

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Georgia

A comprehensive guide to the cottage food statute, sales rules, and county-level zoning and health-department overlays for home bakers operating under O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19.

STATUTE

TIER

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 **Okay**

IJ GRADE

COUNTIES COVERED

LAST VERIFIED

D+**79****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.

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Executive summary

This report covers the Georgia cottage food framework — the state statute, the regulatory body administering it, what producers can and cannot sell, and county-level rules layered on top of state law for the 79 Georgia counties included in this dataset.

ANNUAL SALES CAP

none

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

no

FOOD HANDLER CERTIFICATION

yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

upon-complaint

DIRECT SALES ONLY

no

INDIRECT SALES (RETAIL/ONLINE/WHOLESALE)

yes — As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows wholesale, online, retail store, restaurant, and mail-order sales; third-party sellers must display cottage food products separately and label the section as products from residential kitchens exempt from state inspection.

RESEARCH NOTES

MAJOR 2025 UPDATE: Georgia HB 398 became effective July 1, 2025, dramatically expanding the cottage food law and making it one of the best in the country. Key changes: no license or fee required (previously \$100/year), no GDA licensing inspections (complaint-based only), interstate sales now allowed, wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales now allowed, and a much broader list of permitted foods. The Crosodo input fields (tier 'Okay', ij_grade 'D+', registration_url for license) reflect the pre-July 2025 state of the law and should be updated to reflect the new regime. The excerpt provided is from the pre-HB-398 regulations (GA R&R 40-7-19), which is the best available verbatim official text; the new O.C.G.A. sections (26-2-470 to 26-2-478) were not accessible for direct scraping but their content is corroborated by the GDA announcement and Forrager. Private water testing (annual coliform) is still required if using a private water source.

Georgia Code O.C.G.A. §§26-2-470 through 26-2-478 (enacted by HB 398, 2025); formerly Georgia Rules and Regulations Chapter 40-7-19 (Cottage Food Regulations)

CITATION

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

ENACTED

2012

LAST AMENDED

2025

CONFIDENCE

HIGH

Allowed foods

Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food, including baked goods, candies, condiments (mustards, nut butters, oils, pickles, syrups, vinegars), dry goods, pastries, preserves, snacks, and carbonated drinks. Georgia also allows interstate sales of cottage food products, which is rare among states.

Prohibited foods

Prohibited items include perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, and meat jerkies. All TCS (time/temperature control for safety) foods requiring refrigeration are not permitted.

Labeling requirements

Labels must include the business name, address or GDA-issued identification number, phone number, and the statement 'This product was produced at a residential property that is exempt from state inspection. This product may contain allergens.' in at least 10-point type. Operators may obtain a GDA identifier in lieu of a home address.

Statutory text — verbatim excerpt

Statute excerpt — verbatim

Rule 40-7-19-.01 Purpose: The purpose of this Chapter is to allow individuals using home kitchens to prepare, manufacture, and sell non-potentially hazardous foods to the public. Rule 40-7-19-.02 Definitions: (3) 'Cottage food operator' means a person who produces cottage food products only in the home kitchen of that person's primary domestic residence and only for sale directly to the consumer. (4) 'Cottage food products' means non-potentially hazardous baked goods, jams, jellies, preserves, and other non-potentially hazardous foods produced in the home kitchen of a domestic residence. (11) 'Home kitchen' means a kitchen primarily intended for use by the residents of a home. It may contain one or more stoves or ovens, which may be a double oven, designed for residential use. It must not include commercial types of equipment. Rule 40-7-19-.05 Cottage Food Limitations: (1) May only produce non-potentially hazardous foods. Examples include: (a) Loaf breads, rolls, and biscuits; (b) Cakes (except those that require refrigeration due to cream cheese icing, fillings, or high moisture content such as tres leche); (c) Pastries and cookies; (d) Candies and confections; (e) Fruit pies; (f) Jams, jellies, and preserves; (g) Dried fruits; (h) Dry herbs, seasonings and mixtures; (i) Cereals, trail mixes, and granola; (j) Coated or uncoated nuts; (k) Vinegar and flavored vinegars; (l) Popcorn, popcorn balls, and cotton candy.

