

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Montgomery County

Alabama · Montgomery · FIPS 01101 · Population 228,132 ·
Crosodo Index #1824*

STATE BASELINE

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1

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

Montgomery 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?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean for health dept approval

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: MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1824* · FIPS 01101 · Montgomery

Montgomery County

Population 228,132 · State baseline: Ala. Code §22-20-5.1 · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Must complete state-approved food safety course before operating. Must obtain Montgomery County Health Department approval. Application requires proof of training, sample label, product list. No sales cap (removed 2021 amendment). Online and in-state shipping allowed. Direct sales only. Note: county seat field in input was blank — county seat is Montgomery.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean for health dept approval

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Montgomery County and City of Montgomery may require home occupation permits under local zoning. Montgomery County health dept approval required as part of cottage food registration.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Initial Montgomery County Health Department approval required)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must complete state-approved food safety course before operating. Must obtain Montgomery County Health Department approval. Application requires proof of training, sample label, product list. No sales cap (removed 2021 amendment). Online and in-state shipping allowed. Direct sales only. Note: county seat field in input was blank — county seat is Montgomery.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean for health dept approval
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply; private well testing per county health dept
HANDWASHING	State-approved food safety course required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable; acidified foods require pH testing; freeze-dried require water-activity testing

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Initial Montgomery County Health Department approval required
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Montgomery County and City of Montgomery may require home occupation permits under local zoning. Montgomery County health dept approval required as part of cottage food registration.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only; online and in-state shipping allowed. No wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

Ala. Code §22-20-5.1; Montgomery County Health Department registration

RESEARCH NOTES

Montgomery County AL follows Alabama state baseline. Alabama state capital county. No sales cap since 2021. No specific Montgomery County Health Department cottage food page found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.mc-ala.org>

<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/montgomery-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Montgomery County	Elmore County	Autauga County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean for health dept approval	No specific state-level pet exclusion requirement in Alabama cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only; online and in-state shipping allowed. No wholesale.	Direct sales within Alabama only; in-person, by phone, or online with in-state delivery.	Direct sales only. Home pickup, farmers markets, events, online sales, and in-state shipping permitted. No wholesale.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must complete state-approved food safety course before operating. Must obtain Montgomery County Health Department approval. Application req...	Same as all Alabama counties: production from home kitchen, non-PHF foods only, approved food safety course required, cottage food review f...	Alabama cottage food law (Ala. Code §22-20-5.1, amended 2021) requires completion of a state-approved food safety course and approval from ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable; acidified foods require pH testing; freeze-dried require water-activity testing	No specific statutory requirements.	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only.
POPULATION	228,132	87,694	58,761

State context — Alabama cottage food law

Montgomery 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

—

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 Montgomery 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/montgomery-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 Montgomery 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/montgomery-county-discuss

Free ad space available

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