

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Arizona

A comprehensive guide to the cottage food statute, sales rules, and county-level zoning and health-department overlays for home bakers operating under A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932.

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STATUTE	TIER	IJ GRADE	COUNTIES COVERED
<b>A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932</b>	<b>Great</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>15</b>

LAST VERIFIED

**2026-05-05****IMPORTANT – NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above. **Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision.** Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

# Contents

Executive summary	3
Arizona Cottage Food Program — A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932	4
County-level rules (15 counties)	6
#4 Maricopa County	6
#45 Pima County · Tucson	7
#162 Pinal County · Florence	9
#283 Yavapai County · Prescott	11
#316 Mohave County · Kingman	13
#332 Yuma County · Yuma	15
#451 Coconino County · Flagstaff	16
#502 Cochise County · Bisbee	18
#565 Navajo County · Holbrook	20
#804 Apache County · Saint Johns	21
#938 Gila County · Globe	23
#9999 Graham County · Safford	24
#9999 Greenlee County · Clifton	26
#9999 La Paz County · Parker	27
#9999 Santa Cruz County · Nogales	29

## Executive summary

This report covers the Arizona 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 15 Arizona counties included in this dataset.

### ANNUAL SALES CAP

none

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

yes

### FOOD HANDLER CERTIFICATION

yes (specific course)

### KITCHEN INSPECTION

no

### DIRECT SALES ONLY

no

### INDIRECT SALES (RETAIL/ONLINE/WHOLESALE)

yes — Retail and wholesale sales are allowed for non-dairy/non-meat products; stores must display homemade products separately from commercially produced items; dairy and meat products must be sold directly in person (online orders allowed but must be delivered in person, not via third-party platforms).

### RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona's food freedom expansion (HB 2042, 2024) significantly broadened the law to allow perishable foods. The initial cottage food law was enacted in 2011 (HB 2103) and amended in 2018 (SB 1022). An attempt at food freedom in 2023 (HB 2509) was vetoed. The 2024 law places extra restrictions on those who sell nonperishable foods in stores (must be on separate shelf). The cottage food program is registered online with AZ DHS and must be renewed every 3 years. Some counties require a locally issued food handler card. The statute citation §36-136(H)(4)(g) in the input identifies the licensing exemption provision; the core operative sections are §36-931 (definitions) and §36-932 (labeling and sale requirements). The state dept URL returned a 301 redirect as of verification date.

# Arizona Cottage Food Program

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**CITATION**

A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932

**ENACTED**

2011

**LAST AMENDED**

2024

**CONFIDENCE**

HIGH

## Allowed foods

Producers can sell almost any type of food, including products containing meat (from approved federal-exemption sources) and perishable foods. Non-dairy, non-meat products can be sold anywhere including online, in stores, and via third-party delivery. The program has approximately 10,000 registered businesses as of 2024.

## Prohibited foods

Alcoholic beverages, unpasteurized milk, and foods containing alcohol are prohibited. Fish, shellfish, and general meat or poultry products are excluded unless meeting a federal exemption. Products containing marijuana or marijuana by-products are prohibited.

## Labeling requirements

Labels must include the producer's name and registration number, all ingredients and production date, and the required allergen/inspection disclaimer statement. For online listings, the same information must appear prominently. A department-provided website for consumer reporting must also be referenced.

## Statutory text — verbatim excerpt

### Statute excerpt — verbatim

36-931. Definitions. 1. "Cottage food product": (a) Means a food that is prepared in a home kitchen by or under the direct supervision of an individual who is registered with the department and that either, as defined by the department in rule: (i) Is not potentially hazardous or does not require time or temperature control for safety. (ii) Is potentially hazardous or requires time or temperature control for safety. (b) Does not include alcoholic beverages, unpasteurized milk or foods that are or that contain alcoholic beverages, fish and shellfish products, meat, meat by-products, poultry or poultry by-products unless the sale of those items is allowed by federal law. 3. "Home kitchen" means a kitchen in the residential home or dwelling of the individual who is registered with the department to prepare cottage food products, of a type that is normally found in a residential home and that does not exceed one thousand square feet. 36-932. A. Cottage food products must be packaged at home with an attached label in a clear and legible printed or handwritten font that clearly states the name and registration number of the food preparer; lists all ingredients and the production date; includes the statement: "This product was produced in a home kitchen that may come in contact with common food allergens and pet allergens and is not subject to public health inspection." C. The person preparing the cottage food product or directly supervising the food preparation must complete a food handler training course from an accredited program and maintain active certification. The food preparer must register with the online registry established by the department.

