COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Cherokee County

Alabama · Centre · FIPS 01019 · Population 26,138 · Crosodo Index #1816*

STATE BASELINE
Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (AL cottage food law)

STATE TIER
Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)
—

CONFIDENCE
MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED
2026-10-06

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

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

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

How to start — 60-second path

Cherokee County, Alabama — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?	STATE SALES CAP
Yes	—
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?	ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?
Varies	Yes
INSPECTION	PETS
No	Not specified in state statute.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- [ ] **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Alabama cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- [ ] **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- [ ] **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- [ ] **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- [ ] **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- [ ] **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- [ ] Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- [ ] Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- [ ] Alabama home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Open the live county page →

Alabama label one-pager →

Print labels for your first market →

Local notes & questions →

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

ALABAMA: CHEROKEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1816* · FIPS 01019 · Centre

Cherokee County

Population 26,138 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (AL cottage food law) · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?
Yes (Must produce non-potentially hazardous foods only (no meat/poultry/fish). Sales direct to consumer only within Alabama. Must complete ADPH-approved food safety course. Must submit cottage food review form to Cherokee County Health Department.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?
No

PETS ALLOWED?
Not specified in state statute.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?
Varies (No state requirement. Cherokee County is rural/mountainous in northeast Alabama. No county-level home occupation ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?
Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?
No (Cottage food operations not subject to routine inspection per §22-20-5.1(b).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must produce non-potentially hazardous foods only (no meat/poultry/fish). Sales direct to consumer only within Alabama. Must complete ADPH-approved food safety course. Must submit cottage food review form to Cherokee County Health Department.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Not specified in state statute.
HANDWASHING	Not specified in state statute; covered by food safety course.
FOOD STORAGE	Not specifically regulated.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Cottage food operations not subject to routine inspection per §22-20-5.1(b).
LOCAL HEALTH / COUNTY REGISTRATION	Yes
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No state requirement. Cherokee County is rural/mountainous in northeast Alabama. No county-level home occupation ordinance found.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer only within Alabama.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not regulated at state level for cottage food.

Relevant county code

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

RESEARCH NOTES

Cherokee County is a rural county in northeast Alabama. State law governs cottage food. No county-level overrides found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/cherokee/
https://www.cherokeecounty.gov
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html
https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/cherokee/

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/alabama/cherokee-county-discuss

Cherokee County and nearby places

Regulation	Cherokee County	Cleburne County	DeKalb County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	**Yes**	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	**No**	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	**Not specified in state statute.**	Not specified in state statute.	Not specified in state law
INSPECTION REQUIRED	**No**	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	**Yes**	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	**Yes**	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	**Direct to consumer only within Alabama.**	Direct to consumer only within Alabama.	In-state delivery and shipping permitted; online sales allowed
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	**Varies**	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	**Varies**	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	**Must produce non-potentially hazardous foods only (no meat/poultry/fish). Sales direct to consumer only within Alabama. Must complete ADPH-...**	Must produce non-potentially hazardous foods only (no meat/poultry/fish). Sales direct to consumer only within Alabama. Must complete ADPH-...	No sales cap. Specific food handler course required. No kitchen inspection required. Direct sales only; no wholesale. Prohibited: meat, pou...
FOOD STORAGE	**Not specifically regulated.**	Not specifically regulated.	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products
POPULATION	**25,069**	15,144	71,680

State context — Alabama cottage food law

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

STATUTE
Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
No

KITCHEN INSPECTION
No

INDIRECT SALES
No — Indirect sales to grocery stores, restaurants, or wholesale are not permitted; producers may use an agent for delivery but cannot sell through retailers.

ANNUAL SALES CAP
—

FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes (specific course)

DIRECT SALES ONLY
Yes

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Alabama cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/alabama.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/code-of-alabama

State dept cottage food page: https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html

Forrager.com: https://forrager.com/law/alabama/

Questions about Cherokee County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/alabama/cherokee-county-discuss

RESEARCH NOTES

Baker's Notes

Research notes, not a state ruling. Baker talk is what people discuss. Official pages are cited separately. Confirm before you sell.

Sell to stores (next level)

Cottage / home-kitchen exemptions are usually direct-to-consumer and not for resale into stores. Selling into retail stores typically requires a state manufactured-food (or equivalent) permit and an inspected production kitchen, plus local zoning and business licensing.

This county: We have not collected local store-shelf notes for this place yet.

Confirm with the state food agency and local planning / commissioner offices before you sell into stores. Not legal advice.

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies
Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses
Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance
Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here
Reach home bakers in Cherokee County, Alabama. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.
crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here
Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.
crosodo.com/nb/alabama/cherokee-county-discuss

Free ad space available
Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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