

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Cherokee County, Georgia?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-05.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

HOME OCCUPATION

Conditional

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

—

GEORGIA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Georgia permits PDF](#)[Georgia cottage food law page](#)[Georgia Department of Agriculture cottage food program](#)[Statute: O.C.G.A. §26-2-470 et seq. \(eff. July 2025\); prior: GA R&R 40-7-19](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what it takes to sell from a home kitchen in Cherokee County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Cherokee County, Georgia. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Conditional

LOCAL HEALTH

Upon-complaint

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Yes

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

If you want a shop or a rented commercial kitchen, these rows do not apply.

HOW THIS PLACE WORKS

Georgia no longer sells a state cottage-food license. HB 398 (effective July 1, 2025) removed the Georgia Department of Agriculture cottage-food license and fee. What may still apply is city or county occupational tax and zoning. This packet keeps the GDA program page so you can read the current state rules.

Official source: [Georgia Department of Agriculture cottage food](#)

CONTINUE ONLINE

Georgia permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf>

Georgia cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/georgia>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/georgia/cherokee-county>

Cherokee County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/georgia/cherokee-county>

Not legal advice. Rules change. Confirm with the office before you file.

Where to file

State

Georgia registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. 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.

Georgia permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/georgia

Georgia Department of Agriculture: <https://agr.georgia.gov/cottage-food-program>

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

Zoning / home occupation

Conditional. Cherokee County zoning (Canton area) may require home occupation permit for residential-zone food businesses. Producers should check with Cherokee County Community Development Department. State law (HB 398) does not preempt local zoning.

Health

Upon-complaint. Complaint-based only as of HB 398 (eff. July 2025); no routine inspections

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

As of July 2025: direct and indirect sales allowed; wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted; interstate sales allowed (unusual for GA). Pre-July 2025: more restricted.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

A commissary is a food-service permit, not occupational tax. Georgia no longer sells a GDA cottage license (HB 398). A rented kitchen is still a food-service establishment permitted by the county health department or the Department of Public Health. Occupational tax is not that permit.

Official source: [Georgia DPH food service](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.cherokeega.com>

This file is the home-kitchen path. A rented kitchen uses a different permit. Ask the kitchen manager which license they expect, then call the local health office.

SOURCES

<https://www.cherokeega.com>

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

Cherokee County and nearby places

Regulation	Cherokee County	Forsyth County	Bartow County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply	Not specified at county level; state GMP principles apply	No specific state prohibition, but standard sanitation practices apply. If using private water source, annual coliform water testing requir...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	As of July 2025: direct and indirect sales allowed; wholesale, retail, online, and restaurant sales permitted; interstate sales allowed (un...	As of July 2025: direct and indirect sales; wholesale, retail, online, restaurant sales permitted; interstate sales allowed.	Interstate and in-state sales permitted. Wholesale, retail, online, and direct-to-consumer sales all allowed under the 2025 law. Restaurant...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; inspection complaint-based only; broad food list allowed. Food handler certificati...	As of July 1, 2025 (HB 398): no license or fee required; complaint-based inspection only; broad food list. Food handler certification requi...	Since July 2025 (HB 398), Georgia allows almost any non-potentially hazardous food. No license or fee required. Food handler certification ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; July 2025 expansion broadened allowed foods significantly	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; July 2025 law significantly broadened allowed foods	Non-potentially hazardous, non-TCS foods only. Perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, and meat jerkies prohibited.
POPULATION	268,567	253,225	109,410

More pages for this place

These Crosodo pages cover the same home cottage-food path:

Georgia permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf

Georgia cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/georgia

Cherokee County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/georgia/cherokee-county