near the Florida state line. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/brooks-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BRYAN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2251* · FIPS 13029 · Pembroke

Bryan County

Population 51,105 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Bryan County and the City of Pembroke to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. Bryan County is a fast-growing county near Savannah; local zoning may be more developed than typical rural counties.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Bryan County and the City of Pembroke to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. Bryan County is a fast-growing county near Savannah; local zoning may be more developed than typical rural counties.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Bryan County is a growing suburban county adjacent to Savannah in southeast Georgia. Its growth may mean more formalized zoning rules for home occupations compared to more rural counties. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found in available sources. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/bryan-county>

<https://www.bryancountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BULLOCH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2751* · FIPS 13031 · Statesboro

Bulloch County

Population 79,829 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Since July 2025 (HB 398), no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Must operate from home kitchen.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source. No specific pet restriction in current law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license requirement. No state-level permit required. Local zoning home occupation permits may still apply in Bulloch County. No Bulloch County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025), no GDA licensing inspections; complaint-based only.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Since July 2025 (HB 398), no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Must operate from home kitchen.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source. No specific pet restriction in current law.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required. Private well users must conduct annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required (specific course). Proper handwashing is part of food safety training.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025), no GDA licensing inspections; complaint-based only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license requirement. No state-level permit required. Local zoning home occupation permits may still apply in Bulloch County. No Bulloch 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	Since July 2025, wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales, and interstate sales are all allowed. Allowed foods greatly expanded by HB 398.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in the current law.

Relevant county code

No Bulloch County-specific cottage food code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded the cottage food law: no license/fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online permitted, much broader allowed foods. No Bulloch County-specific overrides found. Private well users must conduct annual coliform testing per prior GDA requirements. Confidence: medium (state law transition verified via state baseline, no Bulloch County-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: BURKE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2250* · FIPS 13033 · Waynesboro

Burke County

Population 24,472 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Burke County and the City of Waynesboro to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Burke County and the City of Waynesboro to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Burke County is a rural east Georgia county near Augusta. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/burke-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: BUTTS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2249* · FIPS 13035 · Jackson

Butts County

Population 27,127 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Butts County and the City of Jackson, GA to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Butts County and the City of Jackson, GA to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Butts County is a small rural central Georgia county. County seat is Jackson, GA (not Jackson, MS). No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/butts-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CALHOUN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2248* · FIPS 13037 · Morgan

Calhoun County

Population 5,441 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Calhoun County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Calhoun County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Calhoun County is one of Georgia’s least populous counties in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/calhoun-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CAMDEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2760* · FIPS 13039 · Woodbine

Camden County

Population 55,105 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025, HB 398) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad allowed foods including most non-TCS items; interstate sales allowed; retail/wholesale/online/restaurant sales allowed. Food handler certification recommended. Private water testing required annually if using private well.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific GA or Camden County restriction. Private water annual coliform test required if on private well.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Camden County is adjacent to Kings Bay Naval Base and includes Woodbine (county seat) and Kingsland. No specific Camden County cottage food ordinance identified. Contact Camden County Government in Woodbine for home occupation zoning requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA complaint-based investigation only; no routine inspections under HB 398.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad allowed foods including most non-TCS items; interstate sales allowed; retail/wholesale/online/restaurant sales allowed. Food handler certification recommended. Private water testing required annually if using private well.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN No

PET RESTRICTIONS No specific GA or Camden County restriction. Private water annual coliform test required if on private well.

WATER SUPPLY Annual coliform test required if using private water source.

HANDWASHING Food handler certification recommended but not required under new HB 398 framework.

FOOD STORAGE Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable foods. Perishable foods and low-acid canned goods prohibited.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED Upon-complaint — GDA complaint-based investigation only; no routine inspections under HB 398.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT Varies — Camden County is adjacent to Kings Bay Naval Base and includes Woodbine (county seat) and Kingsland. No specific Camden County cottage food ordinance identified. Contact Camden County Government in Woodbine for home occupation zoning requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales permitted. Retail, wholesale, online, restaurant sales all allowed since July 2025. Interstate sales also allowed (unusual nationally).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in GA HB 398.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; no Camden County-specific ordinance identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Camden County is in coastal southeast Georgia near the Florida border. The 2025 HB 398 dramatically expanded GA cottage food law effective July 1, 2025 — no license, no fee, no cap, interstate sales allowed. No county-specific rules found. State GDA baseline applies. Prior 'Okay' tier and restrictions reflect the pre-July 2025 law.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: CANDLER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2247* · FIPS 13043 · Metter

Candler County

Population 11,130 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Candler County and the City of Metter to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Candler County and the City of Metter to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Candler County is a small rural east Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/candler-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CARROLL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2661* · FIPS 13045 · Carrollton

Carroll County

Population 120,060 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025, HB 398); no sales cap; no license required; complaint-based inspection; broad food list; interstate sales now allowed ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. No GDA licensing inspections (complaint-based only). Interstate sales now allowed. Broad food list including baked goods, candies, condiments, preserves, carbonated drinks, etc. Carroll County follows state baseline.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Private water testing (annual coliform) still required if using a private water source.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No specific Carroll County home occupation permit requirements found for cottage food. Georgia HB 398 eliminated the prior GDA license requirement. Local zoning home occupation permits may still apply. Contact Carroll County Planning or Carrollton city planning for local zoning specifics.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025). No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. No GDA licensing inspections (complaint-based only). Interstate sales now allowed. Broad food list including baked goods, candies, condiments, preserves, carbonated drinks, etc. Carroll County follows state baseline.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Private water testing (annual coliform) still required if using a private water source.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using private well water. Public water: standard requirements.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification recommended; state baseline does not mandate specific course for non-license pathway under HB 398.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. No perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025). No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No specific Carroll County home occupation permit requirements found for cottage food. Georgia HB 398 eliminated the prior GDA license requirement. Local zoning home occupation permits may still apply. Contact Carroll County Planning or Carrollton city planning for local zoning specifics.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales and interstate sales. Broad channel allowances. No sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

IMPORTANT: Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. The state_tier in input ('Okay') and state_baseline_citation reflect pre-July 2025 law. Post-HB 398, Georgia is one of the best states for cottage food. Carroll County includes Carrollton (pop ~30K) and is west of Atlanta metro. No county-specific URLs provided. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: CATOOSA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2747* · FIPS 13047 · Ringgold

Catoosa County

Population 68,052 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No registration required. Inspection upon complaint. Indirect sales allowed. Non-TCS foods. New statutory framework effective July 2025.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Catoosa County is a suburban county adjacent to Chattanooga, TN. Unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Ringgold has its own zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No registration required. Inspection upon complaint. Indirect sales allowed. Non-TCS foods. New statutory framework effective July 2025.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Required as part of food handler certification
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Catoosa County is a suburban county adjacent to Chattanooga, TN. Unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Ringgold has its own zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed; delivery by producer permitted
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia Okay-tier state. Catoosa County is a suburban Atlanta exurb immediately south of Chattanooga, TN. New statutory framework effective July 2025. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: CHARLTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2246* · FIPS 13049 · Folkston

Charlton County

Population 13,021 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Charlton County and the City of Folkston to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Charlton County and the City of Folkston to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Charlton County is a rural southeast Georgia county adjacent to Okefenokee Swamp. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/charlton-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CHATHAM COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2652* · FIPS 13051 · Savannah

Chatham County

Population 296,266 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); food handler certificate required; no license or inspection required; no sales cap; indirect sales allowed · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Food handler certificate required; non-TCS foods; no state license required; labeling required; expanded product list effective July 2025)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (GA does not preempt local zoning. Chatham County and City of Savannah may have home occupation permit requirements. Operator should verify with local planning)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GA Dept of Agriculture complaint-based)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Food handler certificate required; non-TCS foods; no state license required; labeling required; expanded product list effective July 2025
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water at residence
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GA Dept of Agriculture complaint-based
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — GA does not preempt local zoning. Chatham County and City of Savannah may have home occupation permit requirements. Operator should verify with local planning
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales; farmers markets, events, retail, online permitted
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Same GA baseline as Clayton County. Chatham County includes Savannah — tourist destination with active local food scene. No county-specific overlay found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.chathamcountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2245* · FIPS 13053 · Cusseta

Chattahoochee County

Population 8,548 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Chattahoochee County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning) is located in Chattahoochee County; operators on military installation land should confirm applicable rules.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Chattahoochee County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning) is located in Chattahoochee County; operators on military installation land should confirm applicable rules.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Chattahoochee County contains Fort Moore (formerly Fort Benning), a major Army installation. This makes it unusual — operators on military installation property are subject to federal/DoD rules rather than local county zoning. For off-base residents, standard GA cottage food rules apply. County is very small. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/chattahoochee-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CHATTOOGA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2243* · FIPS 13055 · Summerville

Chattooga County

Population 25,306 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Chattooga County and the City of Summerville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Chattooga County and the City of Summerville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Chattooga County is a rural northwest Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://dph.georgia.gov/chattooga-county>
- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>
- <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CHEROKEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2273* · FIPS 13057 · Canton

Cherokee County

Population 268,567 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; inspection complaint-based only; broad food list allowed. Food handler certification (specific course) still required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Cherokee County may require home occupation permit under local zoning.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Cherokee County zoning (Canton area) may require home occupation permit for residential-zone food businesses. Producers should check with Cherokee County Community Development Department. State law (HB 398) does not preempt local zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only as of HB 398 (eff. July 2025); no routine inspections)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; inspection complaint-based only; broad food list allowed. Food handler certification (specific course) still required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Cherokee County may require home occupation permit under local zoning.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing (state rule)
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required; adequate handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; July 2025 expansion broadened allowed foods significantly

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only as of HB 398 (eff. July 2025); no routine inspections
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Cherokee County zoning (Canton area) may require home occupation permit for residential-zone food businesses. Producers should check with Cherokee County Community Development Department. State law (HB 398) does not preempt local zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	As of July 2025: direct and indirect sales allowed; wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted; interstate sales allowed (unusual for GA). Pre-July 2025: more restricted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; Cherokee County Community Development zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398, effective July 1, 2025, dramatically expanded cottage food law (O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.) — no license required, complaint-based inspection only, much broader allowed foods, interstate sales now permitted. Cherokee County follows this state baseline with no county-specific overrides found. No direct Cherokee County .gov cottage food source retrieved. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.cherokeega.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: CLARKE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2777* · FIPS 13059 · Athens

Clarke County

Population 128,864 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

HIGH

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required, no GDA licensing inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Broad permitted foods list. Food handler certification still recommended but not required by new law. A Home Occupation Permit (\$20) is required from Athens-Clarke County Planning Department before obtaining a business occupation tax certificate.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Private water testing (annual coliform test) still required if using a private water source.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Athens-Clarke County requires a Home Occupation Permit (\$20 fee) before a business may operate from a home. The permit is required under Section 9-15-16 of the Athens-Clarke County Unified Development Code. Key restrictions: (1) Direct sales on premises generally not permitted, except for services customarily incidental (mail order and online sales are allowable); (2) No external display of products; (3) No signs on property advertising the home occupation; (4) Maximum one non-resident employee; (5) Business must occupy no more than 25% of habitable floor space; (6) No chemicals or equipment beyond normal domestic residence. Note: Section 9-15-16(L) explicitly states 'No food service regulated by the Department of Health shall be permitted' — cottage food operators using the GDA framework should consult ACC Planning to confirm applicability post-HB 398.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon complaint (complaint-based only per HB 398, 2025).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required, no GDA licensing inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Broad permitted foods list. Food handler certification still recommended but not required by new law. A Home Occupation Permit (\$20) is required from Athens-Clarke County Planning Department before obtaining a business occupation tax certificate.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Private water testing (annual coliform test) still required if using a private water source.
WATER SUPPLY	If using private water source: annual coliform testing required per GA R&R 40-7-19 (still applicable post-HB 398).
HANDWASHING	Required per food safety good practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods. Stored in food-safe containers.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon complaint (complaint-based only per HB 398, 2025).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Athens-Clarke County requires a Home Occupation Permit (\$20 fee) before a business may operate from a home. The permit is required under Section 9-15-16 of the Athens-Clarke County Unified Development Code. Key restrictions: (1) Direct sales on premises generally not permitted, except for services customarily incidental (mail order and online sales are allowable); (2) No external display of products; (3) No signs on property advertising the home occupation; (4) Maximum one non-resident employee; (5) Business must occupy no more than 25% of habitable floor space; (6) No chemicals or equipment beyond normal domestic residence. Note: Section 9-15-16(L) explicitly states 'No food service regulated by the Department of Health shall be permitted' — cottage food operators using the GDA framework should consult ACC Planning to confirm applicability post-HB 398.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	ACC Home Occupation rules restrict direct on-premises sales (see above). Mail order and online sales are explicitly allowed. Post-HB 398 (2025), Georgia state law broadly permits all sales channels; however, ACC Home Occupation restrictions on direct customer traffic and on-premises sales may limit home pickup for cottage food operations.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Maximum one non-resident employee permitted under ACC Home Occupation rules (Section 9-15-16(C)).

Relevant county code

Athens-Clarke County Unified Development Code, Section 9-15-16 (Home Occupations); O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Athens-Clarke County Home Occupation Application (PDF, Revised February 2026) retrieved directly via Exa search from athensclarkecounty.com. Key finding: Section 9-15-16(L) states 'No food service regulated by the Department of Health shall be permitted' as a home occupation — this may create tension with cottage food operations if they are classified as food service by the Department of Health, though HB 398 (2025) removed the GDA licensing requirement. The \$20 Home Occupation permit is required before obtaining a Business Occupation Tax certificate. ACC Home Business Permits page (accgov.com) also confirmed. County govt URL confirmed. ACC is a consolidated city-county government. High confidence for local zoning rules based on official ACC documents found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.accgov.com/151/Planning-Department>

<https://www.clarkecounty.gov>

<http://athensclarkecounty.com/DocumentCenter/View/125>

<https://www.acogov.com/841/Home-Business-Permits>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://www.clarkecounty.gov>

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

GEORGIA: CLAY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2242* · FIPS 13061 · Fort Gaines

Clay County

Population 2,815 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Clay County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Clay County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Clay County is one of Georgia’s least populous counties in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/clay-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CLAYTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2639* · FIPS 13063 · Jonesboro

Clayton County

Population 296,312 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); food handler certificate required; no license or inspection required; no sales cap; indirect sales allowed · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Food handler certificate required; non-TCS foods; no state license or inspection required; labeling required; as of July 2025, expanded to almost any non-PHF food)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (GA does not preempt local zoning. Clayton County and municipalities (Jonesboro, Forest Park, etc.) may have home occupation permit requirements. Operator should verify with local planning department)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GA Dept of Agriculture may investigate complaints)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Food handler certificate required; non-TCS foods; no state license or inspection required; labeling required; as of July 2025, expanded to almost any non-PHF food
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water at residence
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GA Dept of Agriculture may investigate complaints
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — GA does not preempt local zoning. Clayton County and municipalities (Jonesboro, Forest Park, etc.) may have home occupation permit requirements. Operator should verify with local planning department
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed; farmers markets, events, retail stores, online permitted
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

GA expanded cottage food law effective July 2025 (HB 398). Clayton County is Atlanta metro suburb. No county-specific overlay found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.claytoncountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: CLINCH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2241* · FIPS 13065 · Homerville

Clinch County

Population 6,871 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Clinch County and the City of Homerville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Clinch County and the City of Homerville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Clinch County is a small rural south Georgia county near the Florida state line. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/clinich-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: COBB COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2266* · FIPS 13067 · Marietta

Cobb County

Population 765,813 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (State baseline applies. As of HB 398 (July 1, 2025): no state license required. ANSI-accredited food safety training (food handler level acceptable) required. Annual coliform testing for private water supply.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified; standard sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Cobb County has an Occupational Tax Certificate requirement for home-based businesses. Contact Cobb County Business License Division. Cobb County Community Development handles zoning. For businesses inside incorporated cities (Marietta, Smyrna, Powder Springs, etc.), contact that municipality.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — State baseline applies. As of HB 398 (July 1, 2025): no state license required. ANSI-accredited food safety training (food handler level acceptable) required. Annual coliform testing for private water supply.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified; standard sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Municipal water or approved private supply; private well requires annual coliform testing
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation per food safety training
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage practices

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Cobb County has an Occupational Tax Certificate requirement for home-based businesses. Contact Cobb County Business License Division. Cobb County Community Development handles zoning. For businesses inside incorporated cities (Marietta, Smyrna, Powder Springs, etc.), contact that municipality.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	As of HB 398 (July 2025): direct-to-consumer, online, retail store sales, and wholesale permitted. No state cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; Cobb County Business License/Occupational Tax regulations

RESEARCH NOTES

Cobb County follows Georgia state baseline. HB 398 (July 1, 2025) significantly liberalized Georgia cottage food law — no state license required, no cap, retail sales allowed. Cobb County likely requires an Occupational Tax Certificate for home-based businesses. No specific Cobb County ordinance restricting cottage food beyond state baseline was found. The county has both unincorporated areas and several incorporated cities.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.cobbcounty.gov/health>

<https://www.cobbcounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.cobbcounty.org>

<https://www.agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: COFFEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2240* · FIPS 13069 · Douglas

Coffee County

Population 43,851 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Coffee County and the City of Douglas to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Coffee County and the City of Douglas to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Coffee County is a rural south Georgia county with Douglas as the county seat. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/coffee-county>

<https://www.coffeecountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: COLQUITT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2239* · FIPS 13071 · Moultrie

Colquitt County

Population 46,977 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Colquitt County and the City of Moultrie to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Colquitt County and the City of Moultrie to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Colquitt County is a mid-sized rural south Georgia county known for agriculture. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/colquitt-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: COLUMBIA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2682* · FIPS 13073 · Appling

Columbia County

Population 156,921 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Columbia County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Columbia County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. Interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Columbia County Zoning Ordinance; O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 2025) governs. No Columbia County-specific cottage food code identified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: COOK COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2262* · FIPS 13075 · Adel

Cook County

Population 17,984 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Cook County and the City of Adel to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Cook County and the City of Adel to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Cook County is a small rural south Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/cook-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: COWETA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2684* · FIPS 13077 · Newnan

Coweta County

Population 147,449 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Coweta County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Coweta County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398: wholesale, retail, online, and direct sales all permitted. Delivery allowed. Interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Coweta County Zoning Ordinance; O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 2025) governs. No Coweta County-specific cottage food code identified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: CRAWFORD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2263* · FIPS 13079 · Knoxville

