

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Walker County

Texas · Huntsville · FIPS 48471 · Population 77,182 · Crosodo Index #485*

STATE BASELINE

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

150000

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

150000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not specified in state statute.

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: WALKER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #485* · FIPS 48471 · Huntsville

Walker County

Population 77,182 · State baseline: Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq. · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Almost all non-TCS foods allowed. \$150,000 annual gross income cap (raised by SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required. Strong state preemption clause limits local interference.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (State law does not require a home occupation permit. The home-based business must comply with home-based business rules under §559.955. Walker County and the City of Huntsville may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Walker County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Health departments may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health. No routine inspection.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Almost all non-TCS foods allowed. \$150,000 annual gross income cap (raised by SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection required. Strong state preemption clause limits local interference.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Not specified in state statute.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods must be stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Health departments may only act to prevent an immediate and serious threat to human life or health. No routine inspection.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — State law does not require a home occupation permit. The home-based business must comply with home-based business rules under §559.955. Walker County and the City of Huntsville may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Walker County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	No registration, permit, or inspection required. May sell directly and indirectly (limited wholesale). Online sales and delivery permitted. SB 541 (2025) added nonprofit operators and created 'cottage food vendor' intermediary.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

Tex. Health & Safety §437.001 et seq.; §559.955 (home-based business rules). No Walker County-specific code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Texas cottage food law (§437.001 et seq.) is one of the most permissive. \$150,000 annual cap (2025, SB 541). No permit or inspection. Local governments cannot restrict under the state preemption unless through home-based business rules (§559.955). No Walker County-specific overrides found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.walkercounty.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/walker-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Walker County	Montgomery County	Grimes County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute.	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; general sanitation standards apply	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	No registration, permit, or inspection required. May sell directly and indirectly (limited wholesale). Online sales and delivery permitted....	Non-TCS foods: direct sales at home, farmers markets, online, mail/delivery, roadside stands. Third-party online platforms (Goldbelly, Amaz...	Sales allowed direct-to-consumer, at farmers markets, online (statewide), fairs, roadside stands, and through nonprofit organizations (SB 5...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	No
RESTRICTIONS	Almost all non-TCS foods allowed. \$150,000 annual gross income cap (raised by SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or inspection require...	No TCS foods without registration (as of SB 541, 2025). Non-TCS foods: no license, permit, or inspection required. Food handler certificati...	Texas allows cottage food from residential home kitchens. Annual gross income cap of \$150,000 (SB 541, 2025). No registration, permit, or i...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods must be stored appropriately.	Standard home kitchen storage; products must not be adulterated	Non-TCS products must be shelf-stable. TCS foods allowed under SB 541 with registration. Proper storage to prevent contamination required.
POPULATION	77,182	629,989	28,880

State context — Texas cottage food law

Walker 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 Walker 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/walker-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 Walker 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/walker-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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