

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Walton County

Georgia · Monroe · FIPS 13297 · Population 97,752 · Crosodo Index #2597*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).

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: WALTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2597* · FIPS 13297 · Monroe

Walton County

Population 97,752 · 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 (Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed, broad non-TCS food list. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Walton County (Monroe) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food permit identified. Operators should check with Walton County Planning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only upon consumer complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales allowed, broad non-TCS food list. Food handler training required. Annual coliform test if private water source.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).
WATER SUPPLY	Annual coliform testing required if using a private water source.
HANDWASHING	Food handler training required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Georgia Department of Agriculture inspects only upon consumer complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Walton County (Monroe) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Walton County-specific cottage food permit identified. Operators should check with Walton County Planning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed at farmers markets, online, from home, retail stores, restaurants, wholesale. Interstate sales expressly allowed under post-July 2025 law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No limit specified in current Georgia cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Walton County-specific cottage food code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

No Walton County-specific cottage food rules found. Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) significantly expanded cottage food law. Walton County is a fast-growing exurb of Atlanta.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.waltoncounty.gov>

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

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Walton County	Rockdale County	Barrow County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law (post-HB 398).	No specific restriction under current Georgia cottage food law.	Not specified in revised law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales allowed at farmers markets, online, from home, retail stores, restaurants, wholesale. Interstate sales expressly allowed under post-J...	Under post-July 2025 law: farmers markets, online, from home, retail stores, restaurants, wholesale all permitted. Interstate sales express...	All channels open under HB 398: direct, indirect, retail, wholesale, online, restaurant, interstate.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retai...	Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025): no license or fee, complaint-based inspection only, interstate sales allowed, wholesale/retail/online/r...	Same as all Georgia counties under HB 398 (eff. July 2025): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspections only; broad non-PHF foo...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous foods only.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only.	No specific statutory storage requirements.
POPULATION	97,752	93,641	84,399

State context — Georgia cottage food law

Walton 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

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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 Walton 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/walton-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 Walton 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/walton-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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