Source: <https://www.azleg.gov/ars/36/00931.htm>

## Official sources

**Statute** <https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=36>

**State dept page** <https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

**Registration** <https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food-registration>

**Extension service** <https://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/pubs/az1633-2018.pdf>

**Forrager.com** <https://forrager.com/law/arizona/>

State dept of agriculture / health: **Arizona Department of Health Services**

## 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 15 Arizona counties below are sorted by population (largest first).

RANK 4 · FIPS 4013 · —

### Maricopa County

Population 4,430,871 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **HIGH**

#### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Maricopa County defers entirely to the Arizona Department of Health Services for cottage food registration and oversight. County zoning applies in unincorporated areas: a Home Occupation Permit (HOP) is not required if the business has no non-resident employees, no client visits, no signage, and operations confined to 250 sq ft inside the dwelling. A HOP is required for more intensive home-based food operations (MCZO Arts. 501.2.10 & 601.2.8).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	state baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	state baseline applies
HANDWASHING	state baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	state baseline applies

#### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection for cottage food; county environmental services may be contacted for questions, but ADHS administers the program statewide.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Unincorporated Maricopa County requires a Home Occupation Permit under MCZO if the home business has customer visits, non-resident employees, or signage. Low-impact operations (no visitors, no signage, operations under 250 sq ft) are exempt. A Cottage Industry Special Use Permit may be required for higher-intensity operations. Cities within Maricopa County (Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, etc.) have their own zoning codes.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies by city

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	State law allows direct and indirect sales. County notes that local codes address where food can and cannot be sold; cottage food law does not affect county/municipal zoning codes. Home cannot be used as a commissary for mobile food units (A.R.S. §36-1761).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	state baseline applies; MCZO in unincorporated areas limits to no non-resident employees without a HOP

## Relevant county code

Maricopa County Zoning Ordinance Arts. 501.2.10, 601.2.8, 1301.1.18; DD-2017-07 (minimum HOP threshold directive)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Maricopa County explicitly defers to ADHS for cottage food registration. The county FAQ (May 2024) confirms that provisions in the new cottage food law (HB 2042, 2024) do not affect existing county/municipal building codes, zoning codes, or ordinances. Operators should check their specific city's zoning code. Home kitchens cannot exceed 1,000 sq ft under A.R.S. §36-931.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.maricopa.gov/2858/Planning-Development>

<https://www.maricopa.gov>

[https://www.maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/93212/Cottage-food-FAQ\\_5-1-24](https://www.maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/93212/Cottage-food-FAQ_5-1-24)

<https://www.maricopa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/32372/Home-Occupation---Minimum-Threshold---DD-2017-07-PDF>

## Pima County

Population 1,042,393 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Pima County follows ADHS for cottage food registration. In unincorporated areas, home occupations are allowed as accessory use with a Home Occupation Permit from Pima County Development Services. Cities within Pima County (Tucson, Marana, Oro Valley, Sahuarita) have their own cottage food and home occupation rules.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	state baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	state baseline applies
HANDWASHING	state baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	state baseline applies

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection under state cottage food law. Pima County Environmental Health may investigate complaints. ADHS administers the program statewide.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Unincorporated Pima County requires a Home Occupation Permit from Pima County Development Services for home-based businesses. Tucson (the dominant city) processes home occupation through PDSO as a zoning clearance plus Tucson business license — basic home occupations require no separate permit beyond the business license and self-certification to meet UDC 4.9.4 standards. Arizona TPT (Transaction Privilege Tax) license required for sales-based businesses.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies by city

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** State law allows direct and indirect sales. Local codes may address where food can and cannot be sold. ARS §36-931 provisions do not affect existing county/municipal zoning codes.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** state baseline applies

## Relevant county code

Pima County Development Services Home Occupation Permit; Tucson Unified Development Code §4.9.4

