

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Rockwall County

Texas · Rockwall · FIPS 48397 · Population 110,631 · Crosodo Index #996*

STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.; \$150,000 annual sales cap (2025); no registration; no inspection; direct and limited indirect sales; state preempts local health inspections

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	150000	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

Rockwall County, Texas — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

150000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific Texas state requirement; standard food safety practices recommended.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Texas label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

TEXAS: ROCKWALL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #996* · FIPS 48397 · Rockwall

Rockwall County

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

Yes (Texas state law allows cottage food from home kitchen. Health departments cannot inspect. Rockwall County follows state baseline. Rockwall is a fast-growing Dallas suburb.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific Texas state requirement; standard food safety practices recommended.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Rockwall County and city of Rockwall may have home occupation permit requirements under local zoning. Texas state law requires compliance with home-based business rules under §559.955. No specific county-level details found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Texas law prohibits health departments from inspecting cottage food operations except for immediate/serious threats to human life or health.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Texas state law allows cottage food from home kitchen. Health departments cannot inspect. Rockwall County follows state baseline. Rockwall is a fast-growing Dallas suburb.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific Texas state requirement; standard food safety practices recommended.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no mandatory training or certification.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-TCS products stored per food safety standards.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Texas law prohibits health departments from inspecting cottage food operations except for immediate/serious threats to human life or health.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Rockwall County and city of Rockwall may have home occupation permit requirements under local zoning. Texas state law requires compliance with home-based business rules under §559.955. No specific county-level details found.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Texas allows direct sales and limited indirect sales. Online/delivery allowed. \$150,000 annual cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local home occupation rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied (TX tier Great). Rockwall County is the smallest Texas county by area but one of the fastest-growing; it is part of Dallas metro. No county-specific URLs provided. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.rockwallcounty.gov>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Rockwall County	Hunt County	Kaufman County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific Texas state requirement; standard food safety practices recommended.	No specific state restriction in the cottage food statute.	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food operations.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Texas allows direct sales and limited indirect sales. Online/delivery allowed. \$150,000 annual cap.	Most direct-to-consumer and indirect sales channels permitted. \$150,000 annual cap. Online and mail-order sales permitted. Sales to retaile...	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands. SB 541 (2025) also allows sales through n...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Texas state law allows cottage food from home kitchen. Health departments cannot inspect. Rockwall County follows state baseline. Rockwall ...	Texas allows almost all non-TCS foods. Annual sales cap of \$150,000 (raised by SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection requir...	Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. No registration, permit, or inspection required. Annual gross income cap of \$150,...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-TCS products stored per food safety standards.	Non-TCS foods only. Prohibited: meat, poultry, seafood, ice/ice products (shaved ice, ice cream, frozen custard, popsicles, gelato), low-ac...	All products must be shelf-stable, non-TCS. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.
POPULATION	110,631	101,596	149,773

State context — Texas cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

ANNUAL SALES CAP

150000

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Sales must be made directly to consumers or to a 'cottage food vendor' (a new category created by SB 541 in 2025 – a person with a contractual relationship who sells on behalf of the cottage food operation to consumers in-state). Cottage food products may not be sold as ingredients to a food service establishment. No retail grocery store or wholesale sales permitted under the pre-2025 framework; SB 541 (2025) adds the cottage food vendor intermediary option. Products must be delivered to consumer or vendor at point of sale or consumer-designated location.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.437.htm>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/food-establishments/cottage-food-production-operations>

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

Questions about Rockwall 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/texas/rockwall-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 Rockwall County, Texas. 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/texas/rockwall-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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