

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Aiken County

South Carolina · Aiken · FIPS 45003 · Population 169,865 ·
Crosodo Index #751*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
S.C. Code §44-1-145	Good	—	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

Aiken County, South Carolina — 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

No

PETS

No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[South Carolina label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

SOUTH CAROLINA: AIKEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #751* · FIPS 45003 · Aiken

Aiken County

Population 169,865 · State baseline: S.C. Code §44-1-145 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be primary domestic residence kitchen. Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Operations with net earnings below \$1,500 exempt entirely. No sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Aiken County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. County URLs were blank in input. Aiken city has separate municipal zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (SC Department of Agriculture may inspect upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be primary domestic residence kitchen. Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Operations with net earnings below \$1,500 exempt entirely. No sales cap.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing per food safety standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — SC Department of Agriculture may inspect upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Aiken County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. County URLs were blank in input. Aiken city has separate municipal zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed (retail stores, grocery stores since 2022 amendment), online, mail order with delivery.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified.

Relevant county code

S.C. Code §44-1-145; no specific Aiken County code found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Aiken County (near Augusta, GA border) has no verified county-specific cottage food rules beyond SC state baseline. SC cottage food law allows retail store sales since 2022 amendment — above-average for the region.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.aikencounty.gov>

<https://agriculture.sc.gov/programs-services/cottage-food-operations/>

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t44c001.php>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Aiken County	Lexington County	Orangeburg County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	All animals including pets must be excluded from production area during food production	Not specified in state law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and indirect sales allowed (retail stores, grocery stores since 2022 amendment), online, mail order with delivery.	Direct to consumer including online and mail within SC; also to retail stores for resale	Direct and indirect sales permitted: from home, at farmers markets, at events, to retail stores, online with in-state or out-of-state deliv...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must be primary domestic residence kitchen. Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Operations with net earnings below \$1,500 exempt entirely...	No domestic activities in kitchen during production; pets excluded; water/sewage must meet state standards; non-TCS foods only	South Carolina: non-PHF foods from primary domestic residence kitchen are allowed without registration or inspection. 2022 amendment (Act N...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage.	Stored in sanitary conditions	No specific statutory requirement.
POPULATION	169,865	295,934	84,159

State context — South Carolina cottage food law

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

STATUTE

S.C. Code §44-1-145

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Yes — Since the 2022 amendment, home-based food operations may sell to retail stores and grocery stores in addition to direct-to-consumer sales including online and mail order. Retail stores that sell home-based food products must post clearly visible signage indicating the products are not subject to commercial food regulations.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **South Carolina cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/south-carolina.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t44c001.php>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agriculture.sc.gov/programs-services/cottage-food-operations/>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/south-carolina/>

Questions about Aiken 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/south-carolina/aiken-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 Aiken County, South Carolina. 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/south-carolina/aiken-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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