

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Bartow County

Georgia · Cartersville · FIPS 13015 · Population 109,410 ·
Crosodo Index #2268*

STATE BASELINE

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

STATE TIER

Okay

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

Bartow County, Georgia — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply. If using private water source, annual coliform water testing required.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Georgia label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

GEORGIA: BARTOW COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2268* · FIPS 13015 · Cartersville

Bartow County

Population 109,410 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

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

Yes (Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply. If using private water source, annual coliform water testing required.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Bartow County and the City of Cartersville may have home occupation zoning requirements. Georgia state law (HB 398, 2025) eliminated the GDA licensing requirement for cottage food, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. No Bartow County-specific cottage food ordinance was identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based only per O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. No routine inspections required.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply. If using private water source, annual coliform water testing required.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety handwashing practices required per food handler certification.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous, non-TCS foods only. Perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, and meat jerkies prohibited.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based only per O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. No routine inspections required.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Bartow County and the City of Cartersville may have home occupation zoning requirements. Georgia state law (HB 398, 2025) eliminated the GDA licensing requirement for cottage food, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. No Bartow County-specific cottage food ordinance was identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Wholesale, retail, online, and direct-to-consumer sales all allowed under the 2025 law. Restaurant sales also permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Bartow County code section identified. State law governs: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

Bartow County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Major 2025 update: Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food — no license, no fee, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant permitted. The input tier 'Okay' reflects pre-July 2025 law. Current law is among the best in the country. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.bartowcounty.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Bartow County	Floyd County	Paulding County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply. If using private water source, annual coliform water testing requir...	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).	No explicit state restriction under new law; complaint-based inspections may address food safety concerns.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Wholesale, retail, online, and direct-to-consumer sales all allowed under the 2025 law. Restaurant...	Under post-July 2025 law, sales allowed at farmers markets, online, from home, to retail stores, restaurants, wholesale. Interstate sales n...	No sales channel restrictions under HB 398 — direct, online, retail, wholesale, restaurant sales all permitted. Interstate sales now allowe...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification ...	Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required (previously \$100/year). Complaint-bas...	Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required, no GDA inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/re...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous, non-TCS foods only. Perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, and meat jerkies prohibited.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; must prevent contamination.	Non-potentially hazardous foods stored appropriately.
POPULATION	109,410	98,541	169,898

State context — Georgia cottage food law

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

STATUTE

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

Questions about Bartow 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/georgia/bartow-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 Bartow County, Georgia. 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/georgia/bartow-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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