

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Cuyahoga County

Ohio · Cleveland · FIPS 39035 · Population 1,256,620 ·
Crosodo Index #778*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

State baseline applies

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: CUYAHOGA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #778* · FIPS 39035 · Cleveland

Cuyahoga County

Population 1,256,620 · 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?

Yes (Ohio Cottage Food Production Operations exempt from ODA licensing. Home must be primary residence with only one residential stove/oven. Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) provides food safety resources but does not separately license cottage food operations. Local zoning in incorporated cities (Cleveland, Parma, etc.) may have home occupation rules.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (No state requirement for cottage food home occupation permit. OSU Extension notes that cottage food producers should check local zoning regulations for home-based retail sales. Cuyahoga County cities (Cleveland, Parma, Lakewood, etc.) have their own zoning codes. No specific county-level cottage food permit requirement identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (ODA has product sampling authority. Cuyahoga County Board of Health may investigate complaints. No routine inspection.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Ohio Cottage Food Production Operations exempt from ODA licensing. Home must be primary residence with only one residential stove/oven. Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) provides food safety resources but does not separately license cottage food operations. Local zoning in incorporated cities (Cleveland, Parma, etc.) may have home occupation rules.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	State baseline applies
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — ODA has product sampling authority. Cuyahoga County Board of Health may investigate complaints. No routine inspection.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — No state requirement for cottage food home occupation permit. OSU Extension notes that cottage food producers should check local zoning regulations for home-based retail sales. Cuyahoga County cities (Cleveland, Parma, Lakewood, etc.) have their own zoning codes. No specific county-level cottage food permit requirement identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Cottage food products may only be sold in Ohio. Direct sales, grocery stores, farm markets, and restaurants allowed. No out-of-state sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.021(A); O.A.C. 901:3-20

RESEARCH NOTES

Cuyahoga County follows Ohio state baseline. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. CCBH is the county health board but does not separately administer cottage food permits. Ohio's unique features: enumerated approved product list (not general non-PHF), retail sales to grocery stores/restaurants allowed, only one residential stove/oven permitted in the home. Products must bear 'This Product is Home Produced' in 10-point font.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.ccbh.net>

<https://www.cuyahogacounty.us>

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

<https://www.ccbh.net>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Cuyahoga County	Summit County	Lorain County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	Ohio Home Bakery Law: pets banned from indoors at all times. Cottage food (basic): no specific pet restriction	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Conditional	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Cottage food products may only be sold in Ohio. Direct sales, grocery stores, farm markets, and restaurants allowed. No out-of-state sales.	Cottage food and home bakery products may be sold directly from home, online, at farmers markets, community events, grocery stores, and res...	Direct to consumer at home, farmers markets, events; indirect sales to retailers permitted under separate \$300,000 annual cap with addition...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Ohio Cottage Food Production Operations exempt from ODA licensing. Home must be primary residence with only one residential stove/oven. Cuy...	Cottage Food: home must be primary residence with only one stove/oven for domestic use. Home Bakery (broader product license): requires sep...	Non-TCS foods only; \$35,000 annual direct sales cap; no state license or inspection required; labeling required
FOOD STORAGE	State baseline applies	Products must be stored at primary residence; standard home kitchen storage	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions
POPULATION	1,256,620	539,361	313,101

State context — Ohio cottage food law

Cuyahoga 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 Cuyahoga 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/cuyahoga-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 Cuyahoga 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/cuyahoga-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise