

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Delaware County

Ohio · Delaware · FIPS 39041 · Population 216,074 · Crosodo Index #799\*

## 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

Delaware 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

**Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food, but GMP practices apply.**

### 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: DELAWARE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #799\* · FIPS 39041 · Delaware

## Delaware County

Population 216,074 · 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 state law permits cottage food production from a home kitchen. No registration required. Approved product list (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04) must be followed. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Annual sales cap per Ohio law (up to \$75,000 per ORC §3715.024 per Massillon reference). Delaware County is a fast-growing suburban county north of Columbus with high incomes; township zoning is the primary local regulatory mechanism.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food, but GMP practices apply.

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Delaware County unincorporated areas: home occupation rules enforced by individual townships (Berlin, Berkshire, Marlboro, etc.). Delaware City and other municipalities have their own zoning. Home occupation permit may be required from township/municipal zoning office for operating a food business from a residence.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection under Ohio cottage food law. ODA may investigate upon complaint.)

## Home kitchen rules

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes — Ohio state law permits cottage food production from a home kitchen. No registration required. Approved product list (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04) must be followed. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Annual sales cap per Ohio law (up to \$75,000 per ORC §3715.024 per Massillon reference). Delaware County is a fast-growing suburban county north of Columbus with high incomes; township zoning is the primary local regulatory mechanism. |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| PET RESTRICTIONS           | Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food, but GMP practices apply.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| WATER SUPPLY               | No specific county water testing requirement for cottage food under Ohio state law.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| HANDWASHING                | Standard handwashing per GMP guidelines.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Products must comply with Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04 approved product list and standard GMP storage requirements.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

## Inspection &amp; permitting

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED    | No — No routine inspection under Ohio cottage food law. ODA may investigate upon complaint.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Conditional — Delaware County unincorporated areas: home occupation rules enforced by individual townships (Berlin, Berkshire, Marlboro, etc.). Delaware City and other municipalities have their own zoning. Home occupation permit may be required from township/municipal zoning office for operating a food business from a residence. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

**Customer-facing rules**

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes                                                                                                                                                                        |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE         | Conditional                                                                                                                                                                |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Ohio cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales from home, at events, farmers markets, and online. Delivery to customers permitted. Products must stay within Ohio. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | No state-level employee cap for cottage food. Township/municipal home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.                                               |

**Relevant county code**

O.R.C. §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04; Delaware County township zoning ordinances

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Ohio state baseline applies. Delaware County is among the fastest-growing counties in Ohio (Columbus metro). No county-level cottage food overrides found. Zoning administered at township/municipal level. Ohio preempts local health department regulation of cottage food operations. No county-specific URLs provided in input.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.delawarecounty.gov>

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

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

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/ohio/delaware-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/ohio/delaware-county-discuss)

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation                 | Delaware County                                                                                                                                | Licking County                                                                                                                                 | Franklin County                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food, but GMP practices apply.                                                  | No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.                                                                             | State baseline applies                                                                                                                         |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             | No                                                                                                                                             |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            | Yes                                                                                                                                            |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | Ohio cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales from home, at events, farmers markets, and online. Delivery to customers permitted. ... | Direct sales only within Ohio at farmers markets, home, and other direct venues. In-state delivery permitted.                                  | Cottage food products may only be sold in Ohio. Direct sales from home or at farmers markets, grocery stores, farm markets, and restaurants... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT     | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | Conditional                                                                                                                                    |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies                                                                                                                                         | Varies by city                                                                                                                                 |
| RESTRICTIONS               | Ohio state law permits cottage food production from a home kitchen. No registration required. Approved product list (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3... | No registration, no sales cap. Approved product list required (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04). No PHF or acidified foods. Products may not b... | Ohio Cottage Food Production Operations are exempt from ODA licensing and inspection. The home must be the primary residence occupied by th... |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Products must comply with Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04 approved product list and standard GMP storage requirements.                            | Shelf-stable storage for approved cottage food products.                                                                                       | State baseline applies                                                                                                                         |
| POPULATION                 | 216,074                                                                                                                                        | 178,844                                                                                                                                        | 1,318,149                                                                                                                                      |

## State context — Ohio cottage food law

Delaware 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](https://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 Delaware 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/delaware-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/ohio/delaware-county-discuss)

## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Delaware County, Ohio. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/delaware-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/ohio/delaware-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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