### RESEARCH NOTES

Pima County follows state baseline for cottage food, with ADHS administering registration. Pima County requires a Home Occupation Permit for home-based businesses in unincorporated areas. Tucson (the county's dominant city) has its own rules: no separate home occupation permit needed beyond business license for basic operations (self-certified compliance with UDC 4.9.4). Arizona's 2024 expansion (HB 2042) significantly broadened the cottage food program including perishable foods.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://webcms.pima.gov/health>

<https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=66095>

<https://www.pima.gov>

<https://www.pima.gov/1134/Home-Occupation-Application-Permit-Proce>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/pima-county-az>

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RANK 162 • FIPS 4021 • Florence

# Pinal County

Population 433,338 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **HIGH**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	conditional — Arizona cottage food law (A.R.S. §36-931/932) requires registration with AZ DHS (every 3 years). Food handler card required. Allows most non-TCS foods and some perishable foods (expanded by HB 2042, 2024). Non-dairy, non-meat products can be sold anywhere including online. Alcoholic beverages, unpasteurized milk, and cannabis products prohibited. Pinal County requires a Home Occupation permit for home-based businesses. Per Pinal County Zoning Ordinance §2.150.260, 'commercial food preparation' is specifically listed as NOT a permitted home occupation — cottage food producers should verify whether their specific operation is categorized as commercial food preparation or fits within allowed home occupation activities.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restriction in state cottage food law beyond standard food safety practices.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement beyond standard food safety.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS and some perishable foods allowed (post-HB 2042, 2024).

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine kitchen inspection required for Arizona cottage food operations.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	yes — Pinal County requires a Home Occupation permit (\$38 fee) from Community Development (85 N. Florence St., Florence, AZ 85132; 520-866-6442). Home occupation must be secondary to residential use; business use ≤25% of home square footage; max 1 non-resident employee; ≤5 clients/day; no public display of products. IMPORTANT: Pinal County Zoning Ordinance §2.150.260 lists 'commercial food preparation' as NOT a permitted home occupation. Cottage food producers should contact Pinal County zoning at zoning.sharedmailbox@pinal.gov to confirm whether their operation qualifies. If home is within an incorporated city (Florence city limits), city rules apply instead.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	no
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Arizona state preemption strong; cottage food may be sold online, in stores, via third-party delivery. However, Pinal County home occupation restrictions may limit on-site client visits to max 5/day and 2 at a time. State registration with AZ DHS required.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not more than one non-resident employee per Pinal County home occupation rules.

### Relevant county code

A.R.S. §36-931/§36-932 (state cottage food); Pinal County Zoning Ordinance §2.150.260 (home occupations).

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Pinal County Home Occupation permit process confirmed from official pinal.gov sources. Critical finding: Pinal County Zoning Ordinance §2.150.260 explicitly lists 'commercial food preparation' as NOT a permitted home occupation — cottage food operators should contact county zoning to determine if their operation is considered commercial food preparation or qualifies as a home occupation. Home occupation permit: \$38 fee, applied online via Citizen Access Portal or in person. If within incorporated Florence city limits, city rules apply. Arizona state cottage food registration required separately from AZ DHS.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.pinal.gov>

<https://explore.pinal.gov/889/Starting-a-Home-Occupation>

<https://www.pinal.gov/DocumentCenter/View/515/Home-Occupation-Application-PDF>

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

RANK 283 · FIPS 4025 · Prescott

# Yavapai County

Population 237,830 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — No routine inspection required. Registration with AZ DHS required; renewed every 3 years. Food handler certification (specific course) required. 2024 HB 2042 expanded to allow perishable foods. Approximately 10,000 registered businesses statewide. Some counties require locally issued food handler card — Yavapai County may have this requirement.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required (specific AZ DHS-approved course)
FOOD STORAGE	Broad: most non-TCS foods allowed; 2024 expansion allows perishable foods with restrictions. Non-dairy/non-meat products can be sold anywhere.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection required for most CFO products
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Yavapai County and City of Prescott may require home occupation permits under local zoning. Check with Yavapai County Community Development Department.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Non-dairy/non-meat products: sold anywhere including online, in stores, third-party delivery. Some extra restrictions for products on separate store shelves. No alcohol or unpasteurized milk. No cannabis products.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

