

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Madison County

Kentucky · Richmond · FIPS 21151 · Population 92,955 ·
Crosodo Index #2637*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
KRS §217.137	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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

60000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific restriction stated.

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: MADISON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2637* · FIPS 21151 · Richmond

Madison County

Population 92,955 · State baseline: KRS §217.137 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year). Complaint-based inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, maple and sorghum syrups, granola, snacks. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned goods, pickles, salsas, sauces, nut butters, oils, pasta, fermented foods, juices, meat jerkies. Kitchen equipment limited to residential-scale (no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens, three refrigerators).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific restriction stated.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Madison County (Richmond, home of Eastern Kentucky University) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Madison County-specific cottage food permit identified beyond state registration.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (CHFS / local health department may inspect upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year). Complaint-based inspection. Direct sales only. Allowed: non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, maple and sorghum syrups, granola, snacks. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned goods, pickles, salsas, sauces, nut butters, oils, pasta, fermented foods, juices, meat jerkies. Kitchen equipment limited to residential-scale (no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens, three refrigerators).

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific restriction stated.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement.

HANDWASHING

No specific statutory requirement.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; residential-scale kitchen equipment only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — CHFS / local health department may inspect upon complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — Madison County (Richmond, home of Eastern Kentucky University) may have local home occupation zoning requirements. No Madison County-specific cottage food permit identified beyond state registration.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or mail order under primary pathway.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No employee limit specified; limited to residential-scale kitchen equipment.

Relevant county code

No Madison County-specific cottage food code identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

No Madison County-specific cottage food rules found. Madison County (Richmond) is home to Eastern Kentucky University. Kentucky's restrictive prohibited foods list (no acidified foods, pickles, salsas, nut butters, pasta) makes the primary pathway one of the more limited among states. Separate §217.137 microprocessor pathway available for acidified foods with additional requirements.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.madisoncounty.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/madison-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Madison County	Jessamine County	Fayette County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific restriction stated.	KY state rules do not explicitly address pets. Standard sanitation applies.	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only to consumers. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or mail order under primary pa...	Direct sales to consumers only (KRS §217.136). No wholesale or retail store channel.	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136): \$60,000 annual sales cap. Registration required (\$50/year). Complaint-based inspection. D...	Primary residence kitchen only. No commercial equipment. All foods must be non-potentially hazardous and shelf-stable per 902 KAR 45:090 ap...	KY registration required; \$60,000 annual sales cap; direct to consumer only; non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams, jellies, dried goods; labe...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; residential-scale kitchen equipment only.	Shelf-stable, non-potentially hazardous products only.	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions
POPULATION	92,955	53,381	321,276

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Madison 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 Madison 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/madison-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 Madison 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/madison-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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