

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Ballard County

Kentucky · Wickliffe · FIPS 21007 · Population 7,851 ·
Crosodo Index #1313*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
KRS §217.136	Okay	60000	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Ballard County, Kentucky — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

60000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Kentucky cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Kentucky home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Kentucky label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

KENTUCKY: BALLARD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1313* · FIPS 21007 · Wickliffe

Ballard County

Population 7,851 · State baseline: KRS §217.136 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CHFS is required (\$50/year). Annual sales cap of \$60,000. Direct sales only — farmers markets, farm stands, home pickup, and events permitted. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

No (Ballard County is a small rural western Kentucky county at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance beyond the state registration requirement was identified. CHFS registration (\$50/year) is the primary permit requirement.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection; complaint-driven only per state baseline.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CHFS is required (\$50/year). Annual sales cap of \$60,000. Direct sales only — farmers markets, farm stands, home pickup, and events permitted. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators permitted.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.

HANDWASHING

No specific state handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practices.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — No routine inspection; complaint-driven only per state baseline.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

No — Ballard County is a small rural western Kentucky county at the confluence of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers. No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance beyond the state registration requirement was identified. CHFS registration (\$50/year) is the primary permit requirement.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based indirect sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified; commercial equipment and separate commercial kitchen prohibited.

Relevant county code

No specific Ballard County cottage food ordinance identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

Ballard County is a small rural western Kentucky county (pop. ~7,851). No county-specific cottage food ordinance was found. Defaulting to Kentucky state baseline.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.ballardcounty.gov>

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/homebasedprocessing.aspx>

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=48558>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/ballard-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Ballard County	Carlisle County	McCracken County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.	No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.	Not specified in state law
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes	Yes	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based...	Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based...	Direct-to-consumer only; no wholesale; no out-of-state internet sales
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	No	No	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CH...	Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CH...	Annual sales cap \$60,000. No food handler cert required. Registration required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales on...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.	Appropriate storage for non-TCS products
POPULATION	7,851	4,760	67,573

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Ballard County's rules sit on top of Kentucky's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
KRS §217.137	60000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Sales limited to direct-to-consumer only within Kentucky — from home (pickup or delivery), markets, roadside stands, community events, and online; shipping outside Kentucky is prohibited, and sales to restaurants or retail stores for resale are not allowed.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Kentucky cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/kentucky.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44478>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

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

Questions about Ballard County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/ballard-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Ballard County, Kentucky. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/ballard-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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