

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Paulding County

Georgia · Dallas · FIPS 13223 · Population 169,898 · Crosodo
Index #2327*

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

Paulding 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 explicit state restriction under new law; complaint-based inspections may address food safety concerns.

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: PAULDING COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2327* · FIPS 13223 · Dallas

Paulding County

Population 169,898 · 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): no license or fee required, no GDA inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using private water source. Food safety training required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state restriction under new law; complaint-based inspections may address food safety concerns.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Georgia's new cottage food law (HB 398, eff. July 2025) dramatically expanded allowances. Paulding County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses under county zoning. County URLs were blank in input. Dallas city has separate municipal zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based inspections only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine GDA inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required, no GDA inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed. Private water testing (annual coliform) required if using private water source. Food safety training required.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state restriction under new law; complaint-based inspections may address food safety concerns.
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using private water source.
HANDWASHING	Food safety training covers handwashing requirements.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-based inspections only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine GDA inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Georgia's new cottage food law (HB 398, eff. July 2025) dramatically expanded allowances. Paulding County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses under county zoning. County URLs were blank in input. Dallas city has separate municipal zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	No sales channel restrictions under HB 398 — direct, online, retail, wholesale, restaurant sales all permitted. Interstate sales now allowed (rare nationally).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified under new law.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq.; no specific Paulding County code found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Major 2025 update: Georgia HB 398 effective July 1, 2025 dramatically expanded the cottage food law. The Crosodo input fields (tier 'Okay', ij_grade 'D+') reflect the pre-July 2025 state of the law. Under the new law Georgia allows interstate sales, wholesale/retail/restaurant sales, and has eliminated licensing requirements. Paulding County is a rapidly growing suburban county northwest of Atlanta. Private water testing (annual coliform) still required if using private water source.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pauldingcounty.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/paulding-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Paulding County	Douglas County	Carroll County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction under new law; complaint-based inspections may address food safety concerns.	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practices apply.	Private water testing (annual coliform) still required if using a private water source.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	No sales channel restrictions under HB 398 — direct, online, retail, wholesale, restaurant sales all permitted. Interstate sales now allowe...	Under HB 398: wholesale, retail, online, and direct sales all permitted. Delivery allowed. Interstate sales now permitted.	Georgia HB 398 allows wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales and interstate sales. Broad channel allowances. No sales cap.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Since July 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required, no GDA inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/re...	Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, ...	Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. No GDA licensing inspections (compla...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods stored appropriately.	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. No perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.
POPULATION	169,898	144,735	120,060

State context — Georgia cottage food law

Paulding 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 Paulding 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/paulding-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 Paulding 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/paulding-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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