

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Tuolumne County

California · Sonora · FIPS 06109 · Population 54,993 ·
Crosodo Index #1678*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (Class A cap \$75,000; Class B cap \$150,000 as of 2025)

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Good	Tiered (see notes)	HIGH	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

Tuolumne County, California — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Conditional

PETS

No specific county rule; standard sanitation applies.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[California label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

CALIFORNIA: TUOLUMNE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1678* · FIPS 06109 · Sonora

Tuolumne County

Population 54,993 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (Class A cap \$75,000; Class B cap \$150,000 as of 2025) · **HIGH**

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

Yes (Class A (direct sales only, up to \$75,000/yr): registration with Tuolumne County Environmental Health Division, self-certification checklist. Class B (direct + indirect sales, up to \$150,000/yr): permit required from county EH, routine inspections. Only approved CDPH cottage food list items allowed. If selling within City of Sonora, contact city at (209) 532-3508. Must comply with CA Health & Safety Code Ch. 11.5.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific county rule; standard sanitation applies.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Tuolumne County Ordinance 200 (Title 17, §17.52.240) requires registration or permit from Environmental Health Division before operation. County zoning explicitly states cottage food operations are NOT considered home occupations. Class A: registration + self-certification. Class B: food facility permit required. If within City of Sonora, separate city business license required. Contact Tuolumne County Environmental Health: 48 Yaney Avenue, Sonora CA 95370, (209) 533-5633. Do not start operations until receiving approval.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Conditional (Class A: no routine inspection (complaint-based). Class B: routine inspections by Tuolumne County Environmental Health Division. Consumer complaint may trigger inspection for either class.)

Home kitchen rules**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED**

Yes — Class A (direct sales only, up to \$75,000/yr): registration with Tuolumne County Environmental Health Division, self-certification checklist. Class B (direct + indirect sales, up to \$150,000/yr): permit required from county EH, routine inspections. Only approved CDPH cottage food list items allowed. If selling within City of Sonora, contact city at (209) 532-3508. Must comply with CA Health & Safety Code Ch. 11.5.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific county rule; standard sanitation applies.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement beyond general cottage food sanitation standards.

HANDWASHING

Covered under certification requirements; food safety training required every 3 years (ANSI-accredited).

FOOD STORAGE

Only non-potentially hazardous foods from CDPH approved list. No refrigeration required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional — Class A: no routine inspection (complaint-based). Class B: routine inspections by Tuolumne County Environmental Health Division. Consumer complaint may trigger inspection for either class.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Tuolumne County Ordinance 200 (Title 17, §17.52.240) requires registration or permit from Environmental Health Division before operation. County zoning explicitly states cottage food operations are NOT considered home occupations. Class A: registration + self-certification. Class B: food facility permit required. If within City of Sonora, separate city business license required. Contact Tuolumne County Environmental Health: 48 Yaney Avenue, Sonora CA 95370, (209) 533-5633. Do not start operations until receiving approval.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct sales only (home, farmers markets, events, online within CA). Class B: direct and indirect (retail stores) within CA. No interstate sales. All sales must remain within California.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted under CA cottage food law.

Relevant county code

Tuolumne County Ordinance Code Title 17, §17.04.222 (definitions), §17.52.240 (cottage food operations); Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

RESEARCH NOTES

Tuolumne County has a specific cottage food ordinance (Title 17 §17.52.240, Ordinance 200) that explicitly defines cottage food operations and requires Environmental Health Division registration/permit before starting. The county's registration form (2020) confirms Class A/Class B framework with county-specific processing: complete registration form first, then county reviews and sends Food Facility Permit Application with payment instructions. Notably, the county ordinance states cottage food operations are NOT considered home occupations. CDPH caps updated: Class A \$75,000, Class B \$150,000 as of 2025. City of Sonora has separate requirements. This county has one of the better-documented local frameworks found in this batch.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/172/Environmental-Health>

<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov>

<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov>

<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4740/Cottage-Foods-Registration-Form>

https://tuolumneco.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?clip_id=57&meta_id=5848&view_id=5

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/FDBPrograms/FoodSafetyProgram/CFORRequirements.aspx>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Tuolumne County	Madera County	Stanislaus County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Conditional	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific county rule; standard sanitation applies.	No specific state restriction on pets, but pets must not be in food preparation areas per GMP.	No specific state cottage food pet restriction beyond general sanitation
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	No	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct sales only (home, farmers markets, events, online within CA). Class B: direct and indirect (retail stores) within CA. No in...	Class A: direct sales only, online and shipping within California. Class B: direct sales plus retail stores and restaurants. Both classes: ...	Class A: direct sales only — at residence, certified farmers markets, bake sales, community events. Class B: adds indirect sales to local s...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Conditional	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Yes	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Class A (direct sales only, up to \$75,000/yr): registration with Tuolumne County Environmental Health Division, self-certification checklis...	California two-class system: Class A (direct sales only, ~\$86,206 cap, 2025 CPI-adjusted) requires county registration and food safety trai...	Class A: direct sales only, ~\$86,206 annual cap, registration with Stanislaus County Environmental Resources, no inspection. Class B: direc...
FOOD STORAGE	Only non-potentially hazardous foods from CDPH approved list. No refrigeration required.	Only state-approved non-PHF foods. Products must be in compliant packaging.	Approved non-potentially hazardous food storage in home kitchen only
POPULATION	54,993	157,243	552,063

State context — California cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Class B permit holders may sell indirectly through retail stores and restaurants statewide; Class A registrants are limited to direct sales only and may not sell through any retail or wholesale venue.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **California cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/california.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

State dept cottage food page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

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

Questions about Tuolumne 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/california/tuolumne-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 Tuolumne County, California. 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/california/tuolumne-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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