## Relevant county code

A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932; Yavapai County zoning

### RESEARCH NOTES

Yavapai County AZ follows Arizona state baseline (A.R.S. §36-931/932). Arizona's 2024 HB 2042 made it one of the most permissive states (perishable foods now allowed). Registration with AZ DHS every 3 years. No Yavapai County-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence medium — state law confirmed but no specific Yavapai County .gov cottage food source retrieved.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.yavapaiaz.gov>

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

RANK 316 · FIPS 4015 · Kingman

## Mohave County

Population 214,229 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Arizona's cottage food program (A.R.S. §36-931/932, expanded by HB 2042 in 2024) allows almost any food including perishables and foods containing meat from approved sources. Must register online with AZ DHS (renewed every 3 years). Food handler certification required. Some counties may require a locally-issued food handler card. No sales cap. No routine kitchen inspection.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No explicit state-level pet restriction documented in Arizona cottage food statute. Standard food safety practices apply.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific water testing requirement documented for Arizona cottage food operations.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Food handler certification required (AZ DHS registration prerequisite). Handwashing and hygiene standards are part of food handler certification.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-alcoholic, non-prohibited foods in standard safe storage conditions. Perishable items now allowed under 2024 HB 2042 expansion.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine kitchen inspections under Arizona cottage food law. AZ DHS may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Mohave County (unincorporated areas) and municipalities (Kingman, Bullhead City, Lake Havasu City) may require home occupation permits for business operations from a residence. Contact Mohave County Planning & Zoning or relevant municipal planning office. Arizona state law does not preempt local home occupation zoning requirements for cottage food operations.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Arizona cottage food allows broad sales channels: direct from home, online, at events, through retailers, and via delivery. Non-dairy/non-meat products may be sold anywhere including online and in stores. The 2024 expansion added perishable food sales options.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Arizona cottage food statute. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

## Relevant county code

A.R.S. §36-931; §36-932; Mohave County zoning ordinances (contact Planning & Zoning)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona state baseline applies. Mohave County is a large rural/exurban county in northwestern Arizona (county seat: Kingman). No county-specific URLs provided. No Mohave County-specific cottage food overrides found. The 2024 HB 2042 significantly expanded Arizona's framework to allow perishable foods — one of the most permissive expansions nationally. The state baseline notes approximately 10,000 registered businesses as of 2024. Some counties may require a locally-issued food handler card.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

<https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=36>

RANK 332 · FIPS 4027 · Yuma

## Yuma County

Population 204,374 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Arizona's cottage food program (A.R.S. §36-931/932, expanded by HB 2042 in 2024) allows almost any food including perishables and foods containing meat from approved sources. Must register online with AZ DHS (renewed every 3 years). Food handler certification required. Yuma County may require a locally-issued food handler card. No sales cap. No routine kitchen inspection. Yuma County is an agricultural border county with Mexico.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state-level pet restriction in Arizona cottage food statute.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement for Arizona cottage food operations.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required (prerequisite for AZ DHS registration). Handwashing covered in certification.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-prohibited foods in safe storage. Perishable items allowed under 2024 HB 2042.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspections under Arizona cottage food law. AZ DHS may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Yuma County (unincorporated areas) and City of Yuma may require home occupation permits. Contact Yuma County Planning & Zoning ( <a href="http://yumacountyaz.gov">yumacountyaz.gov</a> ) or City of Yuma Planning for home occupation requirements. Arizona does not preempt local home occupation zoning requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
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ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Arizona cottage food allows broad sales channels: direct from home, online, at events, through retailers. The 2024 expansion added perishable food sales options.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Arizona cottage food statute. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

## Relevant county code

A.R.S. §36-931; §36-932; Yuma County zoning ordinances

### RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona state baseline applies. Yuma County (county seat: Yuma) is in southwestern Arizona on the California and Mexico borders; major agricultural region. No Yuma County-specific cottage food overrides found. Arizona's 2024 expansion (HB 2042) allows perishable foods and dramatically expanded the program.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.yumacountyaz.gov>

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

<https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=36>

<https://www.yumacountyaz.gov>

RANK 451 · FIPS 4005 · Flagstaff

## Coconino County

Population 144,705 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Must be registered with AZ DHS. Food handler certification (specific course) required. For non-perishable foods sold in retail stores, products must be displayed on a separate shelf. The 2024 HB 2042 expansion allows perishable foods under the cottage food program.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No statewide prohibition on pets, but kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions; some counties may require a locally issued food handler card with additional requirements.
WATER SUPPLY	Municipal or safe potable water supply required; private well users should verify with county health.
HANDWASHING	Required per food handler certification training standards; dedicated handwashing sink recommended.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-perishable foods must be stored in food-safe, sealed containers. Perishable foods (allowed since 2024) must be temperature-controlled per applicable food safety standards.

