

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Boulder County

Colorado · Boulder · FIPS 08013 · Population 328,658 ·  
Crosodo Index #1682\*

## STATE BASELINE

**C.R.S. §25-4-1614; food safety course required; \$10,000 per-product annual cap; direct sales only; no license or inspection required**

| STATE TIER | ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE) | CONFIDENCE | LAST VERIFIED |
|------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------|
| Great      | 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

Boulder County, Colorado — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

**Yes**

STATE SALES CAP

**Tiered (see notes)**

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

**Varies**

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

**Yes**

INSPECTION

**Upon-complaint**

PETS

**No specific state restriction; kitchen sanitation required**

### BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

### CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Colorado label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

## COLORADO: BOULDER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1682\* · FIPS 08013 · Boulder

## Boulder County

Population 328,658 · State baseline: C.R.S. §25-4-1614; food safety course required; \$10,000 per-product annual cap; direct sales only; no license or inspection required · **HIGH**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-TCS non-refrigerated foods only; food safety course required; \$10,000 per-product annual cap; direct to consumer only; labeling required; HOA and local zoning must confirm home-based business allowed)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; kitchen sanitation required

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Boulder County Cottage Foods Checklist (assets.bouldercounty.gov) explicitly states: producer should confirm home-based business authorized by HOA and local zoning. Boulder County Planning Dept and City of Boulder may have home occupation permit requirements; additional business license or tax registration may apply)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (CDPHE complaint-based; contact [cdphe\\_mfgfd@state.co.us](mailto:cdphe_mfgfd@state.co.us))

## Home kitchen rules

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes — Non-TCS non-refrigerated foods only; food safety course required; \$10,000 per-product annual cap; direct to consumer only; labeling required; HOA and local zoning must confirm home-based business allowed |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| PET RESTRICTIONS           | No specific state restriction; kitchen sanitation required                                                                                                                                                         |
| WATER SUPPLY               | Potable water at residence                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| HANDWASHING                | Standard handwashing                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## Inspection &amp; permitting

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED    | Upon-complaint — CDPHE complaint-based; contact <a href="mailto:cdphe_mfgfd@state.co.us">cdphe_mfgfd@state.co.us</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Varies — Boulder County Cottage Foods Checklist (assets.bouldercounty.gov) explicitly states: producer should confirm home-based business authorized by HOA and local zoning. Boulder County Planning Dept and City of Boulder may have home occupation permit requirements; additional business license or tax registration may apply |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

## Customer-facing rules

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes                                                                                                                                                                        |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE         | Conditional                                                                                                                                                                |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct sales at residence, farmers markets, roadside stands, events, online with in-state delivery only; no sales to restaurants or grocery stores; no interstate shipping |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | Single proprietor or LLC with 2 or fewer owners                                                                                                                            |

## Relevant county code

Boulder County Cottage Foods Checklist (CDPHE/Boulder County joint guidance)

### RESEARCH NOTES

Boulder County has a joint CDPHE/county-published Cottage Foods Checklist that explicitly references local zoning and HOA verification requirements. County has both a health department and planning department with relevant URLs. Per-product \$10,000 CO cap is notably restrictive.

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### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.bouldercounty.gov/health>

<https://www.bouldercounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.bouldercounty.gov>

<https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods>

<https://assets.bouldercounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/cottage-foods-checklist.pdf>

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/colorado/boulder-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/boulder-county-discuss)

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation                 | Boulder County                                                                                                                                  | Weld County                                                                                                                                     | Larimer County                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                              | No                                                                                                                                              | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | No specific state restriction; kitchen sanitation required                                                                                      | No specific state restriction; kitchen sanitation required                                                                                      | No state or county-specific cottage food pet restriction found; CDPHE general guidance applies.                                                |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                  | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                  | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                             | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                     | Conditional                                                                                                                                     | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Direct sales at residence, farmers markets, roadside stands, events, online with in-state delivery only; no sales to restaurants or grocery...  | Direct sales at residence, farmers markets, roadside stands, events, online with in-state delivery; no interstate shipping; no sales to res...  | Colorado cottage food law allows direct-to-consumer sales only (no wholesale, no retail stores). Products may be sold at farmers markets, r... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Varies                                                                                                                                          | Varies                                                                                                                                          | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                          | Varies                                                                                                                                          | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Non-TCS non-refrigerated foods only; food safety course required; \$10,000 per-product annual cap; direct to consumer only; labeling require... | Non-TCS non-refrigerated foods only; food safety course completion required; \$10,000 per-product annual cap; direct to consumer only (no re... | Colorado state law (C.R.S. §25-4-1614) requires production in the home kitchen. Free CDPHE registration required. Food handler course (e.g.... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods                                                                                                               | Sanitary storage of non-TCS foods                                                                                                               | Products must be stored properly to prevent contamination per state guidance; no county-specific overlay beyond state standards.               |
| POPULATION                 | 328,658                                                                                                                                         | 331,466                                                                                                                                         | 359,363                                                                                                                                        |

## State context — Colorado cottage food law

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

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### STATUTE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614

### ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered (see notes)

### REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

### FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

### KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

### DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

### INDIRECT SALES

No — Products cannot be resold; producers must sell directly to consumers but may designate a representative to sell on their behalf. Sales through restaurants or retail stores are not permitted, though the health department may allow direct sales at those locations on a case-by-case basis.

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: [https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2022a\\_158\\_signed.pdf](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2022a_158_signed.pdf)

State dept cottage food page: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/cottage-foods>

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

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**Questions about Boulder 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/colorado/boulder-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/boulder-county-discuss)

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## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Boulder County, Colorado. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/colorado/boulder-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/colorado/boulder-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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