Crawford County

Population 12,349 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Crawford County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Crawford County to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Crawford County is a small rural central Georgia county (county seat Knoxville, GA — not Tennessee). No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/crawford-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: CRISP COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2264* · FIPS 13081 · Cordele

Crisp County

Population 19,468 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Crisp County and the City of Cordele to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Crisp County and the City of Cordele to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Crisp County is a rural south Georgia county. Cordele is known as the 'Watermelon Capital of the World.' No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/crisp-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: DADE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2277* · FIPS 13083 · Trenton

Dade County

Population 16,068 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dade County and the City of Trenton to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dade County and the City of Trenton to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Dade County is a small rural county in the extreme northwest corner of Georgia (the input listed no county seat; Trenton is the county seat). No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/dade-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: DAWSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2287* · FIPS 13085 · Dawsonville

Dawson County

Population 33,748 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dawson County and the City of Dawsonville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. Dawson County has experienced significant residential growth as a bedroom community of Atlanta.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dawson County and the City of Dawsonville to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required. Dawson County has experienced significant residential growth as a bedroom community of Atlanta.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Dawson County is a fast-growing north Georgia county in the Blue Ridge foothills, known as a NASCAR heritage site and growing Atlanta exurb. Its growth means more formalized zoning rules for home occupations. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found in available sources. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/dawson-county>

<https://www.dawsoncounty.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: DECATUR COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2286* · FIPS 13087 · Bainbridge

Decatur County

Population 29,391 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Decatur County and the City of Bainbridge to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Decatur County and the City of Bainbridge to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Decatur County, GA is a rural southwest Georgia county (not to be confused with DeKalb County's City of Decatur near Atlanta). No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/decatour-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: DEKALB COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2267* · FIPS 13089 · Decatur

DeKalb County

Population 761,209 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (State baseline applies. HB 398 (July 1, 2025): no state license required, no cap, retail sales allowed. ANSI food safety training required. Private water supply requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified; standard sanitation

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (DeKalb County has an Occupational Tax Certificate requirement for home-based businesses. Contact DeKalb County Department of Revenue for Occupational Tax Certificate. Zoning compliance required through DeKalb County Planning & Sustainability. For businesses inside incorporated cities (Decatur, Dunwoody, Stone Mountain, etc.), contact that municipality.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED Yes — State baseline applies. HB 398 (July 1, 2025): no state license required, no cap, retail sales allowed. ANSI food safety training required. Private water supply requires annual coliform testing.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN No

PET RESTRICTIONS Not specified; standard sanitation

WATER SUPPLY Municipal water or approved private supply; private well requires annual coliform testing

HANDWASHING Standard sanitation per food safety training

FOOD STORAGE Standard food storage practices

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED Upon-complaint — GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT Conditional — DeKalb County has an Occupational Tax Certificate requirement for home-based businesses. Contact DeKalb County Department of Revenue for Occupational Tax Certificate. Zoning compliance required through DeKalb County Planning & Sustainability. For businesses inside incorporated cities (Decatur, Dunwoody, Stone Mountain, etc.), contact that municipality.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	As of HB 398 (July 2025): direct-to-consumer, online, retail store sales, and wholesale permitted. No state cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; DeKalb County Occupational Tax regulations

RESEARCH NOTES

DeKalb County follows Georgia state baseline. HB 398 (July 1, 2025) dramatically liberalized cottage food law. DeKalb County includes portions of Atlanta metro area. Occupational Tax Certificate likely required for home-based businesses. No DeKalb County-specific cottage food restriction beyond state baseline found. A Facebook post found noted questions about whether county business licenses are needed even after HB 398 removed state licensing.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/board-of-health>

<https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov/planning-sustainability>

<https://www.dekalbcountyga.gov>

<https://www.agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: DODGE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2285* · FIPS 13091 · Eastman

Dodge County

Population 19,630 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dodge County and the City of Eastman to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dodge County and the City of Eastman to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Dodge County is a small rural central Georgia county. No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/dodge-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: DOOLY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2284* · FIPS 13093 · Vienna

Dooly County

Population 11,186 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dooly County and the City of Vienna, GA to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be produced in operator’s primary domestic residence home kitchen only. Secondary homes, vacation homes, or motor homes do not qualify. Only non-potentially hazardous foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law; products must not be contaminated
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; annual coliform testing required if using a private well
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation practices required; ANSI-accredited food safety training required
FOOD STORAGE	Ingredients and finished products must be stored appropriately in the domestic residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (eff. July 2025). GDA may enter premises upon complaint or public health emergency.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia state law does not preempt local zoning. Cottage food operators must check with Dooly County and the City of Vienna, GA to determine if a home-based business is allowed in their zoning district and whether a home occupation permit is required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): direct-to-consumer sales, online sales, sales to retail stores, restaurants, and interstate sales are all permitted. Events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; local zoning must be checked independently

RESEARCH NOTES

Dooly County is a small rural south-central Georgia county (county seat Vienna, GA — not Austria). No county-specific cottage food ordinance variations found. Defaulted to GA state baseline (post-HB 398) with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://dph.georgia.gov/dooly-county>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

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

GEORGIA: DOUGHERTY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2631* · FIPS 13095 · Albany

Dougherty County

Population 85,038 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad range of non-PHF foods allowed including baked goods, candies, condiments, pickles, syrups, etc.; interstate sales now allowed; wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now permitted. Food handler certification still required. If using private water source, annual coliform testing required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in revised law; general sanitation expected.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Dougherty County and the City of Albany may have home occupation ordinances. No Dougherty County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. Producers should check with Dougherty County Planning and Development or City of Albany planning office.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Under HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025), inspections are complaint-based only. No routine pre-operational inspection required.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad range of non-PHF foods allowed including baked goods, candies, condiments, pickles, syrups, etc.; interstate sales now allowed; wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now permitted. Food handler certification still required. If using private water source, annual coliform testing required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in revised law; general sanitation expected.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source (well) requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Standard food handler hygiene requirements from certification training.
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirements beyond general food safety practices.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Under HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025), inspections are complaint-based only. No routine pre-operational inspection required.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Dougherty County and the City of Albany may have home occupation ordinances. No Dougherty County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. Producers should check with Dougherty County Planning and Development or City of Albany planning office.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Since July 2025: direct and indirect sales permitted including wholesale, retail, online, restaurants, and interstate. All channels now open under HB 398.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law under new HB 398 framework.

Relevant county code

No Dougherty County-specific cottage food code identified. O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. governs.

RESEARCH NOTES

Dougherty County (Albany) follows Georgia’s cottage food law. Georgia underwent a major expansion in July 2025 via HB 398. The GDA cottage food page and Forrager confirm the new framework. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium: state law confirmed from GDA and Justia sources; Dougherty County-specific zoning not verified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: DOUGLAS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2685* · FIPS 13097 · Douglasville

Douglas County

Population 144,735 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Douglas County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Douglas County may require a business license and home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398: wholesale, retail, online, and direct sales all permitted. Delivery allowed. Interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Douglas County Zoning Ordinance; O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 2025) governs. No Douglas County-specific cottage food code identified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: EARLY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2766* · FIPS 13099 · Blakely

Early County

Population 10,444 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Early County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Early County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Early County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Early County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Early County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Early County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Early County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: ECHOLS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2767* · FIPS 13101 · Statenville

Echols County

Population 3,698 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Echols County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Echols County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Echols County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Echols County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Echols County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Echols County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. Echols County is one of Georgia’s smallest counties by population; formal zoning may be limited.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2735* · FIPS 13103 · Springfield

Effingham County

Population 65,314 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-PHF food. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Food handler certification required. Private water source (well) requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific prohibition under new law; good manufacturing practice applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Effingham County is a fast-growing county near Savannah. No specific Effingham County cottage food home occupation permit identified. Contact Effingham County Planning & Zoning at (912) 754-2105.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (2025); no routine inspection)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-PHF food. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Food handler certification required. Private water source (well) requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific prohibition under new law; good manufacturing practice applies
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source (well)
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing facilities required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods; proper storage required

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (2025); no routine inspection
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Effingham County is a fast-growing county near Savannah. No specific Effingham County cottage food home occupation permit identified. Contact Effingham County Planning & Zoning at (912) 754-2105.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed; wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales permitted since July 2025. Interstate sales also allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit under new law

Relevant county code

Contact Effingham County Planning & Zoning for local zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. Effingham County is a suburban Savannah county experiencing rapid growth. No specific county-level cottage food restrictions found. State tier 'Okay' in input reflects pre-July 2025 law; current law is much more permissive.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: ELBERT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2768* · FIPS 13105 · Elberton

Elbert County

Population 20,152 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Elbert County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Elbert County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Elbert County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Elbert County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Elbert County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Elbert County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Elbert County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: EMANUEL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2769* · FIPS 13107 · Swainsboro

Emanuel County

Population 23,224 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Emanuel County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Emanuel County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Emanuel County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Emanuel County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Emanuel County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Emanuel County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Emanuel County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: EVANS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2772* · FIPS 13109 · Claxton

Evans County

Population 10,869 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Evans County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Evans County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Evans County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Evans County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Evans County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Evans County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Evans County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: FANNIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2773* · FIPS 13111 · Blue Ridge