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection; AZ DHS may investigate upon complaint or foodborne illness report.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Coconino County zoning ordinance (Section 18) governs home occupations in unincorporated areas. The county generally requires a home occupation permit for businesses operated from residential zones. For incorporated areas (Flagstaff), city rules apply. Coconino County zoning code available at <a href="http://coconino.az.gov">coconino.az.gov</a> .
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	State law allows sales from home, farmers markets, events, online, and third-party delivery platforms. Local zoning may restrict customer traffic to the home.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level; local zoning home occupation rules typically limit to no non-resident employees or one non-resident employee.

## Relevant county code

Coconino County Zoning Ordinance Section 18 (General, Agricultural Residential, and Rural Residential Zones)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State baseline (AZ) is well-documented: ARS §36-931/§36-932 as expanded by HB 2042 (2024). Coconino County zoning code Section 18 found via Exa search (coconino.az.gov doc center), indicating home occupation rules exist for residential zones. No specific county-level cottage food ordinance found. County health and planning URLs were not provided in input and could not be verified. State law preempts many local restrictions but zoning/home occupation rules may still apply in unincorporated areas. Confidence medium because county-specific health/zoning URLs were not available to confirm full county-level rules.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

<https://coconino.az.gov/DocumentCenter/View/3015/Revised-Section-18-G-AR-RR---20131013>

RANK 502 · FIPS 4003 · Bisbee

## Cochise County

Population 125,504 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932; no sales cap; registration required with AZ DHS; food handler cert required; no inspection; indirect sales allowed · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	yes — Arizona state law allows cottage food production from a registered home kitchen. Cochise County follows state baseline. Registration with AZ Department of Health Services required; renews every 3 years.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	no
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific county overlay; state food safety standards apply. Food preparation areas should be clean and free from contamination.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required per AZ state food safety standards.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard state food safety handwashing requirements apply.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Shelf-stable non-TCS products stored per standard food safety practices. Perishable ingredients refrigerated appropriately.

### Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	no — AZ state law does not require routine inspections for registered cottage food operations. Complaint-driven investigation possible.
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**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT**      yes — Cochise County Planning & Zoning requires a Home Occupation approval for home-based businesses in residential zones (Cochise County Zoning Ordinance §2.48.190). Application to Cochise County Development Services Department; processing fee required. Standards include: business owner must reside on property; max 2 non-resident employees; up to 3 clients/customers at one time on-site; all activities within enclosed building; no excessive noise/odors. Food preparation must comply with applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE**      varies

**Customer-facing rules**

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP**      conditional

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE**      conditional

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES**      Customer pickup and delivery/pickup of supplies allowed 8 AM–7 PM per home occupation standards. No semi-tractor trailers for delivery/pickup. Arizona state law allows broad direct and indirect sales channels.

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME**      Maximum 2 non-resident employees on-site at a time per Cochise County Zoning §2.48.190.

**Relevant county code**

Cochise County Zoning Ordinance §2.48.190 (Home Occupations); A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State baseline applied (AZ tier Great). Arizona's broad cottage food law (HB 2042, 2024) allows perishable and non-perishable foods with no sales cap. Cochise County has a formal Home Occupations program under §2.48.190 with specific employee and customer limits. Zoning code obtained via Zoneomics mirror of Cochise County ordinance. County home occupation FAQ at cochise.az.gov confirmed. No dedicated county health URL found. Home occupation permit is separate from AZ DHS cottage food registration. Confidence medium: county zoning code confirmed via secondary source; AZ DHS state registration is primary regulatory requirement.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.cochise.az.gov/246/Home-Occupations>

<https://www.cochise.az.gov>

<https://www.cochise.az.gov/246/Home-Occupations>

<https://www.cochise.az.gov/Faq.aspx?TID=25>

[https://www.zoneomics.com/code/cochise-county-unincorporated-AZ/chapter\\_17](https://www.zoneomics.com/code/cochise-county-unincorporated-AZ/chapter_17)

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

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RANK 565 · FIPS 4017 · Holbrook

## Navajo County

Population 107,110 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Arizona's expanded cottage food law (HB 2042, 2024) allows almost any type of food including perishable foods. Non-dairy, non-meat products can be sold anywhere including online, in stores, and via third-party delivery. Must register with AZ DHS (renewed every 3 years). Food handler certification required. Prohibited: alcoholic beverages, unpasteurized milk, foods with alcohol, fish/shellfish, general meat/poultry (unless meeting federal exemption), marijuana products.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction in the statute. Standard sanitation practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement for cottage food registration. Some counties may require a local food handler card.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required.
FOOD STORAGE	Broad range allowed including perishable foods. Prohibited: alcoholic beverages, unpasteurized milk, alcohol-containing foods, fish/shellfish/ meat/poultry (unless federal exemption), marijuana.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine kitchen inspections required. AZ DHS registration-based program.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Navajo County may have home occupation zoning requirements. Navajo County has significant areas of Navajo Nation tribal land and large unincorporated areas. Tribal jurisdiction applies on Navajo Nation lands within county boundaries. For non-tribal lands, county zoning applies. No specific Navajo County cottage food ordinance identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales permitted anywhere including online, in stores, and via third-party delivery (for non-dairy, non-meat products). Some counties may require a locally issued food handler card.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

## Relevant county code

No specific Navajo County code section identified. State law governs: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932.

### RESEARCH NOTES

Navajo County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Navajo County is unique in that a significant portion is Navajo Nation tribal land where tribal jurisdiction applies and state cottage food law may not govern. For operations on tribal land, producers should consult Navajo Nation regulations. For non-tribal areas, Arizona's 2024 expanded law applies. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

RANK 804 · FIPS 4001 · Saint Johns

## Apache County

Population 66,054 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932; AZ Admin Code R9-8-101.02 ·

MEDIUM

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Cottage food must be prepared in the home kitchen of the registered producer. Registration with AZ DHS required, renewed every 3 years. Food handler training course required (ANSI-accredited).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no

PET RESTRICTIONS	Label must disclose that product was prepared in a home kitchen that may come in contact with common allergens and pet allergens
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing per food handler training
FOOD STORAGE	Must comply with safe handling, processing, and storage requirements per food handler training course and AZ DHS guidance

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection; AZ DHS may inspect upon complaint or violation concern
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — Apache County has a Community Development/Zoning department ( <a href="http://apachecountyaz.gov">apachecountyaz.gov</a> ). No specific county-level cottage food home occupation permit found for unincorporated areas. Contact Apache County Community Development for 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 allowed statewide; online sales, farmers markets, retail stores, and third-party delivery permitted. No state-imposed sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit under AZ cottage food law

## Relevant county code

Apache County Zoning Ordinance — contact Community Development for applicable section

### RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona has one of the most permissive cottage food laws post-2024 (HB 2042 expanded to perishables). AZ DHS registration required, renewed every 3 years; food handler cert required. Apache County is largely rural with Navajo Nation lands. County govt URL confirmed at [apachecountyaz.gov](http://apachecountyaz.gov). No Apache County-specific cottage food restrictions found. State preemption applies to local cottage food restrictions per AZ law.

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SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.apachecountyaz.gov>

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

<https://regulations.justia.com/states/arizona/title-9/chapter-8/article-1/r9-8-101-02/>

<https://www.apachecountyaz.gov/Business-Owners>

RANK 938 · FIPS 4007 · Globe

## Gila County

Population 53,419 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 (expanded by HB 2042, 2024) ·

MEDIUM

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Very broad: almost any food type including products containing meat (from federal-exempt sources) and perishable foods. Registration required with AZ DHS (online, renewed every 3 years). Food handler certification required. Non-dairy/non-meat products can be sold anywhere including online and third-party delivery. Some counties may require locally issued food handler card.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific AZ state or Gila County restriction identified.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement; primary residence.
HANDWASHING	Covered under required food handler certification.
FOOD STORAGE	Broad food types allowed since 2024 HB 2042 expansion including perishable foods. Prohibited: alcoholic beverages, unpasteurized milk, cannabis products. Fish/shellfish and general meat require federal exemption compliance.

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — AZ DHS may investigate on complaint; no routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — AZ DHS registration required (every 3 years). Gila County is a rural county in central Arizona including Globe and Miami. No specific Gila County cottage food ordinance identified beyond state requirement. Some AZ counties require a locally issued food handler card. Contact Gila County government in Globe.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales permitted. Online and third-party delivery allowed for non-dairy/non-meat products. Very broad sales channels under 2024 expansion.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in AZ statute.

## Relevant county code

A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932; no Gila County-specific ordinance identified

### RESEARCH NOTES

Gila County is a rural mountainous county in central Arizona, home to the Tonto National Forest and Fort Apache Indian Reservation. AZ's 2024 HB 2042 dramatically expanded allowed foods including perishable items. No county-specific rules found. State DHS URL may redirect (301). Approximately 10,000 registered businesses statewide as of 2024.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/index.php#cottage-food>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 4009 · Safford

## Graham County

Population 0 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Must operate from a residential kitchen. State registration with AZ DHS required. Food handler training (ADHS-approved course) required. Products containing meat must meet federal exemption requirements. Some county health departments may require a locally-issued food handler card in addition to state registration.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified at county level; state-level good manufacturing practices apply

WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; residential water supply acceptable
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitary practices; state food safety guidance applies
FOOD STORAGE	Safe food storage practices required; no separate storage room mandated

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection; complaint-based investigation possible through AZ DHS or county health
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — check county zoning — No county-specific home occupation ordinance confirmed restricting cottage food. State law (A.R.S. §36-932) authorizes home kitchen sales. Producers should verify with county planning/zoning if their jurisdiction has home occupation rules applicable to food sales from home.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	conditional — check with county

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales, online sales, and retail/wholesale indirect sales all permitted; no sales cap under Arizona law
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at county level

## Relevant county code

N/A — no county-specific cottage food code found; state law governs

### RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona state cottage food law (A.R.S. §36-931/§36-932, expanded by HB 2042 in 2024) governs. Graham County Health Department enforces food establishment permits; no county-specific cottage food ordinance found. State registration via AZ DHS required; food handler training required (ADHS-approved course). Graham County may require a locally-issued food handler card per state baseline note. No county-specific home occupation ordinance found restricting cottage food operations.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.graham.az.gov/154/Health-Department>

<https://www.graham.az.gov/119/Planning-Zoning>

<https://www.graham.az.gov/>

<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/cottage-food-program/index.php>

<https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=36>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 4011 · Clifton

## Greenlee County

Population 0 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

### Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Must operate from a residential kitchen. State registration with AZ DHS required. Food handler training (ADHS-approved course) required. Products containing meat must meet federal exemption requirements. Some county health departments may require a locally-issued food handler card in addition to state registration.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified at county level; state-level good manufacturing practices apply
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; residential water supply acceptable
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitary practices; state food safety guidance applies
FOOD STORAGE	Safe food storage practices required; no separate storage room mandated

### Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection; complaint-based investigation possible through AZ DHS or county health
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — check county zoning — No county-specific home occupation ordinance confirmed restricting cottage food. State law (A.R.S. §36-932) authorizes home kitchen sales. Producers should verify with county planning/zoning if their jurisdiction has home occupation rules applicable to food sales from home.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	conditional — check with county

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales, online sales, and retail/wholesale indirect sales all permitted; no sales cap under Arizona law
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at county level

## Relevant county code

N/A — no county-specific cottage food code found; state law governs

### RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona state cottage food law (A.R.S. §36-931/§36-932, expanded by HB 2042 in 2024) governs. Greenlee County is Arizona's smallest county by population (~9,600). No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. State registration via AZ DHS required; food handler training required (ADHS-approved course). County may require locally-issued food handler card per state baseline note. No county-specific home occupation ordinance found restricting cottage food operations.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.greenlee.az.gov/departments/health>

<https://www.greenlee.az.gov/departments/planning>

<https://www.greenlee.az.gov/>

<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/cottage-food-program/index.php>

<https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=36>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 4012 · Parker

