

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Rhea County, Tennessee?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

HOME OCCUPATION

BUSINESS LICENSE

SALES CAP

No

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TENNESSEE RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Tennessee permits PDF](#)[Tennessee cottage food law page](#)[Tennessee Department of Agriculture cottage food program](#)[Statute: Tenn. Code §53-1-125 \(Food Freedom Act\)](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

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

What you need

Rhea County, Tennessee. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

No

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

—

LOCAL HEALTH

—

BUSINESS LICENSE

—

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

—

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Tennessee permits PDF →](#)

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

[Tennessee cottage food law page →](#)

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

[Permit page for this place →](#)

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/tennessee/rhea-county>

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

<https://crosodo.com/states/tennessee/rhea-county>

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

Where to file

State

Tennessee registration: No. Routine kitchen inspection: No. The Tennessee Food Freedom Act (Public Chapter 862, effective July 1, 2022) broadly exempts production and sale of non-TCS homemade food items from all licensing, permitting, inspecting, packaging, and labeling laws. Sales may be direct to consumer in person or remotely. Local government ordinances restricting homemade food sales are preempted. Note: Prior to the 2022 Food Freedom Act, the older domestic kitchen regulations (TDA Chapter 0080-4-11) required a permit, inspection, and food safety certification, and limited sales to 100 units/week; the Food Freedom Act supersedes these requirements for qualifying non-TCS homemade foods.

Tennessee permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/tennessee.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/tennessee

Tennessee Department of Agriculture: <https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/businesses/food/food-manufacturing/domestic-kitchen.html>

Statute: [Tenn. Code §53-1-125 \(Food Freedom Act\)](#)

Zoning / home occupation

—

Health

—

Business license

—

Pickup / delivery

Ask Planning before you advertise pickup at the house.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

A commissary is a food-service permit. Food Freedom is not. Tennessee Food Freedom covers qualifying homemade non-TCS food. A commissary is a food service establishment permitted by the local health department.

Official source: [TN food service](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.rheacounty.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.

SOURCES

<https://www.rheacounty.gov>

Rhea County and nearby places

Regulation	Rhea County	Bledsoe County	Meigs County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	—	Yes	—
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	—	No	—
PETS ALLOWED	—	No specific pet restriction in state law; standard food safety hygiene practices apply.	—
INSPECTION REQUIRED	—	No	—
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	—	Yes	—
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	—	Conditional	—
DELIVERY / PICKUP	—	Broad — direct and indirect sales permitted. Online, in-person, delivery, farmers markets, retail stores all allowed under Tennessee Food F...	—
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	—	Varies	—
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	—	Varies	—
RESTRICTIONS	—	Tennessee Food Freedom Act (Tenn. Code §53-1-125, effective July 1, 2022) broadly allows any non-TCS homemade food from a private residence...	—
FOOD STORAGE	—	No specific state cottage food storage requirement; non-TCS foods must be stored appropriately.	—
POPULATION	33,031	14,816	12,839

More pages for this place

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

Tennessee permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/tennessee.pdf

Tennessee cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/tennessee

Rhea County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/tennessee/rhea-county