

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Coffee County

Alabama · Elba · FIPS 01031 · Population 53,559 · Crosodo Index #2281*

STATE BASELINE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (amended 2021, Act 2021-461)

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

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.

How to start — 60-second path

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

**No explicit state or county rule;
standard sanitation practices apply.**

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 →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

ALABAMA: COFFEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2281* · FIPS 01031 · Elba

Coffee County

Population 53,559 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 (amended 2021, Act 2021-461) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must complete state-approved food safety course before selling. Must get approval from Coffee County Health Department. Products limited to non-potentially hazardous foods. Direct sales only (no wholesale). Online sales and in-state shipping permitted since 2021. No sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state or county rule; standard sanitation practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Coffee County Health Department approval required before selling. No specific Coffee County zoning ordinance for cottage food identified. Contact Coffee County Health Department in Elba.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (ADPH or Coffee County Health Department may investigate on complaint or foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Must complete state-approved food safety course before selling. Must get approval from Coffee County Health Department. Products limited to non-potentially hazardous foods. Direct sales only (no wholesale). Online sales and in-state shipping permitted since 2021. No sales cap.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No explicit state or county rule; standard sanitation practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement; primary residence kitchen.

HANDWASHING

Covered under food safety training requirement.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. Acidified foods require pH testing; freeze-dried foods require water activity testing.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — ADPH or Coffee County Health Department may investigate on complaint or foodborne illness.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Coffee County Health Department approval required before selling. No specific Coffee County zoning ordinance for cottage food identified. Contact Coffee County Health Department in Elba.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP

Conditional

ON-SITE SIGNAGE

Conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES

Direct to consumer. Online and in-state shipping allowed since 2021.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME

Not specified in AL statute.

Relevant county code

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1; Coffee County Health Department application process

RESEARCH NOTES

Coffee County is a rural south Alabama county with Enterprise as a notable city. No county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline applies. Food safety course required (ACES or Learn2Serve), then county health department approval. No sales cap since 2021 amendment.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.coffeecounty.gov>

<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/foodsafety/cottage-food-law.html>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Coffee County	Dale County	Covington County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state or county rule; standard sanitation practices apply.	Not explicitly restricted by state law; standard sanitation applies.	Not specified in state statute.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer. Online and in-state shipping allowed since 2021.	Sales allowed directly to consumers: in-person, phone, online, or by mail within Alabama. No consignment; no sale in licensed food establis...	Direct to consumer only within Alabama.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Conditional	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must complete state-approved food safety course before selling. Must get approval from Coffee County Health Department. Products limited to...	Must use primary residence kitchen with residential appliances. Must complete state-approved food safety course. Products sold only directl...	Must produce non-potentially hazardous foods only (no meat/poultry/fish). Sales direct to consumer only within Alabama. Must complete ADPH-...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. Acidified foods require pH testing; freeze-dried foods require water activity testing.	Products must remain non-potentially hazardous.	Not specifically regulated.
POPULATION	53,559	49,455	37,542

State context — Alabama cottage food law

Coffee 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

ANNUAL SALES CAP

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REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

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.

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 Coffee 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/coffee-county-discuss

Classifieds

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

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Coffee 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/coffee-county-discuss

Free ad space available

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