

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Lake County

Ohio · Painesville · FIPS 39085 · Population 232,236 ·
Crosodo Index #805*

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

Lake 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

Not specified in state statute; sanitary kitchen required

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: LAKE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #805* · FIPS 39085 · Painesville

Lake County

Population 232,236 · 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 approved product list only (OAC 901:3-20-04). No registration required, no inspection required. No sales cap. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute; sanitary kitchen required

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Lake County and Painesville municipalities may require home occupation permits. Lake County is a suburban county east of Cleveland. Check with Lake County Planning Commission.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; complaint-based enforcement)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Ohio approved product list only (OAC 901:3-20-04). No registration required, no inspection required. No sales cap. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute; sanitary kitchen required
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required
HANDWASHING	No formal certification required
FOOD STORAGE	Ohio approved non-TCS products only; no acidified foods, no low-acid canned foods

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; complaint-based enforcement
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Lake County and Painesville municipalities may require home occupation permits. Lake County is a suburban county east of Cleveland. Check with Lake County Planning Commission.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Ohio-only sales allowed; direct to consumers. Farmers markets, events, home, online with Ohio delivery.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code §901:3-20-04

RESEARCH NOTES

Lake County OH follows Ohio state baseline. No registration or inspection required. Approved product list approach. No Lake County-specific cottage food ordinance found. Confidence medium — state law confirmed but no specific Lake County .gov cottage food source retrieved.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.lakecountyohio.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/lake-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Lake County	Cuyahoga County	Ashtabula County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute; sanitary kitchen required	State baseline applies	No specific restriction under Ohio cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Ohio-only sales allowed; direct to consumers. Farmers markets, events, home, online with Ohio delivery.	Cottage food products may only be sold in Ohio. Direct sales, grocery stores, farm markets, and restaurants allowed. No out-of-state sales.	Direct and indirect sales allowed within Ohio (no out-of-state sales). Farmers markets, events, home pickup, online sales all permitted wit...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies by city	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Ohio approved product list only (OAC 901:3-20-04). No registration required, no inspection required. No sales cap. Products cannot be sold ...	Ohio Cottage Food Production Operations exempt from ODA licensing. Home must be primary residence with only one residential stove/oven. Cuy...	Ohio cottage food law allows production with no registration, no inspection, no sales cap, and no food handler certification required. Only...
FOOD STORAGE	Ohio approved non-TCS products only; no acidified foods, no low-acid canned foods	State baseline applies	Non-PHF approved products only; no reduced oxygen packaging; store to prevent contamination.
POPULATION	232,236	1,256,620	97,666

State context — Ohio cottage food law

Lake 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 Lake 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/lake-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 Lake 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/lake-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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