Source: <https://rules.sos.ga.gov/gac/40-7-19>

Official sources

Statute <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

State dept page <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

Registration <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-license>

Extension service <https://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.html?number=B1418>

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

State dept of agriculture / health: **Georgia Department of Agriculture**

County-level rules

The state statute above sets the floor. Each county may add a home-occupation permit, business license, or zoning rule on top of state law. The 79 Georgia counties below are sorted by population (largest first).

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13123 · Ellijay

Gilmer County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Gilmer County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Gilmer County's zoning ordinance. Ellijay is a known cottage food and apple orchard market hub; local event permitting may apply for farmers market sales.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Gilmer County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Gilmer County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Gilmer County (Ellijay) is a mountain tourism county known for apple production and agritourism; event-specific or market-specific permitting from the City of Ellijay or Gilmer County may apply for vendors at local markets. No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13125 · Gibson

Glascok County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Glascok County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Glascok County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Glascocock County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Glascocock County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Glascocock County is one of the smallest Georgia counties by population; formal zoning may be minimal. No county-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13131 · Cairo

Grady County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Grady County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Grady County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Grady County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Grady County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Grady County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13133 · Greensboro

Greene County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Greene County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Greene County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Greene County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Greene County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Greene County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13137 · Clarkesville

Habersham County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Habersham County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Habersham County's zoning ordinance. Cornelia is the primary commercial hub of Habersham County; city-level home occupation rules in Cornelia may differ from unincorporated county rules.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Habersham County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Habersham County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Habersham County is a northeast Georgia mountain county with manufacturing (Fieldale chicken) and tourism; Cornelia is the economic hub. The 2025 Georgia Conservancy housing report for Cornelia noted zoning code review underway. No Habersham County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13141 · Sparta

Hancock County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Hancock County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Hancock County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Hancock County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Hancock County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Hancock County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13143 · Buchanan

Haralson County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Haralson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Haralson County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Haralson County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Haralson County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Haralson County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13145 · Hamilton

Harris County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Harris County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Harris County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Harris County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Harris County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Harris County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13147 · Hartwell

Hart County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Hart County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Hart County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Hart County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Hart County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Hart County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13149 · Franklin

Heard County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Heard County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Heard County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Heard County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Heard County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Heard County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13155 · Ocilla

Irwin County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Irwin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Irwin County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Irwin County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Irwin County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Irwin County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13159 · Monticello

Jasper County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jasper County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jasper County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jasper County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jasper County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jasper County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13161 · Hazlehurst

Jeff Davis County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jeff Davis County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jeff Davis County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jeff Davis County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jeff Davis County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jeff Davis County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13163 · Louisville

Jefferson County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jefferson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jefferson County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jefferson County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jefferson County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13165 · Millen

Jenkins County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jenkins County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jenkins County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jenkins County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jenkins County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jenkins County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13167 · Wrightsville

Johnson County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Johnson County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Johnson County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Johnson County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Johnson County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Johnson County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13169 · Gray

Jones County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Jones County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Jones County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Jones County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Jones County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Jones County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13171 · Barnesville

Lamar County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lamar County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lamar County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lamar County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lamar County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lamar County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13173 · Lakeland

Lanier County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lanier County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lanier County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lanier County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lanier County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lanier County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13177 · Leesburg

Lee County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lee County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lee County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lee County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lee County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lee County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13181 · LincolnIn ton

Lincoln County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lincoln County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lincoln County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lincoln County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lincoln County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Lincoln County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13183 · Ludowici

Long County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Long County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Long County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Long County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Long County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Long County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13187 · Dahlonega

