

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Butler County

Ohio · Hamilton · FIPS 39017 · Population 388,327 · Crosodo Index #2582*

STATE BASELINE

O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

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

Butler County, Ohio — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state restriction in cottage food law.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Ohio 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
- ☐ Ohio home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Ohio label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

OHIO: BUTLER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2582* · FIPS 39017 · Hamilton

Butler County

Population 388,327 · State baseline: O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20 ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foods from specific product list permitted. No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Butler County Health District has jurisdiction. Local municipal zoning rules apply.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction in cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Butler County municipalities (Hamilton, Middletown, Fairfield, Oxford, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances. Operators should verify home occupation permit requirements with local municipality. Ohio cottage food law does not preempt local zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required. Butler County Health District may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foods from specific product list permitted. No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Butler County Health District has jurisdiction. Local municipal zoning rules apply.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction in cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from ODA-approved product list only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection required. Butler County Health District may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Butler County municipalities (Hamilton, Middletown, Fairfield, Oxford, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances. Operators should verify home occupation permit requirements with local municipality. Ohio cottage food law does not preempt local zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and some indirect sales permitted within Ohio. No sales outside Ohio. Farmers markets, from home, online within Ohio.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law; local home occupation rules vary.

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20-04 (approved products); local Butler County municipal zoning codes.

RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio state cottage food law well-documented. Butler County includes Hamilton, Middletown, and Fairfield — all have own zoning ordinances. Ohio has specific approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04); no generic non-TCS allowance. No state registration required. Ohio does not preempt local zoning. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; Butler County local zoning not specifically researched.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.butlercountyohio.org>

<https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/cottage-foods>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Butler County	Montgomery County	Warren County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction in cottage food law.	Ohio Home Bakery Law: pets banned from indoors at all times. Cottage food (basic): no specific pet restriction	Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be sanitary
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Conditional	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and some indirect sales permitted within Ohio. No sales outside Ohio. Farmers markets, from home, online within Ohio.	Direct from home, online, farmers markets, events, grocery stores, restaurants within Ohio. No interstate sales. No annual cap.	Sales allowed directly to consumers in Ohio only; online orders with Ohio delivery allowed. No out-of-state sales. Farmers markets and even...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foo...	Cottage Food: home must be primary residence with only one domestic stove/oven. Home Bakery (broader product license): separate Home Bakery...	Ohio has an approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04) — only listed products allowed. No registration required, no inspection required. Produ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from ODA-approved product list only.	Products stored at primary residence	Non-TCS shelf-stable approved products only; no acidified foods, no low-acid canned foods
POPULATION	388,327	536,121	243,189

State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Yes — Labeled cottage food products may be sold to or used by retail food establishments and food service operations licensed under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3717. This enables indirect/wholesale sales within Ohio. Products may not be sold outside the state of Ohio.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3715.025>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/cottage-foods>

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

Questions about Butler 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/ohio/butler-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 Butler County, Ohio. 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/ohio/butler-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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