

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Hamblen County

Tennessee · Morristown · FIPS 47063 · Population 64,531 ·
Crosodo Index #1074*

STATE BASELINE

Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act, eff. July 1, 2022)

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

Hamblen County, Tennessee — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state prohibition

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: HAMBLEN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1074* · FIPS 47063 · Morristown

Hamblen County

Population 64,531 · State baseline: Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act, eff. July 1, 2022) ·

MEDIUM

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

Yes (Tennessee Food Freedom Act broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food production from a private residence. No licensing, permit, inspection, or registration required. No sales cap. All non-TCS foods permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Hamblen County includes Morristown in east Tennessee. No state-level permit required. Local zoning may apply for home-based businesses. Contact Hamblen County Planning at (423) 585-4055.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; DOH may investigate foodborne illness reports)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Tennessee Food Freedom Act broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food production from a private residence. No licensing, permit, inspection, or registration required. No sales cap. All non-TCS foods permitted.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required
HANDWASHING	No specific state requirement under Food Freedom Act; good practice recommended
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; proper storage recommended

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; DOH may investigate foodborne illness reports
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Hamblen County includes Morristown in east Tennessee. No state-level permit required. Local zoning may apply for home-based businesses. Contact Hamblen County Planning at (423) 585-4055.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales allowed. No restrictions on delivery, farmers markets, online, or retail under the Food Freedom Act.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit under Food Freedom Act

Relevant county code

Contact Hamblen County Planning for local zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Tennessee Food Freedom Act (Public Chapter No. 862, eff. July 1, 2022) is one of the most permissive frameworks: no registration, no inspection, no labeling requirements except DOH illness investigations. Hamblen County is in east Tennessee near Morristown. No county-specific restrictions found. No county URLs in input.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.hamblencounty.gov>

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

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Hamblen County	Greene County	Hawkins County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state prohibition	Not specified in state law	No specific TN state or Hawkins County rule; standard food safety practices recommended.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and indirect sales allowed. No restrictions on delivery, farmers markets, online, or retail under the Food Freedom Act.	Indirect sales allowed at markets, online sales permitted; delivery by producer permitted in-state	No restrictions on sales channels under TN Food Freedom Act. Direct, online, delivery, pickup all permitted. Indirect sales (retail stores)...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Tennessee Food Freedom Act broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food production from a private residence. No licensing, permit, inspection,...	No sales cap. No registration required. No inspection required. All non-TCS homemade foods allowed. Indirect sales allowed (farmers markets...	Broad exemption for all non-TCS homemade foods produced at producer's private residence. No license, permit, inspection, or sales cap requi...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; proper storage recommended	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products	Products must be non-TCS (no refrigeration required). No formal storage rules under TN Food Freedom Act.
POPULATION	64,531	70,399	57,107

State context — Tennessee cottage food law

Hamblén 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 Hamblén 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/hamblen-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 Hamblen 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/hamblen-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise