

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Denver County

Colorado · Denver · FIPS 08031 · Population 710,800 ·
Crosodo Index #1233*

STATE BASELINE

C.R.S. §25-4-1614 (Colorado Cottage Foods Act); per-product cap \$10,000/year; CDPHE registration required

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

Denver 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?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specified; standard sanitation applies

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: DENVER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1233* · FIPS 08031 · Denver

Denver County

Population 710,800 · State baseline: C.R.S. §25-4-1614 (Colorado Cottage Foods Act); per-product cap \$10,000/year; CDPHE registration required · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Denver is a consolidated city-county. State baseline applies: free CDPHE registration, \$10,000 per-product annual cap, food handler certification required. Denver Public Health may have additional guidance.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified; standard sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (City and County of Denver has home occupation permit requirements. Contact Denver Community Planning and Development for home occupation permit (ZONING HOME OCCUPATION). Denver Revised Municipal Code Section 59-93 governs home occupations.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Denver Public Health / CDPHE may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Denver is a consolidated city-county. State baseline applies: free CDPHE registration, \$10,000 per-product annual cap, food handler certification required. Denver Public Health may have additional guidance.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified; standard sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water; municipal supply standard in Denver
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage; non-PHF only

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Denver Public Health / CDPHE may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — City and County of Denver has home occupation permit requirements. Contact Denver Community Planning and Development for home occupation permit (ZONING HOME OCCUPATION). Denver Revised Municipal Code Section 59-93 governs home occupations.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only: in-person, online with in-state delivery, farmers markets, events. No wholesale. \$10,000 per-product annual cap. Pending HB 26-1033 would expand if enacted (effective 2027).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

C.R.S. §25-4-1614; Denver Revised Municipal Code §59-93 (home occupations)

RESEARCH NOTES

Denver County follows Colorado state baseline for cottage food. Denver is a consolidated city-county. The \$10,000 per-product cap (not total revenue) is Colorado's distinctive feature. Denver likely has home occupation permit requirements (Denver ZONING HOME OCCUPATION permit). Free CDPHE registration required. Pending HB 26-1033 (Tamale Act) would expand permitted foods and remove per-product cap effective 2027.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.denvergov.org/government/agencies-departments-offices/agencies-departments-offices-directory/public-health-and-environment>

<https://www.denvergov.org/cpd>

<https://www.denvergov.org>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Denver County	Arapahoe County	Jefferson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified; standard sanitation applies	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards apply	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards apply
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	No	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only: in-person, online with in-state delivery, farmers markets, events. No wholesale. \$10,000 per-product annual cap. Pending...	Incidental pickup at home is permitted. Sales may occur at farmers markets, roadside stands, festivals, online with mail/home delivery with...	Incidental pickup of goods permitted. Online and mail-order sales allowed. \$10,000 per-product annual cap within Colorado. No retail/restau...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Denver is a consolidated city-county. State baseline applies: free CDPHE registration, \$10,000 per-product annual cap, food handler certifi...	Non-potentially hazardous foods that do not require refrigeration only. Products must be sold directly to informed end consumers in Colorad...	Non-potentially hazardous foods that do not require refrigeration only. \$10,000 per-product annual cap. Food safety training required. Dire...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage; non-PHF only	Products stored in home kitchen; no outdoor storage per Arapahoe County home occupation rules	No outdoor storage per Jefferson County home occupation rules; storage within home/garage (up to 25% of garage)
POPULATION	710,800	654,453	580,519

State context — Colorado cottage food law

Denver 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.

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.

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.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: 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/>

Questions about Denver 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/denver-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 Denver County, Colorado. 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/colorado/denver-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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