

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

White County

Arkansas · Searcy · FIPS 05145 · Population 77,118 · Crosodo Index #49*

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

White 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

Not specified. Producers responsible for sanitary production practices.

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: WHITE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #49* · FIPS 05145 · Searcy

White County

Population 77,118 · 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 (Producers must operate from a primary residence kitchen. Commercial kitchen use is prohibited. The law expressly preempts both state and local government restriction on home food producers. Interstate sales allowed (unusual nationally).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified. Producers responsible for sanitary production practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts both state and local government from restricting home food producers. No home occupation permit required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. State law preempts local inspection requirements.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Producers must operate from a primary residence kitchen. Commercial kitchen use is prohibited. The law expressly preempts both state and local government restriction on home food producers. Interstate sales allowed (unusual nationally).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified. Producers responsible for sanitary production practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Not specified in state statute.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required.
FOOD STORAGE	Acidified foods such as pickles require pH testing (final pH at or below 4.6) and batch-number labeling with production records.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. State law preempts local inspection requirements.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No — Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts both state and local government from restricting home food producers. No home occupation permit required.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Almost unlimited: direct, indirect, retail, wholesale, online, in-state and interstate sales all permitted. State law preempts local restrictions.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No restriction specified.

Relevant county code

A.C.A. §20-57-201 preempts local ordinances. No White County-specific code section applicable.

RESEARCH NOTES

Arkansas Food Freedom Act (A.C.A. §20-57-201, Act 1040 of 2021) is one of the most permissive in the nation. State law explicitly preempts local government from restricting home food producers, meaning no White County home occupation permit can be required. Interstate sales allowed — unusual nationally. No White County-specific overrides possible. Confidence: medium (state law confirmed via baseline, ADH website returned 404 at verification).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.whitecounty.gov>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	White County	Lonoke County	Faulkner County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified. Producers responsible for sanitary production practices.	Not specified. Producers responsible for sanitary production practices.	No specific state or county restrictions beyond standard sanitation.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Almost unlimited: direct, indirect, retail, wholesale, online, in-state and interstate sales all permitted. State law preempts local restri...	Almost unlimited: direct, indirect, retail, wholesale, online, in-state and interstate sales all permitted.	Arkansas allows direct and indirect sales including online, retail/wholesale channels, and interstate sales. No channel restrictions under ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	No	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	No	No	No
RESTRICTIONS	Producers must operate from a primary residence kitchen. Commercial kitchen use is prohibited. The law expressly preempts both state and lo...	Producers must operate from a primary residence kitchen. Commercial kitchen use prohibited. State law expressly preempts both state and loc...	Arkansas Food Freedom Act expressly preempts state AND local government restrictions on home food producers. Must operate from primary resi...
FOOD STORAGE	Acidified foods such as pickles require pH testing (final pH at or below 4.6) and batch-number labeling with production records.	Acidified foods (e.g., pickles) require pH testing (final pH ≤ 4.6) and batch-number labeling with production records.	Shelf-stable products stored per common food safety practices. Acidified foods (pickles) require pH testing (final pH ≤ 4.6) and batch-numbe...
POPULATION	77,118	74,292	124,611

State context — Arkansas cottage food law

White 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 White 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/white-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 White 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/white-county-discuss

Free ad space available

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