

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Craighead County

Arkansas · Jonesboro · FIPS 05031 · Population 111,038 ·
Crosodo Index #47*

STATE BASELINE

A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Food Freedom Act, Act 1040 of 2021); no sales cap; no registration; no inspection; direct and indirect sales; state law expressly preempts local restrictions

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Freedom	—	MEDIUM	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

Craighead County, Arkansas — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Arkansas 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
- ☐ Arkansas home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Arkansas label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

ARKANSAS: CRAIGHEAD COUNTY

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Craighead County

Population 111,038 · State baseline: A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Food Freedom Act, Act 1040 of 2021); no sales cap; no registration; no inspection; direct and indirect sales; state law expressly preempts local restrictions · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary residence kitchen. Note: county_seat in input is blank but is Jonesboro.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts all local government restrictions including permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act prohibits all local restrictions including inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary residence kitchen. Note: county_seat in input is blank but is Jonesboro.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required; no specific county overlay.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no formal requirement under Freedom Act.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act prohibits all local restrictions including inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts all local government restrictions including permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales including online, retail/wholesale, and interstate sales. No channel restrictions.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit under Arkansas Food Freedom Act.

Relevant county code

A.C.A. §20-57-201 et seq. (preempts local rules)

RESEARCH NOTES

Arkansas Food Freedom Act (Act 1040, 2021) preempts all local restrictions. State tier is 'Freedom.' Craighead County includes Jonesboro (pop ~80K), home of Arkansas State University. No county-specific URLs provided. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.craighead.arkansas.gov>

<https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/cottage-food>

<https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Acts/Document?type=pdf&act=1040&ddBienniumSession=2021%2F2021R>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Craighead County	Greene County	Jackson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific restrictions beyond standard sanitation under Freedom Act.	Not specified in state statute; good manufacturing practices apply	Not specified in state statute; good manufacturing practices apply
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales including online, retail/wholesale, and interstate sales. No channel restrictions.	Direct sales permitted; indirect sales through retail/wholesale allowed; interstate sales permitted	Direct sales permitted; indirect sales through retail/wholesale allowed; interstate sales permitted
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	No — state law preempts local restrictions	No — state law preempts local restrictions
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	No — preempted by state law	No — preempted by state law
RESTRICTIONS	Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary resi...	Must operate from a primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use is prohibited under the Food Freedom Act. State law expressly preempt...	Must operate from a primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use is prohibited under the Food Freedom Act. State law expressly preempt...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records.	Safe food storage practices required; no separate storage room mandated	Safe food storage practices required; no separate storage room mandated
POPULATION	111,038	45,954	16,784

State context — Arkansas cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021)	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Yes — Retail and wholesale sales are allowed so long as the product is sold to an informed end consumer who can see the product label; sales to businesses for ingredient use or gift resale are not permitted.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Arkansas cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/arkansas.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Acts/Document?type=pdf&act=1040&ddBienniumSession=2021%2F2021R>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/cottage-food>

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

Questions about Craighead 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/arkansas/craighead-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 Craighead County, Arkansas. 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/arkansas/craighead-county-discuss

Free ad space available

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