

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Warren County

Kentucky · Bowling Green · FIPS 21227 · Population 135,307 ·
Crosodo Index #2693*

STATE BASELINE

KRS §217.136 / §217.137

STATE TIER

Okay

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

60000

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

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

Warren 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

Not explicitly prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.

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: WARREN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2693* · FIPS 21227 · Bowling Green

Warren County

Population 135,307 · State baseline: KRS §217.136 / §217.137 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual gross sales capped at \$60,000. \$50/year registration required. Equipment limits: no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens, no more than three refrigerators. Prohibited: acidified foods, pickles, salsas, sauces, mustards, nut butters, oils, vinegars, pasta, fermented foods, juices, meat jerkies.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not explicitly prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Warren County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. City of Bowling Green (home of Western Kentucky University) has its own home occupation ordinance. No specific county-level cottage food override identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (KCHFS may inspect upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Annual gross sales capped at \$60,000. \$50/year registration required. Equipment limits: no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens, no more than three refrigerators. Prohibited: acidified foods, pickles, salsas, sauces, mustards, nut butters, oils, vinegars, pasta, fermented foods, juices, meat jerkies.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not explicitly prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	Required per food safety standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, granola, snacks only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — KCHFS may inspect upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Warren County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. City of Bowling Green (home of Western Kentucky University) has its own home occupation ordinance. No specific county-level cottage food override identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only. Sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, and events.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

Relevant county code

KRS §217.136; KRS §217.137.

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (KY) confirmed. Warren County includes Bowling Green, a mid-sized college city. No county-specific URLs in input. County follows state baseline. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.warrencounty.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/warren-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Warren County	Allen County	Barren County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not explicitly prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.	No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.	No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Yes	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only. Sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, and events.	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...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	No	No
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Annual gross sales capped at \$60,000. \$50/year registration required. Equipment limits: no more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens, no mo...	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...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS baked goods, candies, jams/jellies, fruit butters, dried goods, granola, snacks only.	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.
POPULATION	135,307	21,038	45,395

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Warren 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 Warren 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/warren-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 Warren 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/warren-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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