Fannin County

Population 25,854 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Fannin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Fannin County’s zoning ordinance. Blue Ridge is the county seat and tourism hub; local registration may be required for cottage food vendors at farmers markets or events.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Fannin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Fannin County’s zoning ordinance. Blue Ridge is the county seat and tourism hub; local registration may be required for cottage food vendors at farmers markets or events.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Fannin County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Fannin County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Fannin County is a mountain tourism county (Blue Ridge); cottage food operators selling at local markets should verify any event-specific permitting with Fannin County Planning. No county-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: FAYETTE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2689* · FIPS 13113 · Fayetteville

Fayette County

Population 119,259 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025, HB 398); no sales cap; no license required; complaint-based inspection; broad food list; interstate sales now allowed ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Fayette County (Atlanta suburb) follows state baseline.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No specific Fayette County home occupation permit requirements found for cottage food. Georgia HB 398 eliminated prior GDA license requirement. Fayette County zoning may require home occupation permits for home-based businesses. Contact Fayette County Planning and Zoning or Fayetteville city planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Fayette County (Atlanta suburb) follows state baseline.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using private well water. Public water: standard requirements.
HANDWASHING	No mandatory specific course requirement under HB 398 no-license pathway.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. No perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No specific Fayette County home occupation permit requirements found for cottage food. Georgia HB 398 eliminated prior GDA license requirement. Fayette County zoning may require home occupation permits for home-based businesses. Contact Fayette County Planning and Zoning or Fayetteville city planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales and interstate sales. No sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. The input state_tier 'Okay' reflects pre-July 2025 law. Fayette County is a wealthy Atlanta suburb. No county-specific URLs provided. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: FLOYD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2591* · FIPS 13115 · Rome

Floyd County

Population 98,541 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required (previously \$100/year). Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Broad list of permitted non-TCS foods. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Floyd County and City of Rome may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Floyd County-specific cottage food permit identified. Georgia state law does not expressly preempt local zoning for cottage food; operators should verify with Floyd County Planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Georgia Department of Agriculture may inspect upon consumer complaint under §26-2-470 et seq.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required (previously \$100/year). Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Broad list of permitted non-TCS foods. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source.
HANDWASHING	Food handler training required (specific course); no specific statutory handwashing mandate beyond training.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; must prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Georgia Department of Agriculture may inspect upon consumer complaint under §26-2-470 et seq.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Floyd County and City of Rome may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Floyd County-specific cottage food permit identified. Georgia state law does not expressly preempt local zoning for cottage food; operators should verify with Floyd County Planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under post-July 2025 law, sales allowed at farmers markets, online, from home, to retail stores, restaurants, wholesale. Interstate sales now expressly allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No limit specified in current Georgia cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Floyd County-specific cottage food code section identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

No Floyd County-specific cottage food rules found. Georgia’s HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) is a major update: removed licensing fees, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, broader food list, and retail/wholesale/online now permitted. Data source tier ‘Okay’ reflects pre-July 2025 law; current law is substantially more permissive. Operators should consult GDA at agr.georgia.gov for current guidance under the new §26-2-470 et seq.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: FORSYTH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2317* · FIPS 13117 · Cumming

Forsyth County

Population 253,225 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspection only; broad food list. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Forsyth County may require home occupation permit under local zoning.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Forsyth County Community Development may require home occupation permit for residential-zone food businesses. Cumming city zoning may apply in incorporated areas. Check with Forsyth County Planning & Community Development.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only as of HB 398 (eff. July 2025))

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspection only; broad food list. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Forsyth County may require home occupation permit under local zoning.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing (state rule)
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; July 2025 law significantly broadened allowed foods

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only as of HB 398 (eff. July 2025)
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Forsyth County Community Development may require home occupation permit for residential-zone food businesses. Cumming city zoning may apply in incorporated areas. Check with Forsyth County Planning & Community Development.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	As of July 2025: direct and indirect sales; wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales permitted; interstate sales allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; Forsyth County zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Forsyth County GA follows state baseline. Georgia HB 398 (July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No county-specific overrides found. Forsyth County is a fast-growing suburban Atlanta county. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.forsythco.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: FRANKLIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2774* · FIPS 13119 · Carnesville

Franklin County

Population 25,208 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Franklin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Franklin County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Franklin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Franklin County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Franklin County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Franklin County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Franklin County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: FULTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2186* · FIPS 13121 · —

Fulton County

Population 1,061,944 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded the cottage food law: no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Fulton County follows the state baseline. No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (No Georgia state requirement for a home occupation permit for cottage food. Fulton County cities (Atlanta, Sandy Springs, Roswell, etc.) may have their own home occupation requirements. No county-specific cottage food permit found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under new HB 398 framework (effective July 2025). GDA has no routine inspection authority for cottage food.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded the cottage food law: no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Fulton County follows the state baseline. No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	Private water sources require annual coliform testing (state rule). Municipal water: state baseline applies.
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under new HB 398 framework (effective July 2025). GDA has no routine inspection authority for cottage food.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — No Georgia state requirement for a home occupation permit for cottage food. Fulton County cities (Atlanta, Sandy Springs, Roswell, etc.) may have their own home occupation requirements. No county-specific cottage food permit found.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	State law (eff. July 2025) allows interstate sales, wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales. No annual sales cap. Broad food categories allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies

Relevant county code

none county-specific found; O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. applies

RESEARCH NOTES

Fulton County (Atlanta area) benefits from Georgia’s major 2025 expansion (HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) which made Georgia one of the most permissive cottage food states. The prior tier of ‘Okay’ and \$100,000 registration requirement are now replaced by a no-fee, no-license framework. Interstate sales are now allowed – unusual nationally. A food safety course is recommended by GDA for operators. Private water users must conduct annual coliform tests.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.fultoncountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: GILMER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2739* · FIPS 13123 · Ellijay

Gilmer County

Population 33,327 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Gilmer County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Gilmer County’s zoning ordinance. Ellijay is a known cottage food and apple orchard market hub; local event permitting may apply for farmers market sales.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Gilmer County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Gilmer County’s zoning ordinance. Ellijay is a known cottage food and apple orchard market hub; local event permitting may apply for farmers market sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Gilmer County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Gilmer County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Gilmer County (Ellijay) is a mountain tourism county known for apple production and agritourism; event-specific or market-specific permitting from the City of Ellijay or Gilmer County may apply for vendors at local markets. No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: GLASCOCK COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2728* · FIPS 13125 · Gibson

GlascocK County

Population 3,008 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. GlascocK County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under GlascocK County’s zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. GlascocK County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under GlascocK County’s zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Glascock County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Glascock County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Glascock County is one of the smallest Georgia counties by population; formal zoning may be minimal. No county-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: GLYNN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2632* · FIPS 13127 · Brunswick

Glynn County

Population 84,566 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Same as all Georgia counties under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad non-PHF food types allowed; food handler certification required; interstate and indirect sales now permitted. Annual coliform test if private water source.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in revised law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Glynn County and the City of Brunswick (Golden Isles area) may have home occupation ordinances. No Glynn County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. Glynn County Community Development should be consulted.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Same as all Georgia counties under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad non-PHF food types allowed; food handler certification required; interstate and indirect sales now permitted. Annual coliform test if private water source.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in revised law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source (well) requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Standard food handler hygiene from certification.
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirements.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Glynn County and the City of Brunswick (Golden Isles area) may have home occupation ordinances. No Glynn County-specific cottage food ordinance identified. Glynn County Community Development should be consulted.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	All channels now open under Georgia HB 398: direct, indirect, retail, wholesale, online, restaurant sales, and interstate.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in new Georgia law.

Relevant county code

No Glynn County-specific cottage food code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

Glynn County is a coastal Georgia county (Brunswick/Jekyll Island/St. Simons area). Follows the new HB 398 Georgia cottage food framework. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: GORDON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2755* · FIPS 13129 · Calhoun

Gordon County

Population 57,785 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspection only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Broad list of permitted non-TCS foods. Food handler certification still required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Gordon County and City of Calhoun may have home occupation zoning requirements. Operators should check with Gordon County Building and Zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon complaint; no routine inspection required under HB 398.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspection only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Broad list of permitted non-TCS foods. Food handler certification still required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source (well water).
HANDWASHING	No specific standalone handwashing mandate; food handler certification covers hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper shelf-stable storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon complaint; no routine inspection required under HB 398.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Gordon County and City of Calhoun may have home occupation zoning requirements. Operators should check with Gordon County Building and Zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Very broad under HB 398: direct, wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales, interstate sales all permitted for non-TCS foods.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

Gordon County zoning code (home occupation provisions); no specific cottage food county code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) is a major expansion making Georgia one of the best cottage food states. The pre-HB-398 regulations (GA R&R 40-7-19) required a \$100/year license and GDA inspections — all now eliminated. Gordon County is in northwest Georgia near Dalton. Interstate sales are now uniquely allowed in Georgia. Private well users must conduct annual coliform testing.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: GRADY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2730* · FIPS 13131 · Cairo

Grady County

Population 26,271 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Grady County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Grady County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Grady County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Grady County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Grady County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Grady County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Grady County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: GREENE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2731* · FIPS 13133 · Greensboro

Greene County

Population 21,091 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Greene County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Greene County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Greene County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Greene County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Greene County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Greene County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Greene County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: GWINNETT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2202* · FIPS 13135 · Lawrenceville

