

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Sumner County

Tennessee · Gallatin · FIPS 47165 · Population 196,845 ·
Crosodo Index #536*

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

Sumner 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 explicit pet restrictions under Tennessee 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: SUMNER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #536* · FIPS 47165 · Gallatin

Sumner County

Population 196,845 · State baseline: Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act) · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Tennessee Food Freedom Act (§53-1-125, effective July 1, 2022) broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food. No license, permit, inspection, registration, or labeling requirements. No sales cap. Sumner County is a growing suburban county north of Nashville.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit pet restrictions under Tennessee Food Freedom Act.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Tennessee Food Freedom Act preempts local government restrictions on cottage food. Sumner County and City of Gallatin may have general home occupation zoning requirements for business registration. Contact Sumner County Planning Commission (sumnercountyttn.gov) or relevant municipal planning office.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Tennessee DOH may investigate for foodborne illness complaints. No routine inspections under Food Freedom Act.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Tennessee Food Freedom Act (§53-1-125, effective July 1, 2022) broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food. No license, permit, inspection, registration, or labeling requirements. No sales cap. Sumner County is a growing suburban county north of Nashville.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No explicit pet restrictions under Tennessee Food Freedom Act.

WATER SUPPLY

No water testing requirement under Tennessee Food Freedom Act.

HANDWASHING

No specific statutory handwashing requirement for cottage food.

FOOD STORAGE

No specific statutory storage requirement for non-TCS foods under Food Freedom Act.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — Tennessee DOH may investigate for foodborne illness complaints. No routine inspections under Food Freedom Act.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Tennessee Food Freedom Act preempts local government restrictions on cottage food. Sumner County and City of Gallatin may have general home occupation zoning requirements for business registration. Contact Sumner County Planning Commission (sumnercountyttn.gov) or relevant municipal planning office.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Tennessee Food Freedom Act imposes no restrictions on sales channels for non-TCS foods. Home pickup, delivery, farmers markets, online, and events all permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No employee restrictions in Tennessee Food Freedom Act. Home occupation zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

Tenn. Code §53-1-125 (Food Freedom Act); Sumner County zoning ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Tennessee state baseline applies. Sumner County (county seat: Gallatin) is a fast-growing suburban county north of Nashville in the Nashville metro area. Tennessee Food Freedom Act (2022) is one of the most permissive frameworks nationally. No county-specific URLs or overrides found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.sumnercountyttn.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/sumner-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Sumner County	Wilson County	Davidson County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit pet restrictions under Tennessee Food Freedom Act.	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.	Not specified under Food Freedom Act
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Tennessee Food Freedom Act imposes no restrictions on sales channels for non-TCS foods. Home pickup, delivery, farmers markets, online, and...	Sales allowed anywhere — direct, online, retail, wholesale, restaurant sales all permitted under the Food Freedom Act for non-TCS foods.	Tennessee Food Freedom Act: no restrictions on sales venues or methods for non-TCS foods. Direct-to-consumer, online, delivery, events, far...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Tennessee Food Freedom Act (§53-1-125, effective July 1, 2022) broadly deregulates non-TCS homemade food. No license, permit, inspection, r...	Tennessee Food Freedom Act (eff. July 1, 2022) broadly allows all non-TCS homemade foods from a private residence. No license, permit, insp...	State baseline: any non-TCS homemade food from private residence. No license, permit, inspection, or labeling requirements at state level. ...
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory storage requirement for non-TCS foods under Food Freedom Act.	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage practices recommended.	No specific state requirements
POPULATION	196,845	149,096	709,786

State context — Tennessee cottage food law

Sumner 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 Sumner 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/sumner-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 Sumner 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/sumner-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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