

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Portage County

Ohio · Ravenna · FIPS 39133 · Population 161,217 · Crosodo Index #1581*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

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: PORTAGE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1581* · FIPS 39133 · Ravenna

Portage County

Population 161,217 · 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 allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration or sales cap. Products must be on the approved list (OAC 901:3-20-04): non-PHF bakery products, candy (not dipped fresh fruit), flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/granola bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee beans, dry baking mixes in a jar, dry herbs, and spice mixes with commercially dried ingredients. No reduced oxygen packaging.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Portage County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement by Ohio Dept of Agriculture.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Ohio allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration or sales cap. Products must be on the approved list (OAC 901:3-20-04): non-PHF bakery products, candy (not dipped fresh fruit), flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/granola bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee beans, dry baking mixes in a jar, dry herbs, and spice mixes with commercially dried ingredients. No reduced oxygen packaging.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement under Ohio cottage food law.

HANDWASHING

Good manufacturing practices apply.

FOOD STORAGE

Approved products only; non-PHF; proper storage to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement by Ohio Dept of Agriculture.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — Portage County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales (within Ohio only — products cannot be sold outside Ohio). Allowed venues: home, farmers markets, fairs, roadside stands, retail stores (some channels). No reduced oxygen packaging allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Portage County Zoning Resolution (home occupation provisions); OAC 901:3-20

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. Ohio has a specific approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04). No Portage County-specific cottage food code identified. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.portagecounty.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/portage-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Portage County	Trumbull County	Mahoning County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.	Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food; GMP practices apply.	Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food operations, but GMP practices discourage pet presence in food prep area...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer and indirect sales (within Ohio only — products cannot be sold outside Ohio). Allowed venues: home, farmers markets, fai...	Ohio cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales from home, events, farmers markets, and online. Products must stay within Ohio.	Ohio state law permits direct sales from home, at events, farmers markets, and online. Delivery to customers is allowed. No county-specific...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Ohio allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration or sales cap. Products must be on the approved list (OAC 901:3-20-04); non...	Ohio state law permits cottage food production from a home kitchen without registration. Must follow approved product list (Ohio Admin. Cod...	Ohio state law permits cottage food production from a home kitchen for non-potentially hazardous foods on the approved product list. No sep...
FOOD STORAGE	Approved products only; non-PHF; proper storage to prevent contamination.	Approved product list compliance required. Standard GMP storage.	Products must be stored in a manner that prevents contamination; standard GMP storage practices apply.
POPULATION	161,217	201,749	227,979

State context — Ohio cottage food law

Portage 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 Portage 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/portage-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 Portage 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/portage-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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