Gwinnett County

Population 957,977 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must use home kitchen. As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), no state license required. ANSI-accredited food safety training (food handler level acceptable) is required. Private water supply requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state rules; standard sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Gwinnett County requires an Occupational Tax Certificate (business license) for home-based businesses in unincorporated areas, via the Licensing and Revenue Office. A Home-Based Business Disclosure agreement is required. Driver's license address must match business address. Food sales must be licensed by Georgia Department of Environmental Health or Georgia Department of Agriculture (for cottage food, GDA identification number registration available). If inside a city within Gwinnett County, contact that municipality.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must use home kitchen. As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), no state license required. ANSI-accredited food safety training (food handler level acceptable) is required. Private water supply requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state rules; standard sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Municipal water or approved private supply; private well requires annual coliform testing per GDA guidance
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation required per food safety training
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage practices required; no specific county overrides found

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA complaint-based only as of HB 398. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Gwinnett County requires an Occupational Tax Certificate (business license) for home-based businesses in unincorporated areas, via the Licensing and Revenue Office. A Home-Based Business Disclosure agreement is required. Driver's license address must match business address. Food sales must be licensed by Georgia Department of Environmental Health or Georgia Department of Agriculture (for cottage food, GDA identification number registration available). If inside a city within Gwinnett County, contact that municipality.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	As of HB 398 (July 2025): direct-to-consumer, online, retail store sales, and wholesale permitted. No state cap. Check local zoning for pickup/delivery restrictions.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

Gwinnett County Business License/Occupational Tax Code; O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Gwinnett County’s business license page confirms home-based businesses require an Occupational Tax Certificate, Home-Based Business Disclosure, and driver’s license matching the business address. The GDA cottage food page confirms HB 398 (July 1, 2025) removed the state licensing requirement for cottage food but food safety training remains required. No specific Gwinnett County ordinance restricting cottage food beyond state baseline was found, but the business license/occupational tax requirement applies. For businesses inside incorporated cities in Gwinnett (e.g., Duluth, Suwanee, Lawrenceville), separate municipal rules apply.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.gwinnettcounty.gov/health>

<https://www.gwinnettcounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.gwinnettcounty.com>

<https://www.gwinnettcounty.com/government/departments/planning-development/services/business-license>

<https://www.agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: HABERSHAM COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2732* · FIPS 13137 · Clarkesville

Habersham County

Population 49,665 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Habersham County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Habersham County's zoning ordinance. Cornelia is the primary commercial hub of Habersham County; city-level home occupation rules in Cornelia may differ from unincorporated county rules.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Habersham County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Habersham County's zoning ordinance. Cornelia is the primary commercial hub of Habersham County; city-level home occupation rules in Cornelia may differ from unincorporated county rules.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Habersham County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Habersham County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Habersham County is a northeast Georgia mountain county with manufacturing (Fieldale chicken) and tourism; Cornelia is the economic hub. The 2025 Georgia Conservancy housing report for Cornelia noted zoning code review underway. No Habersham County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: HALL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2312* · FIPS 13139 · Gainesville

Hall County

Population 204,953 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Hall County (county seat: Gainesville) is a growing suburban/exurban county northeast of Atlanta.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Hall County and municipalities (Gainesville, Oakwood, Flowery Branch) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Contact Hall County Planning & Zoning or relevant municipal planning office. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements but local zoning still applies.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Hall County (county seat: Gainesville) is a growing suburban/exurban county northeast of Atlanta.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Hall County and municipalities (Gainesville, Oakwood, Flowery Branch) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Contact Hall County Planning & Zoning or relevant municipal planning office. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements but local zoning still applies.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025); Hall County zoning ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with the July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Hall County (county seat: Gainesville) is in northeast Georgia, a fast-growing county in the Atlanta metro area. No county-specific URLs provided. No Hall County-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: HANCOCK COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2734* · FIPS 13141 · Sparta

Hancock County

Population 8,683 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Hancock County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Hancock County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Hancock County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Hancock County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Hancock County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Hancock County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Hancock County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: HARALSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2736* · FIPS 13143 · Buchanan

Haralson County

Population 32,404 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Haralson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Haralson County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Haralson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Haralson County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Haralson County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Haralson County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Haralson County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: HARRIS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2726* · FIPS 13145 · Hamilton

Harris County

Population 36,929 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Harris County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Harris County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Harris County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Harris County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Harris County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Harris County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Harris County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: HART COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2738* · FIPS 13147 · Hartwell

Hart County

Population 28,052 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Hart County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Hart County’s zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Hart County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Hart County’s zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Hart County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Hart County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Hart County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: HEARD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2740* · FIPS 13149 · Franklin

Heard County

Population 12,119 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Heard County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Heard County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Heard County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Heard County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Heard County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Heard County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Heard County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: HENRY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2319* · FIPS 13151 · McDonough

Henry County

Population 240,853 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspection only; broad food list. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Henry County may require home occupation permit under local zoning. No county URLs provided in input.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Henry County may require home occupation permit. No county URLs provided — check with Henry County Development Authority or Henry County Planning Department.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only as of HB 398 (eff. July 2025))

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspection only; broad food list. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Henry County may require home occupation permit under local zoning. No county URLs provided in input.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing (state rule)
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; July 2025 law broadened allowed foods

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only as of HB 398 (eff. July 2025)
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Henry County may require home occupation permit. No county URLs provided — check with Henry County Development Authority or Henry County Planning Department.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	As of July 2025: all sales channels allowed; interstate sales permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; Henry County zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Henry County GA follows Georgia state baseline. HB 398 (July 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No county URLs provided in input and no county-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: HOUSTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2676* · FIPS 13153 · Perry

Houston County

Population 164,117 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.')

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Houston County requires a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Houston County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.'

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

WATER SUPPLY

Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.

HANDWASHING

Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.

FOOD STORAGE

All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Houston County requires a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Houston County's zoning ordinance.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Houston County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Houston County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. No county URL provided in input; no Houston County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: IRWIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2742* · FIPS 13155 · Ocilla

Irwin County

Population 9,155 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Irwin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Irwin County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Irwin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Irwin County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Irwin County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Irwin County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Irwin County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: JACKSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2752* · FIPS 13157 · Jefferson

Jackson County

Population 77,033 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

• MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Since July 2025 (HB 398), no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Expanded food list includes almost all non-TCS foods plus interstate sales.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license. No state-level permit required. Jackson County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Jackson County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025), complaint-based only; no GDA licensing inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Home kitchen in primary domestic residence allowed. Since July 2025 (HB 398), no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Expanded food list includes almost all non-TCS foods plus interstate sales.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using a private water source.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required. Private well users must conduct annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required (specific course).
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Under HB 398 (eff. July 2025), complaint-based only; no GDA licensing inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — HB 398 removed the prior \$100/year GDA license. No state-level permit required. Jackson County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Jackson 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	Since July 2025, wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales, and interstate sales all allowed. Broad allowed food list under HB 398.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in current law.

Relevant county code

No Jackson County-specific cottage food code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Jackson County follows Georgia state cottage food law as dramatically expanded by HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025). No county-specific overrides found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: JASPER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2743* · FIPS 13159 · Monticello

Jasper County

Population 17,219 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jasper County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jasper County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jasper County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jasper County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jasper County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jasper County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jasper County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: JEFF DAVIS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2659* · FIPS 13161 · Hazlehurst

Jeff Davis County

Population 15,119 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jeff Davis County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jeff Davis County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jeff Davis County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jeff Davis County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jeff Davis County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jeff Davis County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jeff Davis County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/georgia/jeff-davis-county-discuss>

GEORGIA: JEFFERSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2636* · FIPS 13163 · Louisville

Jefferson County

Population 15,019 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jefferson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jefferson County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jefferson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jefferson County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jefferson County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jefferson County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: JENKINS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2635* · FIPS 13165 · Millen

Jenkins County

Population 8,836 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jenkins County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jenkins County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jenkins County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jenkins County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jenkins County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jenkins County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jenkins County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: JOHNSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2634* · FIPS 13167 · Wrightsville

Johnson County

Population 9,178 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Johnson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Johnson County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Johnson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Johnson County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Johnson County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Johnson County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Johnson County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: JONES COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2618* · FIPS 13169 · Gray

Jones County

Population 29,047 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jones County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jones County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jones County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jones County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jones County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jones County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jones County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LAMAR COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2616* · FIPS 13171 · Barnesville

Lamar County

Population 20,690 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lamar County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lamar County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lamar County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lamar County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lamar County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lamar County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lamar County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LANIER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2615* · FIPS 13173 · Lakeland

Lanier County

Population 10,464 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lanier County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lanier County’s zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lanier County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lanier County’s zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lanier County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lanier County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lanier County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LAURENS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2318* · FIPS 13175 · Dublin

Laurens County

Population 49,407 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspection only. Almost any non-potentially hazardous food allowed including most condiments, pickles, syrups, vinegars, salsas, etc. Interstate sales now allowed. Private well water requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in current state cottage food law (HB 398).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (No specific Laurens County cottage food ordinances found. City of Dublin and Laurens County may have local home occupation permit requirements. Recommend verifying with Laurens County Planning/Zoning and City of Dublin.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection under HB 398 (effective July 2025). Complaint-based inspection only.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspection only. Almost any non-potentially hazardous food allowed including most condiments, pickles, syrups, vinegars, salsas, etc. Interstate sales now allowed. Private well water requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in current state cottage food law (HB 398).
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform water testing required if using a private water source.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no specific requirement under new law.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-potentially hazardous.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — No routine inspection under HB 398 (effective July 2025). Complaint-based inspection only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — No specific Laurens County cottage food ordinances found. City of Dublin and Laurens County may have local home occupation permit requirements. Recommend verifying with Laurens County Planning/Zoning and City of Dublin.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398: online sales, wholesale/retail/restaurant/direct-to-consumer sales all allowed. Interstate sales allowed (unusual). No GDA licensing inspection.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; HB 398 (2025); Laurens County/Dublin zoning codes

