

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Pope County

Arkansas · Russellville · FIPS 05115 · Population 63,475 ·
Crosodo Index #53*

STATE BASELINE

A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021, Food Freedom Act)

STATE TIER

Freedom

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

Pope 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 state prohibition

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: POPE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #53* · FIPS 05115 · Russellville

Pope County

Population 63,475 · State baseline: A.C.A. §20-57-201 (Act 1040 of 2021, Food Freedom Act) ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Arkansas Food Freedom Act: must operate from a primary residence kitchen (commercial kitchen use prohibited). State expressly preempts both state and local government restrictions on home food producers. No license, registration, or inspection required. Interstate sales allowed.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts local government restrictions on home food producers. No local permit required for cottage food.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; no registration or permit required)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Arkansas Food Freedom Act: must operate from a primary residence kitchen (commercial kitchen use prohibited). State expressly preempts both state and local government restrictions on home food producers. No license, registration, or inspection required. Interstate sales allowed.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state prohibition

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required

HANDWASHING

No specific state requirement; good practice recommended

FOOD STORAGE

Nonperishable non-PHF foods primarily; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspection; no registration or permit required

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201) expressly preempts local government restrictions on home food producers. No local permit required for cottage food.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Almost no restrictions: any channel including internet, mail, retail, wholesale. Interstate sales allowed (unusual nationally). Commercial kitchen use is prohibited — must use primary residence.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit

Relevant county code

State preempts local restrictions — no county code applies to cottage food

RESEARCH NOTES

Arkansas Food Freedom Act (Act 1040, 2021) is one of the most permissive: no cap, no registration, no inspection, interstate sales allowed, state preempts local restrictions. Pope County includes Russellville (home to Arkansas Tech University). No county-specific restrictions possible due to state preemption. No county URLs in input.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.popecounty.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/pope-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Pope County	Conway County	Johnson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state prohibition	No specific restriction under state law; standard food safety sanitation 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	Almost no restrictions: any channel including internet, mail, retail, wholesale. Interstate sales allowed (unusual nationally). Commercial ...	May be sold in person, by telephone, or online. Delivery by producer, producer's agent, or commercial carrier. Sales allowed at farmers mar...	Direct sales permitted; indirect sales through retail/wholesale allowed; interstate sales permitted
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	Conditional	No — state law preempts local restrictions
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	Varies	No — preempted by state law
RESTRICTIONS	Arkansas Food Freedom Act: must operate from a primary residence kitchen (commercial kitchen use prohibited). State expressly preempts both...	Must be produced at producer's private residence. Foods must be non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety). Labeling required: produ...	Must operate from a primary residence kitchen; commercial kitchen use is prohibited under the Food Freedom Act. State law expressly preempt...
FOOD STORAGE	Nonperishable non-PHF foods primarily; acidified foods require pH testing (pH ≤4.6) and batch records	Non-TCS foods only — must not require refrigeration to prevent pathogen growth. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas, sauces) require pH testin...	Safe food storage practices required; no separate storage room mandated
POPULATION	63,475	20,782	25,925

State context — Arkansas cottage food law

Pope 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 Pope 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/pope-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 Pope 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/pope-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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