

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Jefferson County

Kentucky · Louisville · FIPS 21111 · Population 779,232 ·
Crosodo Index #2238*

STATE BASELINE

KRS §217.136 (home-based processor); annual cap \$60,000; registration \$50/year

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Okay	60000	MEDIUM	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.

How to start — 60-second path

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

60000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specified in state rules; standard sanitation applies

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: JEFFERSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2238* · FIPS 21111 · Louisville

Jefferson County

Population 779,232 · State baseline: KRS §217.136 (home-based processor); annual cap \$60,000; registration \$50/year · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Jefferson County is Louisville Metro — a consolidated city-county government. Home-based processor registration (\$50/year with KDPH, 902 KAR 45:090) required. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and no more than three refrigerators. Commercial equipment and separate commercial kitchen prohibited.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state rules; standard sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Louisville Metro Government (LMCO) has home occupation regulations in its Land Development Code. Contact Louisville Metro Planning & Design Services for home occupation requirements. Louisville Metro also issues business licenses. Check LMCO Chapter 4, Zoning for home occupation provisions.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Kentucky Department of Public Health may inspect upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Jefferson County is Louisville Metro — a consolidated city-county government. Home-based processor registration (\$50/year with KDPH, 902 KAR 45:090) required. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and no more than three refrigerators. Commercial equipment and separate commercial kitchen prohibited.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state rules; standard sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water; state baseline
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation required per home-based processor regulations
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage; max 3 refrigerators; no more than 2 non-commercial ranges/ovens

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Kentucky Department of Public Health may inspect upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Louisville Metro Government (LMCO) has home occupation regulations in its Land Development Code. Contact Louisville Metro Planning & Design Services for home occupation requirements. Louisville Metro also issues business licenses. Check LMCO Chapter 4, Zoning for home occupation provisions.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer only (farmers markets, events, home sales). No wholesale to restaurants or stores. No internet/mail order. \$60,000 annual cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

KRS §217.136; 902 KAR 45:090; Louisville Metro Land Development Code for home occupations

RESEARCH NOTES

Jefferson County/Louisville Metro is a consolidated city-county government. State baseline applies: KRS §217.136 home-based processor, \$60,000 annual cap, \$50/year registration fee. No Jefferson County-specific modification of state rules found. Louisville Metro has its own planning and zoning code — home occupation requirements likely apply. Confidence medium as specific Louisville Metro home occupation permit details not directly verified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/public-health-wellness>

<https://louisvilleky.gov/government/planning-design>

<https://louisvilleky.gov>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Jefferson County	Hardin County	Bullitt County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state rules; standard sanitation applies	No specific state restriction; standard food safety sanitation practices apply.	Not specified in state law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer only (farmers markets, events, home sales). No wholesale to restaurants or stores. No internet/mail order. \$60,000 annua...	Kentucky allows direct sales only: from home, farmers markets, events. Online/in-state shipping status unclear. No wholesale, restaurants, ...	Direct sales only: in-person at home, events, farmers markets. No wholesale, no online shipping under KRS §217.136.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Jefferson County is Louisville Metro — a consolidated city-county government. Home-based processor registration (\$50/year with KDPH, 902 KA...	Kentucky allows non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/ jellies, granola, etc. from home kitchen. Registration required with KY Dept. for Public...	Kentucky home-based processor: registration required (\$50/year, 902 KAR 45:090), \$60,000 annual sales cap. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, ca...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage; max 3 refrigerators; no more than 2 non-commercial ranges/ovens	Non-TCS shelf-stable products only. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas), fermented foods, nut butters, oils, vinegars, pasta, juices, meat je...	No more than 3 refrigerators allowed; standard food safety storage practices.
POPULATION	779,232	111,005	82,482

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Jefferson 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 Jefferson 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/jefferson-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 Jefferson 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/jefferson-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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