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law — no license/fee, interstate sales allowed, much broader food list, complaint-based inspection only. This is a significant improvement from the previous 'Okay' tier. Private well water testing (annual coliform) still required. Laurens County is in central Georgia. No county-specific rules found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2614* · FIPS 13177 · Leesburg

Lee County

Population 34,073 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lee County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lee County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lee County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lee County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lee County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lee County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lee County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LIBERTY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2737* · FIPS 13179 · Hinesville

Liberty County

Population 65,550 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-PHF food. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Food handler certification required. Private water source (well) requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific prohibition under new law; good manufacturing practice applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Liberty County includes Hinesville (which has Fort Stewart military presence). No specific Liberty County cottage food home occupation permit identified. Contact Liberty County Planning & Zoning or Hinesville for requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under HB 398 (2025); no routine inspection)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-PHF food. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Food handler certification required. Private water source (well) requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific prohibition under new law; good manufacturing practice applies
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source (well)
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing facilities required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods; proper storage required

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under HB 398 (2025); no routine inspection
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Liberty County includes Hinesville (which has Fort Stewart military presence). No specific Liberty County cottage food home occupation permit identified. Contact Liberty County Planning & Zoning or Hinesville for requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed; wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales all permitted since July 2025. Interstate sales also allowed under new law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit under new law

Relevant county code

Contact Liberty County Planning or Hinesville City for local zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee; complaint-based inspections; interstate sales allowed; broader food list. Liberty County is home to Ft. Stewart military base and Hinesville. The state tier 'Okay' in input reflects pre-July 2025 law; current law is much more permissive. No Liberty County-specific restrictions found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LINCOLN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2613* · FIPS 13181 · LincolnTon

Lincoln County

Population 8,049 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lincoln County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lincoln County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lincoln County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lincoln County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lincoln County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lincoln County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lincoln County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LONG COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2611* · FIPS 13183 · Ludowici

Long County

Population 20,439 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Long County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Long County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Long County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Long County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Long County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Long County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Long County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: LOWNDES COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2722* · FIPS 13185 · Valdosta

Lowndes County

Population 118,257 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025, HB 398); no sales cap; no license required; complaint-based inspection; broad food list; interstate sales now allowed ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Lowndes County follows state baseline.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No specific Lowndes County cottage food overlay found. Georgia HB 398 eliminated prior GDA license requirement. Local zoning may require home occupation permits. Contact Lowndes County Planning and Zoning or Valdosta city planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Lowndes County follows state baseline.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.
HANDWASHING	No mandatory specific course under HB 398 no-license pathway.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. No perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No specific Lowndes County cottage food overlay found. Georgia HB 398 eliminated prior GDA license requirement. Local zoning may require home occupation permits. Contact Lowndes County Planning and Zoning or Valdosta city planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales and interstate sales. No sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food. Input state_tier 'Okay' reflects pre-July 2025 law. Lowndes County includes Valdosta (pop ~58K) near GA-FL border. No county-specific URLs provided. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: LUMPKIN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2610* · FIPS 13187 · Dahlonega

Lumpkin County

Population 36,016 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lumpkin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lumpkin County's zoning ordinance. Dahlonega is an active tourism and wine country hub with active farmers markets; event-specific or vendor permits may be required by Dahlonega or Lumpkin County for market sales.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lumpkin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lumpkin County's zoning ordinance. Dahlonega is an active tourism and wine country hub with active farmers markets; event-specific or vendor permits may be required by Dahlonega or Lumpkin County for market sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lumpkin County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lumpkin County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Lumpkin County (Dahlonega) is a north Georgia mountain tourism county with vineyards and active farmers markets. Event or vendor-specific permitting from City of Dahlonega or Lumpkin County may apply for market sales. No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MACON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2606* · FIPS 13193 · Oglethorpe

Macon County

Population 11,831 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Macon County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Macon County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Macon County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Macon County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Macon County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Macon County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Macon County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MADISON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2655* · FIPS 13195 · Danielsville

Madison County

Population 32,771 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Madison County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Madison County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Madison County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Madison County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Madison County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Madison County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Madison County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MARION COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2657* · FIPS 13197 · Buena Vista

Marion County

Population 7,635 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Marion County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Marion County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Marion County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Marion County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Marion County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Marion County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Marion County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MCDUFFIE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2608* · FIPS 13189 · Thomson

McDuffie County

Population 21,764 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. McDuffie County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under McDuffie County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. McDuffie County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under McDuffie County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

McDuffie County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); McDuffie County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No McDuffie County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MCINTOSH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2607* · FIPS 13191 · Darien

McIntosh County

Population 11,800 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. McIntosh County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under McIntosh County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. McIntosh County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under McIntosh County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

McIntosh County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); McIntosh County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. County seat was blank in input; Darien is the county seat of McIntosh County. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No McIntosh County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MERIWETHER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2691* · FIPS 13199 · Greenville

Meriwether County

Population 21,439 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Meriwether County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Meriwether County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Meriwether County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Meriwether County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Meriwether County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Meriwether County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Meriwether County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MILLER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2701* · FIPS 13201 · Colquitt

Miller County

Population 5,824 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Miller County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Miller County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Miller County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Miller County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Miller County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Miller County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Miller County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MITCHELL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2702* · FIPS 13205 · Camilla

Mitchell County

Population 20,329 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Mitchell County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Mitchell County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Mitchell County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Mitchell County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Mitchell County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Mitchell County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Mitchell County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MONROE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2703* · FIPS 13207 · Forsyth

Monroe County

Population 31,437 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Monroe County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Monroe County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Monroe County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Monroe County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Monroe County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Monroe County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Monroe County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2704* · FIPS 13209 · Mount Vernon

Montgomery County

Population 8,566 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Montgomery County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Montgomery County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Montgomery County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Montgomery County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Montgomery County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Montgomery County (GA)- specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MORGAN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2705* · FIPS 13211 · Madison

Morgan County

Population 21,940 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Morgan County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Morgan County’s zoning ordinance. The City of Madison is a historic Georgia tourism town; city-level home occupation or business licensing rules may apply separately from unincorporated Morgan County.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN No

PET RESTRICTIONS No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

WATER SUPPLY Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.

HANDWASHING Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.

FOOD STORAGE All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Morgan County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Morgan County’s zoning ordinance. The City of Madison is a historic Georgia tourism town; city-level home occupation or business licensing rules may apply separately from unincorporated Morgan County.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Morgan County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Morgan County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Morgan County’s county seat is Madison, a historic town with active tourism and farmers markets; city-level business licensing may apply. No Morgan County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MURRAY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2706* · FIPS 13213 · Chatsworth

Murray County

Population 41,316 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Murray County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Murray County's zoning ordinance.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Murray County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Murray County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Murray County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Murray County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Murray County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: MUSCOGEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2311* · FIPS 13215 · Columbus

Muscogee County

Population 204,572 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Muscogee County is a consolidated city-county (Columbus-Muscogee County); Columbus is a major city.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Muscogee County is a consolidated city-county government (Columbus-Muscogee). The Columbus Georgia city-county government (columbusga.gov) handles zoning and may require home occupation permits for food businesses. Contact Columbus Planning Department for current requirements. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing but local zoning still applies.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Muscogee County is a consolidated city-county (Columbus-Muscogee County); Columbus is a major city.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Muscogee County is a consolidated city-county government (Columbus-Muscogee). The Columbus Georgia city-county government (columbusga.gov) handles zoning and may require home occupation permits for food businesses. Contact Columbus Planning Department for current requirements. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing but local zoning still applies.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025); Columbus-Muscogee County zoning ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Muscogee County is a consolidated city-county government with Columbus as the main city — also near Fort Benning/Fort Moore (major military installation). No county-specific overrides documented. Georgia HB 398 significantly improved Georgia’s cottage food framework, making it one of the best nationally.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.columbusga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: NEWTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2709* · FIPS 13217 · Covington

Newton County

Population 113,298 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 1, 2025, HB 398); no sales cap; no license required; complaint-based inspection; broad food list; interstate sales now allowed ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. Complaint-based only. Newton County follows state baseline.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No specific Newton County cottage food overlay found. Georgia HB 398 eliminated prior GDA license requirement. Local zoning may require home occupation permits. Contact Newton County Planning and Zoning or Covington city planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. Complaint-based only. Newton County follows state baseline.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using private well water.
HANDWASHING	No mandatory specific course under HB 398 no-license pathway.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. No perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only per Georgia HB 398. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No specific Newton County cottage food overlay found. Georgia HB 398 eliminated prior GDA license requirement. Local zoning may require home occupation permits. Contact Newton County Planning and Zoning or Covington city planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales and interstate sales. No sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food. Input state_tier 'Okay' reflects pre-July 2025 law. Newton County is part of Atlanta metro (Covington known as 'Hollywood of the South' for film production). No county-specific URLs provided. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: OCONEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2692* · FIPS 13219 · Watkinville