Lumpkin County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Lumpkin County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Lumpkin County's zoning ordinance. Dahlonega is an active tourism and wine country hub with active farmers markets; event-specific or vendor permits may be required by Dahlonega or Lumpkin County for market sales.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Lumpkin County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Lumpkin County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Lumpkin County (Dahlonega) is a north Georgia mountain tourism county with vineyards and active farmers markets. Event or vendor-specific permitting from City of Dahlonega or Lumpkin County may apply for market sales. No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

McDuffie County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. McDuffie County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under McDuffie County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

McDuffie County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); McDuffie County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No McDuffie County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13191 · Darien

McIntosh County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. McIntosh County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under McIntosh County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

McIntosh County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); McIntosh County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. County seat was blank in input; Darien is the county seat of McIntosh County. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No McIntosh County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13193 · Oglethorpe

Macon County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Macon County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Macon County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Macon County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Macon County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Macon County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13195 · Danielsville

Madison County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Madison County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Madison County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Madison County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Madison County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Madison County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13197 · Buena Vista

Marion County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Marion County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Marion County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Marion County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Marion County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Marion County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13199 · Greenville

Meriwether County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Meriwether County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Meriwether County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Meriwether County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Meriwether County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Meriwether County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13201 · Colquitt

Miller County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Miller County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Miller County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Miller County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Miller County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Miller County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13205 · Camilla

Mitchell County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Mitchell County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Mitchell County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Mitchell County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Mitchell County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Mitchell County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13207 · Forsyth

Monroe County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Monroe County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Monroe County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Monroe County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Monroe County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Monroe County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13209 · Mount Vernon

Montgomery County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Montgomery County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Montgomery County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional

- DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES** Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
- MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME** Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Montgomery County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Montgomery County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Montgomery County (GA)-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13211 · Madison

Morgan County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

- HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED** yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
- SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN** no

PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Morgan County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Morgan County's zoning ordinance. The City of Madison is a historic Georgia tourism town; city-level home occupation or business licensing rules may apply separately from unincorporated Morgan County.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Morgan County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Morgan County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/ counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Morgan County's county seat is Madison, a historic town with active tourism and farmers markets; city-level business licensing may apply. No Morgan County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13213 · Chatsworth

Murray County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Murray County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Murray County's zoning ordinance.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Murray County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Murray County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Local business licensing and zoning still apply. No Murray County-specific cottage food code identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13219 · Watkinsville

Oconee County

Population 0 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. Interstate sales now allowed. Wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Must label 'NOT MADE IN A STATE-INSPECTED FACILITY.' Under HB 398, counties may opt out of allowing third-party vendor sales but cannot otherwise directly regulate cottage food operators.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) requires annual coliform bacteria testing per state rules.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing required per GDA cottage food guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	varies — No county-specific cottage food overlay found. Oconee County may require a business license for commercial activity. Home occupation rules vary by zoning district under Oconee County's zoning ordinance. Oconee County is an affluent suburb of Athens-Clarke County; zoning codes are more developed than most rural Georgia counties and may have specific home occupation restrictions.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; interstate sales now permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may limit non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Oconee County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Oconee County Code of Ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county — no county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline (GA HB 398, eff. July 1, 2025) governs. Georgia's 2025 law significantly expanded cottage food rights. Under HB 398, cities/counties may opt out of third-party vendor sales via ordinance but cannot impose broader cottage food regulations. Oconee County is a suburban/exurban county adjacent to Athens-Clarke County with more developed zoning infrastructure; home occupation provisions in the Oconee County zoning code are likely more detailed than rural counties. Operators in Oconee should verify home occupation permit requirements with Oconee County Planning. No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified in research.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13221 · Lexington

Oglethorpe County

Population 15,259 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Oglethorpe County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Oglethorpe County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.oglethorpecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13225 · Fort Valley

Peach County

Population 27,887 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Peach County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Peach County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Fort Valley is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.peachcounty.net>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13227 · Jasper

Pickens County

Population 34,284 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Pickens County requires a business license (\$100) for businesses operating in unincorporated Pickens County per Chapter 18 of county ordinances. Contact Planning & Development at 706-253-8850 for home occupation zoning requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Growing mountain county. Pickens County Planning & Development (1266 E Church St, Jasper) handles business licensing (\$100 fee per county ordinance Chapter 18) and zoning. Home occupation permit likely required for food business. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pickenscountyga.gov/171/Planning-Development>

<https://www.pickenscountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13229 · Blackshear

Pierce County

Population 19,465 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Pierce County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pierce County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.piercecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13231 · Zebulon

Pike County

Population 18,962 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Pike County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pike County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pikecountyga.net>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13233 · Cedartown

Polk County

Population 42,751 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Polk County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Polk County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Cedartown is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.polkgeorgia.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13235 · Hawkinsville

Pulaski County

Population 11,830 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Pulaski County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Pulaski County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.pulaskicountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13237 · Eatonton

Putnam County

Population 21,869 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT yes — Putnam County requires a Home Occupation Permit (\$83 fee) from Planning & Development for home-based businesses. Application requires letter of intent and E-Verify affidavit. Contact: 706-485-2776, 117 Putnam Drive Suite B, Eatonton GA 31024.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Putnam County has a confirmed home occupation permit process through Planning & Development. Fee is \$83. Contact: 117 Putnam Drive Suite B, Eatonton GA 31024, phone 706-485-2776. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://www.putnamcountyga.us/planning>

- <https://www.putnamcountyga.us>

- <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

- <https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13239 · Georgetown

Quitman County

Population 2,276 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Quitman County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Quitman County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. One of Georgia's smallest counties by population. Very rural. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13241 · Clayton

Rabun County

Population 17,131 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Rabun County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Rabun County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mountain county near NC border. Zoning ordinance confirms home occupations are permitted uses in Agricultural district. Planning & Zoning: 18 Old Rabun High Dr Suite 102, Clayton GA 30525, 706-782-1579. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.rabuncounty.ga.gov/planningzoning/page/permits-applications>

<https://www.rabuncounty.ga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13243 · Cuthbert

Randolph County

Population 6,778 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Randolph County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Randolph County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13249 · Ellaville

Schley County

Population 5,257 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Schley County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Schley County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program

https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13251 · Sylvania

Screven County

Population 13,961 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Screven County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Screven County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.screvencountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13253 · Donalsonville

Seminole County

Population 8,437 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Seminole County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Seminole County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES
Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program
https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13257 · Toccoa

Stephens County

Population 26,175 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Stephens County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Stephens County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small county with Toccoa as county seat (Blue Ridge mountains area). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://stephenscountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13259 · Lumpkin

Stewart County

Population 5,689 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Stewart County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Stewart County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13261 · Americus

Sumter County

Population 29,524 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Sumter County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Sumter County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Americus is county seat. Home of Georgia Southwestern State University and near Plains (Jimmy Carter birthplace). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.sumtercountyga.us>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13263 · Talbotton

Talbot County

Population 6,197 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Talbot County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Talbot County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program

https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13265 · Crawfordville

Taliaferro County

Population 1,537 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Taliaferro County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Taliaferro County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Georgia's smallest county by population. Very rural. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13267 · Reidsville

Tattnall County

Population 25,520 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Tattnell County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Tattnell County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.tattnellcounty.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13269 · Butler

Taylor County

Population 8,320 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Taylor County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Taylor County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13271 · McRae

Telfair County

Population 15,860 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Telfair County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Telfair County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program

https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13273 · Dawson

Terrell County

Population 8,531 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Terrell County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Terrell County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county in southwest Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13275 · Thomasville

Thomas County

Population 46,035 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Thomas County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Thomas County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Larger county. Thomasville is county seat with its own city zoning (Thomasville.org). City requires occupation tax/business license for businesses in city limits. Thomasville has zoning ordinance Chapter 22 with home occupation provisions (Sec. 22-41). County Planning & Zoning handles unincorporated areas. Georgia HB 398 (July 2025) applies at state level.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://thomasville.org/departments/city-tax-information/occupation-tax>

<https://www.thomascountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13277 · Tifton

Tift County

Population 40,644 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Tift County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Tift County Planning/ Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Tifton is county seat (agricultural center). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.tiftcounty.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13279 · Lyons

Toombs County

Population 26,830 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Toombs County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Toombs County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size rural county. Vidalia onion country. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

https://www.toombscountyga.net

https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program

https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13281 · Hiawassee

Towns County

Population 12,326 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Towns County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Towns County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small mountain county near NC/TN borders. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.townscountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13283 · Soperton

Treutlen County

Population 6,741 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Treutlen County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Treutlen County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13287 · Ashburn

Turner County

Population 8,066 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Turner County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Turner County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13289 · Jeffersonville

Twiggs County

Population 8,233 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Twiggs County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Twiggs County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13291 · Blairsville

Union County

Population 25,370 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Union County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Union County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mountain county near NC border. Growing retirement/tourism community. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.unioncountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13293 · Thomaston

Upson County

Population 26,834 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Upson County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Upson County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Thomaston is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.upsoncountyga.org>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13299 · Waycross

Ware County

Population 35,734 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Ware County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Ware County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Waycross is county seat (gateway to Okefenokee Swamp). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://warecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13301 · Warrenton

Warren County

Population 5,254 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Warren County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Warren County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13303 · Sandersville

Washington County

Population 20,374 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Washington County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Washington County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Sandersville is county seat. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.washingtoncountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13305 · Jesup

Wayne County

Population 29,927 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Wayne County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wayne County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size county. Jesup is county seat (county_seat was blank in input). No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.waynecountyga.net>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13307 · Preston

Webster County

Population 2,607 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Webster County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Webster County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Very small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13309 · Alamo

Wheeler County

Population 7,855 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19 ·

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Wheeler County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wheeler County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES
 Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13311 · Cleveland

White County

Population 30,798 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — White County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with White County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mountain county. Cleveland is county seat. Growing tourism and residential area. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.whitecountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13315 · Abbeville

Wilcox County

Population 8,635 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Wilcox County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilcox County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13317 · Washington

Wilkes County

Population 9,938 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Wilkes County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilkes County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. Washington (county seat) is historic antebellum city. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.wilkescountyga.gov>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13319 · Irwinton

Wilkinson County

Population 8,862 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT conditional — Wilkinson County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Wilkinson County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP yes

ON-SITE SIGNAGE conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES
 Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Small rural county. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

RANK 9999 · FIPS 13321 · Sylvester

Worth County

Population 20,656 · State baseline: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (eff. July 2025); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19

· MEDIUM

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	yes — Georgia HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025): no license or fee required, complaint-based inspections only, interstate sales allowed, all sales channels permitted. Food handler certification required. Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	no
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit pet restriction in Georgia HB 398 cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water source requires annual coliform testing.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certification required, covering handwashing and hygiene.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	upon-complaint — Complaint-based only under Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 2025). No routine or pre-operational inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	conditional — Worth County is in unincorporated Georgia. Georgia HB 398 removed state licensing requirements effective July 1, 2025, but local zoning and home occupation rules may still apply. Check with Worth County Planning/Zoning for home occupation permit requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Georgia HB 398 allows all sales channels including direct from home, online, through retailers, restaurants, wholesalers, and interstate sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Georgia HB 398. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. (HB 398, eff. July 2025)

RESEARCH NOTES

Georgia state baseline applies with July 2025 HB 398 expansion. Mid-size rural county in south Georgia. No county-specific cottage food overrides documented.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.worthcountyga.com>

<https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/2020/title-26/chapter-2/>

Generated 2026-05-06 · Part 2 of 2 — counties ranked #9999 to #9999 from data/research/state_cottage_food_statutes.csv and data/research/county_cottage_food_zoning.csv. This report is for research purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Cottage food law is in active flux — re-verify all citations and rules against state and county .gov sources before relying on them for regulatory decisions.