

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Bradley County

Tennessee · Cleveland · FIPS 47011 · Population 108,859 ·
Crosodo Index #447*

STATE BASELINE

Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act)

STATE TIER

Good

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

Bradley County, Tennessee — 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 specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Tennessee label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

TENNESSEE: BRADLEY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #447* · FIPS 47011 · Cleveland

Bradley County

Population 108,859 · State baseline: Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act) · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Tennessee's Food Freedom Act (eff. July 1, 2022) broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food. No license, permit, inspection, or labeling requirements (except DOH foodborne illness investigations). Any non-TCS food produced at a private residence is allowed. No sales cap.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Bradley County and the City of Cleveland may have home occupation zoning requirements. Tennessee state law preempts local regulation of cottage food under the Food Freedom Act, but local home occupation/zoning rules may still apply for business operation. No specific Bradley County cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspections. DOH may investigate for foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Tennessee's Food Freedom Act (eff. July 1, 2022) broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food. No license, permit, inspection, or labeling requirements (except DOH foodborne illness investigations). Any non-TCS food produced at a private residence is allowed. No sales cap.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.

HANDWASHING

Standard food safety practices recommended but not legally required under the Food Freedom Act.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS foods only. TCS foods (requiring time/temperature control for safety) are not covered and require standard food establishment licensing.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspections. DOH may investigate for foodborne illness.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Bradley County and the City of Cleveland may have home occupation zoning requirements. Tennessee state law preempts local regulation of cottage food under the Food Freedom Act, but local home occupation/zoning rules may still apply for business operation. No specific Bradley County cottage food ordinance identified.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	All sales channels permitted for non-TCS foods: direct-to-consumer, online, wholesale, retail, delivery. No sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Bradley County code section identified. State law governs: Tenn. Code §53-1-125.

RESEARCH NOTES

Bradley County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Tennessee's Food Freedom Act (2022) is one of the most permissive frameworks in the country — no registration, no cap, no inspection, broad food types. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.bradleycounty.gov>

<https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/food/food-manufacturing/domestic-kitchen.html>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Bradley County	Hamilton County	McMinn County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	No specific TN state or McMinn County rule.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	All sales channels permitted for non-TCS foods: direct-to-consumer, online, wholesale, retail, delivery. No sales cap.	All sales channels allowed within Tennessee: direct-to-consumer, farmers markets, grocery stores, roadside stands, events, online with in-s...	No channel restrictions; direct, online, retail, delivery all permitted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Yes	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Tennessee's Food Freedom Act (eff. July 1, 2022) broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food. No license, permit, inspection, or labeling req...	Tennessee Food Freedom Act (Tenn. Code §53-1-125, effective July 1, 2022) allows any non-TCS homemade food from private residence without p...	All non-TCS homemade foods from producer's private residence. No license, permit, inspection, or sales cap.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. TCS foods (requiring time/temperature control for safety) are not covered and require standard food establishment licen...	Non-TCS products only. No foods requiring time/temperature control for safety.	Products must be non-TCS.
POPULATION	108,859	367,193	53,532

State context — Tennessee cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act)

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Yes — The Tennessee Food Freedom Act (Public Chapter 862, effective July 1, 2022) broadly exempts production and sale of non-TCS homemade food items from all licensing, permitting, inspecting, packaging, and labeling laws. Sales may be direct to consumer in person or remotely. Local government ordinances restricting homemade food sales are preempted. Note: Prior to the 2022 Food Freedom Act, the older domestic kitchen regulations (TDA Chapter 0080-4-11) required a permit, inspection, and food safety certification, and limited sales to 100 units/week; the Food Freedom Act supersedes these requirements for qualifying non-TCS homemade foods.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://law.justia.com/codes/tennessee/2021/title-53/chapter-8/>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/food/food-manufacturing/domestic-kitchen.html>

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

Questions about Bradley 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/tennessee/bradley-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 Bradley County, Tennessee. 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/tennessee/bradley-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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