Oconee County

Population 44,751 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Oconee County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Oconee County's zoning ordinance. Oconee County is an affluent suburb of Athens-Clarke County; zoning codes are more developed than most rural Georgia counties and may have specific home occupation restrictions.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Oconee County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Oconee County's zoning ordinance. Oconee County is an affluent suburb of Athens-Clarke County; zoning codes are more developed than most rural Georgia counties and may have specific home occupation restrictions.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Oconee County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Oconee County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia’s 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Oconee County is a suburban/exurban county adjacent to Athens-Clarke County with more developed zoning infrastructure; home occupation provisions in the Oconee County zoning code are likely more detailed than rural counties. Operators in Oconee should verify home occupation permit requirements with Oconee County Planning. No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: OGLETHORPE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2237* · FIPS 13221 · Lexington

Oglethorpe County

Population 15,259 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Oglethorpe County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Oglethorpe County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Oglethorpe County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Oglethorpe County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.oglethorpecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: PAULDING COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2327* · FIPS 13223 · Dallas

Paulding County

Population 169,898 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required, no GDA inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using private water source. Food safety training required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state restriction under new law; complaint-based inspections may address food safety concerns.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia’s new cottage food law (HB 398, eff. July 2025) dramatically expanded allowances. Paulding County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses under county zoning. County URLs were blank in input. Dallas city has separate municipal zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based inspections only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine GDA inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required, no GDA inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using private water source. Food safety training required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state restriction under new law; complaint-based inspections may address food safety concerns.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using private water source.
HANDWASHING	Food safety training covers handwashing requirements.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based inspections only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine GDA inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia’s new cottage food law (HB 398, eff. July 2025) dramatically expanded allowances. Paulding County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses under county zoning. County URLs were blank in input. Dallas city has separate municipal zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	No sales channel restrictions under HB 398 — direct, online, retail, wholesale, restaurant sales all permitted. Interstate sales now allowed (rare nationally).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified under new law.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; no specific Paulding County code found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Major 2025 update: Georgia HB 398 effective July 1, 2025 dramatically expanded the cottage food law. The Crosodo input fields (tier 'Okay', ij_grade 'D+') reflect the pre-July 2025 state of the law. Under the new law Georgia allows interstate sales, wholesale/retail/restaurant sales, and has eliminated licensing requirements. Paulding County is a rapidly growing suburban county northwest of Atlanta. County URLs were blank in input. Private water testing (annual coliform) still required if using private water source.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: PEACH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2236* · FIPS 13225 · Fort Valley

Peach County

Population 27,887 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Peach County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Peach County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Peach County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Peach County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Fort Valley is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.peachcounty.net>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: PICKENS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2235* · FIPS 13227 · Jasper

Pickens County

Population 34,284 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Pickens County requires a business license (\$100) for businesses operating in unincorporated Pickens County per Chapter 18 of county ordinances. Contact Planning & Development at 706-253-8850 for home occupation zoning requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Pickens County requires a business license (\$100) for businesses operating in unincorporated Pickens County per Chapter 18 of county ordinances. Contact Planning & Development at 706-253-8850 for home occupation zoning requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Growing mountain county. Pickens County Planning & Development (1266 E Church St, Jasper) handles business licensing (\$100 fee per county ordinance Chapter 18) and zoning. Home occupation permit likely required for food business. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pickenscountyga.gov/171/Planning-Development>

<https://www.pickenscountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: PIERCE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2207* · FIPS 13229 · Blackshear

Pierce County

Population 19,465 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Pierce County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pierce County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Pierce County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pierce County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.piercecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: PIKE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2206* · FIPS 13231 · Zebulon

Pike County

Population 18,962 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Pike County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pike County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Pike County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pike County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pikecountyga.net>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: POLK COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2205* · FIPS 13233 · Cedartown

Polk County

Population 42,751 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Polk County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Polk County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Polk County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Polk County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Cedartown is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.polkgeorgia.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: PULASKI COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2204* · FIPS 13235 · Hawkinsville

Pulaski County

Population 11,830 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Pulaski County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pulaski County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Pulaski County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pulaski County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pulaskicountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: PUTNAM COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2721* · FIPS 13237 · Eatonton

Putnam County

Population 21,869 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Putnam County requires a Home Occupation Permit (\$83 fee) from Planning & Development for home-based businesses. Application requires letter of intent and E-Verify affidavit. Contact: 706-485-2776, 117 Putnam Drive Suite B, Eatonton GA 31024.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Putnam County requires a Home Occupation Permit (\$83 fee) from Planning & Development for home-based businesses. Application requires letter of intent and E-Verify affidavit. Contact: 706-485-2776, 117 Putnam Drive Suite B, Eatonton GA 31024.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Putnam County has a confirmed home occupation permit process through Planning & Development. Fee is \$83. Contact: 117 Putnam Drive Suite B, Eatonton GA 31024, phone 706-485-2776. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.putnamcountyga.us/planning>

<https://www.putnamcountyga.us>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: QUITMAN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2203* · FIPS 13239 · Georgetown

Quitman County

Population 2,276 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Quitman County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Quitman County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Quitman County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Quitman County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. One of Georgia’s smallest counties by population. Very rural. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: RABUN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2185* · FIPS 13241 · Clayton

Rabun County

Population 17,131 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Rabun County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Rabun County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Rabun County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Rabun County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mountain county near NC border. Zoning ordinance confirms home occupations are permitted uses in Agricultural district. Planning & Zoning: 18 Old Rabun High Dr Suite 102, Clayton GA 30525, 706-782-1579. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.rabuncounty.ga.gov/planningzoning/page/permits-applications>

<https://www.rabuncounty.ga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: RANDOLPH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2200* · FIPS 13243 · Cuthbert

Randolph County

Population 6,778 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Randolph County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Randolph County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Randolph County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Randolph County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: RICHMOND COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2326* · FIPS 13245 · Augusta

Richmond County

Population 206,153 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law: no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Richmond County is a consolidated city-county (Augusta-Richmond County); Augusta has its own local governance but state preemption applies to cottage food.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law. Standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Augusta-Richmond County (consolidated city-county) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Contact Augusta-Richmond County Planning & Development Department (augustaga.gov) for home occupation permit requirements for food businesses. Georgia HB 398 removed state-level licensing/inspection requirements but local zoning still applies.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025): complaint-based inspection only; no routine or pre-operational inspections required.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law: no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing. Richmond County is a consolidated city-county (Augusta-Richmond County); Augusta has its own local governance but state preemption applies to cottage food.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law. Standard food safety practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing under Georgia cottage food rules.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, which covers handwashing and hygiene standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS (non-potentially hazardous) foods only. Standard GMP storage practices.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025): complaint-based inspection only; no routine or pre-operational inspections required.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Augusta-Richmond County (consolidated city-county) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Contact Augusta-Richmond County Planning & Development Department (augustaga.gov) for home occupation permit requirements for food businesses. Georgia HB 398 removed state-level licensing/inspection requirements but local zoning still applies.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels: direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, and wholesalers. Interstate sales permitted (rare nationally). Home pickup and delivery allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025); Augusta-Richmond County zoning ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) fundamentally changed Georgia’s cottage food landscape — now one of the most permissive nationally. The state baseline notes this was a MAJOR 2025 UPDATE. Richmond County is a consolidated city-county government (Augusta-Richmond County since 1996). Georgia also now allows interstate sales, which is rare nationally. The state baseline’s ‘Okay’ tier and ‘D+’ IJ grade reflect the pre-July 2025 state of law; post-July 2025 should be rated much higher.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://www.augustaga.gov>
- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: ROCKDALE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2654* · FIPS 13247 · Conyers

Rockdale County

Population 93,641 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee, complaint-based inspection only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source. Non-TCS foods broadly permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Rockdale County (Conyers, Atlanta metro) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Rockdale County-specific cottage food permit identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee, complaint-based inspection only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source. Non-TCS foods broadly permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing if using private water source.
HANDWASHING	Food handler training required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Rockdale County (Conyers, Atlanta metro) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Rockdale County-specific cottage food permit identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under post-July 2025 law: farmers markets, online, from home, retail stores, restaurants, wholesale all permitted. Interstate sales expressly allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No limit specified in current Georgia cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Rockdale County-specific cottage food code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

No Rockdale County-specific cottage food rules found. Rockdale County is a small county in the Atlanta metro area. Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) is a major expansion. State tier 'Okay' in input data reflects pre-July 2025 law.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: SCHLEY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2199* · FIPS 13249 · Ellaville

Schley County

Population 5,257 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Schley County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Schley County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Schley County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Schley County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: SCREVEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2197* · FIPS 13251 · Sylvania

Screven County

Population 13,961 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Screven County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Screven County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Screven County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Screven County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.screvencountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: SEMINOLE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2196* · FIPS 13253 · Donalsonville

Seminole County

Population 8,437 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Seminole County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Seminole County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Seminole County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Seminole County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: SPALDING COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2744* · FIPS 13255 · Griffin

Spalding County

Population 67,415 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No registration required. Inspection upon complaint. Indirect sales allowed. Non-TCS foods. New statutory framework effective July 2025.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Spalding County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Griffin has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No registration required. Inspection upon complaint. Indirect sales allowed. Non-TCS foods. New statutory framework effective July 2025.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Required as part of food handler certification
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Spalding County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Griffin has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed; delivery by producer permitted
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia Okay-tier state. Spalding County is south of Atlanta metro. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: STEPHENS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2195* · FIPS 13257 · Toccoa