## La Paz County

Population 0 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Must operate from a residential kitchen. State registration with AZ DHS required. Food handler training (ADHS-approved course) required. Products containing meat must meet federal exemption requirements. Some county health departments may require a locally-issued food handler card in addition to state registration.
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SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified at county level; state-level good manufacturing practices apply
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; residential water supply acceptable
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitary practices; state food safety guidance applies
FOOD STORAGE	Safe food storage practices required; no separate storage room mandated

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	no — No routine inspection; complaint-based investigation possible through AZ DHS or county health
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — check county zoning — No county-specific home occupation ordinance confirmed restricting cottage food. State law (A.R.S. §36-932) authorizes home kitchen sales. Producers should verify with county planning/zoning if their jurisdiction has home occupation rules applicable to food sales from home.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	conditional — check with county

## Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales, online sales, and retail/wholesale indirect sales all permitted; no sales cap under Arizona law
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at county level

## Relevant county code

N/A — no county-specific cottage food code found; state law governs

RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona state cottage food law (A.R.S. §36-931/§36-932, expanded by HB 2042 in 2024) governs. La Paz County Health Department / Environmental Health administers food permits. La Paz County website shows Food Establishment Plan Review Application required for food establishments; cottage food operations registered at state level through AZ DHS are distinct from food establishments and exempt from county plan review. Food handler training required (ADHS-approved course). County may require locally-issued food handler card per state baseline note. La Paz County confirmed to have food establishment permit infrastructure. Official county food permits page confirmed at https://www.co.la-paz.az.us/670/Food-Permits.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://www.co.la-paz.az.us/644/Health-Department

https://www.co.la-paz.az.us/195/Planning-Zoning

https://www.co.la-paz.az.us/

https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/cottage-food-program/index.php

https://www.azleg.gov/arsDetail/?title=36

RANK 9999 · FIPS 4023 · Nogales

# Santa Cruz County

Population 0 · State baseline: A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932; AZ tier: Great; azdhs.gov cottage food program · **MEDIUM**

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED true

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN false

PET RESTRICTIONS no specific county rule; state guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

WATER SUPPLY potable water required; private well operators should test water quality

HANDWASHING required per AZ DHS cottage food program guidelines

FOOD STORAGE standard food safety storage per AZ DHS cottage food program

## Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED false — complaint-based only per state law

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT** true — Santa Cruz County requires a Home Occupation Permit (Conditional Use Permit) for home-based businesses operating in unincorporated areas. City of Nogales additionally requires a business license (\$35 initial + \$35 annual) for businesses operating within city limits. Contact Santa Cruz County Planning Department for zoning compliance.

**LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE** true

## Customer-facing rules

**ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP** true

**ON-SITE SIGNAGE** limited; home occupation rules typically restrict commercial signage

**DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** direct-to-consumer sales allowed; delivery and pickup permitted per AZ state law

**MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** not specified at county level; typical home occupation rules restrict non-resident employees

## Relevant county code

Santa Cruz County Zoning Ordinance - Home Occupation provisions; A.R.S. §36-931 / §36-932 (state cottage food)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Arizona state cottage food law (A.R.S. §36-931/§36-932) is permissive and preempts local restrictions on cottage food operations. Santa Cruz County requires a Home Occupation Permit (confirmed via business license registry showing 'Home Occupation Permit' and 'Conditional Use Permit' as county-level license types). City of Nogales (county seat) requires a separate city business license at \$35. No county-specific cottage food restrictions found beyond state baseline. AZ DHS registration required at state level. Some AZ counties require a locally-issued food handler card; Santa Cruz County practice unconfirmed.

### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.santacruzcountyaz.gov/187/Environmental-Health>

<https://www.santacruzcountyaz.gov/157/Planning-Zoning>

<https://www.santacruzcountyaz.gov>

<https://www.azdhs.gov/preparedness/epidemiology-disease-control/food-safety-environmental-services/cottage-food-program/index.php>

<https://www.nogalesaz.gov/188/Business-License-Information>

Generated 2026-05-06 from data/research/state\_cottage\_food\_statutes.csv and data/research/county\_cottage\_food\_zoning.csv. This report is for research purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Cottage food law is in active flux — re-verify all citations and rules against state and county .gov sources before relying on them for regulatory decisions.