

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Meigs County

Tennessee · Decatur · FIPS 47121 · Population 13,937 ·  
Crosodo Index #3012\*

| STATE BASELINE | STATE TIER | ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE) | CONFIDENCE | LAST VERIFIED |
|----------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------|
| —              | Good       | —                        | MEDIUM     |               |

**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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

—

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

—

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

—

INSPECTION

—

PETS

—

### 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: MEIGS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #3012\* · FIPS 47121 · Decatur

# Meigs County

Population 13,937 · State baseline: — · MEDIUM

**QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

—

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

—

PETS ALLOWED?

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

—

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

—

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

—

**Home kitchen rules**

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED —

SEPARATE DEDICATED  
KITCHEN —

PET RESTRICTIONS —

WATER SUPPLY —

HANDWASHING —

FOOD STORAGE —

**Inspection & permitting**

INSPECTION REQUIRED —

HOME OCCUPATION  
PERMIT —

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE —

**Customer-facing rules**ON-SITE CUSTOMER  
PICKUP —

ON-SITE SIGNAGE —

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES —

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME —

**RESEARCH NOTES**

No Meigs County-specific cottage food or zoning rules found in 1-2 searches. Defaulting to Tennessee state baseline (Food Freedom Act, Tenn. Code §53-1-125).

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**<https://www.meigscounty.gov>

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/tennessee/meigs-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/tennessee/meigs-county-discuss)

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation                 | Meigs County | Rhea County | Bradley County                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | —            | —           | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | —            | —           | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | —            | —           | No specific state restriction in the Food Freedom Act.                                                                                         |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | —            | —           | No                                                                                                                                             |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | —            | —           | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | —            | —           | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | —            | —           | All sales channels permitted for non-TCS foods: direct-to-consumer, online, wholesale, retail, delivery. No sales cap.                         |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | —            | —           | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | —            | —           | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | —            | —           | Tennessee's Food Freedom Act (eff. July 1, 2022) broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food. No license, permit, inspection, or labeling req... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | —            | —           | Non-TCS foods only. TCS foods (requiring time/temperature control for safety) are not covered and require standard food establishment licen... |
| POPULATION                 | 12,839       | 33,031      | 108,859                                                                                                                                        |

## State context — Tennessee cottage food law

Meigs 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.

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**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.

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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](https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee).

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**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/>

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**Questions about Meigs 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/meigs-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/tennessee/meigs-county-discuss)

## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Meigs County, Tennessee. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/meigs-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/tennessee/meigs-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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