Stephens County

Population 26,175 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Stephens County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Stephens County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Stephens County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Stephens County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small county with Toccoa as county seat (Blue Ridge mountains area). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://stephenscountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: STEWART COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2194* · FIPS 13259 · Lumpkin

Stewart County

Population 5,689 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Stewart County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Stewart County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Stewart County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Stewart County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: SUMTER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2193* · FIPS 13261 · Americus

Sumter County

Population 29,524 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Sumter County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Sumter County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Sumter County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Sumter County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Americus is county seat. Home of Georgia Southwestern State University and near Plains (Jimmy Carter birthplace). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.sumtercountyga.us>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TALBOT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2192* · FIPS 13263 · Talbotton

Talbot County

Population 6,197 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Talbot County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Talbot County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Talbot County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Talbot County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TALIAFERRO COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2191* · FIPS 13265 · Crawfordville

Taliaferro County

Population 1,537 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Taliaferro County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Taliaferro County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Taliaferro County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Taliaferro County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Georgia’s smallest county by population. Very rural. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TATTNALL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2190* · FIPS 13267 · Reidsville

Tattnall County

Population 25,520 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Tattnall County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Tattnall County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Tattnall County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Tattnall County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.tattnallcounty.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TAYLOR COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2189* · FIPS 13269 · Butler

Taylor County

Population 8,320 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Taylor County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Taylor County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Taylor County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Taylor County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TELFAIR COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2188* · FIPS 13271 · McRae

Telfair County

Population 15,860 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Telfair County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Telfair County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Telfair County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Telfair County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TERRELL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2187* · FIPS 13273 · Dawson

Terrell County

Population 8,531 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Terrell County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Terrell County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Terrell County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Terrell County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: THOMAS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2208* · FIPS 13275 · Thomasville

Thomas County

Population 46,035 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Thomas County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Thomas County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Thomas County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Thomas County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Larger county. Thomasville is county seat with its own city zoning (Thomasville.org). City requires occupation tax/business license for businesses in city limits. Thomasville has zoning ordinance Chapter 22 with home occupation provisions (Sec. 22-41). County Planning & Zoning handles unincorporated areas. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://thomasville.org/departments/city-tax-information/occupation-tax>

<https://www.thomascountygga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TIFT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2198* · FIPS 13277 · Tifton

Tift County

Population 40,644 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Tift County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Tift County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Tift County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Tift County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Tifton is county seat (agricultural center). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.tiftcounty.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TOOMBS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2209* · FIPS 13279 · Lyons

Toombs County

Population 26,830 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Toombs County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Toombs County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Toombs County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Toombs County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size rural county. Vidalia onion country. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.toombscountyga.net>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TOWNS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2211* · FIPS 13281 · Hiwassee

Towns County

Population 12,326 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Towns County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Towns County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Towns County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Towns County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small mountain county near NC/TN borders. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.townscountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TREUTLEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2234* · FIPS 13283 · Soperton

Treutlen County

Population 6,741 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Treutlen County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Treutlen County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Treutlen County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Treutlen County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TROUP COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2749* · FIPS 13285 · LaGrange

Troup County

Population 69,527 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No state registration required. Inspection upon complaint only. Indirect sales allowed. No TCS foods. Note: New statutory framework effective July 2025.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Troup County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of LaGrange has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No state registration required. Inspection upon complaint only. Indirect sales allowed. No TCS foods. Note: New statutory framework effective July 2025.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Required as part of food handler certification
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Troup County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of LaGrange has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed; delivery by producer permitted
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia Okay-tier state. New statutory framework (O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.) effective July 2025 expanded cottage food allowances. No county-specific sources available. County seat listed as LaGrange (input showed blank). Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: TURNER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2233* · FIPS 13287 · Ashburn

Turner County

Population 8,066 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Turner County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Turner County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Turner County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Turner County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: TWIGGS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2232* · FIPS 13289 · Jeffersonville

Twiggs County

Population 8,233 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Twiggs County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Twiggs County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Twiggs County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Twiggs County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: UNION COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2231* · FIPS 13291 · Blairsville

Union County

Population 25,370 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Union County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Union County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Union County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Union County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mountain county near NC border. Growing retirement/tourism community. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.unioncountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: UPSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2230* · FIPS 13293 · Thomaston

Upson County

Population 26,834 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Upson County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Upson County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Upson County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Upson County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Thomaston is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.upsoncountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WALKER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2748* · FIPS 13295 · LaFayette

Walker County

Population 68,065 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No registration required. Inspection upon complaint. Indirect sales allowed. Non-TCS foods. New statutory framework effective July 2025.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Walker County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of LaFayette has its own zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No registration required. Inspection upon complaint. Indirect sales allowed. Non-TCS foods. New statutory framework effective July 2025.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Required as part of food handler certification
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Walker County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of LaFayette has its own zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed; delivery by producer permitted
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia Okay-tier state. Walker County is in NW Georgia near Chattanooga TN border. New statutory framework effective July 2025. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: WALTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2597* · FIPS 13297 · Monroe

Walton County

Population 97,752 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed, broad non-TCS food list. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Walton County (Monroe) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food permit identified. Operators should check with Walton County Planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed, broad non-TCS food list. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source.
HANDWASHING	Food handler training required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Walton County (Monroe) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food permit identified. Operators should check with Walton County Planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed at farmers markets, online, from home, retail stores, restaurants, wholesale. Interstate sales expressly allowed under post-July 2025 law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No limit specified in current Georgia cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Walton County-specific cottage food code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

No Walton County-specific cottage food rules found. Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) significantly expanded cottage food law. Walton County is a fast-growing exurb of Atlanta. State tier 'Okay' in input data reflects pre-July 2025 law; current Georgia law is substantially more permissive.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WARE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2229* · FIPS 13299 · Waycross

Ware County

Population 35,734 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Ware County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Ware County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Ware County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Ware County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Waycross is county seat (gateway to Okefenokee Swamp). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://warecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WARREN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2228* · FIPS 13301 · Warrenton

Warren County

Population 5,254 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Warren County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Warren County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Warren County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Warren County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WASHINGTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2227* · FIPS 13303 · Sandersville

Washington County

Population 20,374 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Washington County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Washington County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Washington County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Washington County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Sandersville is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.washingtoncountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WAYNE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2226* · FIPS 13305 · Jesup

Wayne County

Population 29,927 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Wayne County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wayne County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Wayne County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wayne County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Jesup is county seat (county_seat was blank in input). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.waynecountyga.net>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WEBSTER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2225* · FIPS 13307 · Preston

Webster County

Population 2,607 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Webster County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Webster County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Webster County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Webster County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WHEELER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2224* · FIPS 13309 · Alamo

Wheeler County

Population 7,855 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Wheeler County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wheeler County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Wheeler County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wheeler County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WHITE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2223* · FIPS 13311 · Cleveland

White County

Population 30,798 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (White County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with White County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — White County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with White County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mountain county. Cleveland is county seat. Growing tourism and residential area. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.whitecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WHITFIELD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2269* · FIPS 13313 · Dalton

Whitfield County

Population 103,033 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Whitfield County and the City of Dalton may have home occupation zoning requirements. Dalton is known as the 'Carpet Capital of the World.' No specific Whitfield County cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only per O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety handwashing practices required per food handler certification.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous, non-TCS foods only. Perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, and meat jerkies prohibited.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only per O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Whitfield County and the City of Dalton may have home occupation zoning requirements. Dalton is known as the 'Carpet Capital of the World.' No specific Whitfield County cottage food ordinance identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Wholesale, retail, online, and direct-to-consumer sales all allowed under the 2025 law. Restaurant sales also permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Whitfield County code section identified. State law governs: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Whitfield County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Georgia’s 2025 HB 398 dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

GEORGIA: WILCOX COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2222* · FIPS 13315 · Abbeville

Wilcox County

Population 8,635 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Wilcox County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilcox County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Wilcox County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilcox County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WILKES COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2221* · FIPS 13317 · Washington

Wilkes County

Population 9,938 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Wilkes County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilkes County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Wilkes County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilkes County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. Washington (county seat) is historic antebellum city. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.wilkescountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WILKINSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2220* · FIPS 13319 · Irwinton

Wilkinson County

Population 8,862 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Wilkinson County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilkinson County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Wilkinson County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilkinson County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

GEORGIA: WORTH COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2210* · FIPS 13321 · Sylvester

Worth County

Population 20,656 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Worth County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Worth County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Worth County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Worth County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.worthcountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

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

Crosodo Index methodology: The Crosodo Index is our internal 1–N ranking of U.S. counties by how friendly the combined state + county rules are for home-based cottage food bakers. Score components (higher = better): home kitchen allowed (30/15/5), no dedicated kitchen required (25), pets allowed (15), no home occupation permit (15), on-site pickup allowed (10), no inspection (10), no local business license (5), high data confidence (5), plus state tier bonus (Freedom +20, Great +15, Good +10, Okay +5). Data drawn from county zoning codes, health department rules, and state cottage food statutes (primarily the county_cottage_food_zoning research set and state statutes CSV, last verified ~2026). Ranks are global across ~3,000 counties. Counties with sparse or missing data receive lower/default scores. This is a research and prioritization tool only — always verify current rules directly with your state department of agriculture/health and your county planning & health offices. The original U.S. Census population rank is retained in source data for reference but is no longer used for primary display or sorting in Crosodo materials.

Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Georgia cottage food rules, county zoning overlays, and what other home bakers are seeing in your area.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/georgia-discuss>