

## COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

# Can I sell from my kitchen in Heard County, Georgia?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-06.

| STATE FOOD PERMIT | HOME OCCUPATION | BUSINESS LICENSE | SALES CAP |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------|
| No                | Varies          | Yes              | —         |

## 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 Heard County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

## What you need

Heard 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

Varies

LOCAL HEALTH

Upon-complaint

BUSINESS LICENSE

Yes

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/heard-county>

[Heard County cottage food law page →](#)

<https://crosodo.com/states/georgia/heard-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](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf)

State law page: [crosodo.com/states/georgia](https://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

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.

### Health

Upon-complaint. GDA may inspect upon consumer complaint or reported foodborne illness.

### Business license

Yes

### Pickup / delivery

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

### 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.heardcounty.gov>

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.

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### SOURCES

<https://www.heardcounty.gov>

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

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

## Heard County and nearby places

| Regulation                 | Heard County                                                                                                                                   | Troup County                                                                                                                                   | Carroll County                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | No specific state prohibition, but pets should be excluded from food prep areas per good manufacturing practices.                              | Not specified in state law                                                                                                                     | Private water testing (annual coliform) still required if using a private water source.                                                        |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Under HB 398, sales permitted via wholesale, retail, online, and direct. Delivery allowed. No geographic sales restriction within Georgia; ... | Direct and indirect sales allowed; delivery by producer permitted                                                                              | Georgia HB 398 allows wholesale/retail/online/restaurant sales and interstate sales. Broad channel allowances. No sales cap.                   |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food rules. No license or fee required. Complaint-based inspections only. ... | Food handler certification (specific course) required. No sales cap. No state registration required. Inspection upon complaint only. Indire... | Georgia HB 398 (eff. July 1, 2025) dramatically expanded cottage food law. No license or fee required. No GDA licensing inspections [compla... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | All cottage food products must be stored to prevent contamination; non-TCS foods only.                                                         | Appropriate storage for non-TCS products                                                                                                       | Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable products. No perishable baked goods, fruit butters, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.             |
| POPULATION                 | 11,489                                                                                                                                         | 69,527                                                                                                                                         | 120,060                                                                                                                                        |

## 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](https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/georgia.pdf)

Georgia cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/georgia](https://crosodo.com/states/georgia)

Heard County cottage food law: [crosodo.com/states/georgia/heard-county](https://crosodo.com/states/georgia/heard-county)