

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Ross County

Ohio · Chillicothe · FIPS 39141 · Population 76,957 · Crosodo Index #1617*

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

Ross 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

Not specified in state statute.

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: ROSS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1617* · FIPS 39141 · Chillicothe

Ross County

Population 76,957 · 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 (Approved product list only (OAC 901:3-20-04): non-potentially hazardous bakery products, candy (not dipped fresh fruit), flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/bars, maple sugar, popcorn, unfilled baked donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee beans, dry baking mixes in jars, dry herbs, spice mixes with commercially dried ingredients. No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No state-level registration required for cottage food operations. Ross County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Ross County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. ODA may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Approved product list only (OAC 901:3-20-04): non-potentially hazardous bakery products, candy (not dipped fresh fruit), flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/bars, maple sugar, popcorn, unfilled baked donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee beans, dry baking mixes in jars, dry herbs, spice mixes with commercially dried ingredients. No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state statute.

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required.

HANDWASHING

No food handler certification required at state level.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-potentially hazardous products must be stored appropriately. No reduced oxygen packaging permitted.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspection. ODA may investigate upon complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — No state-level registration required for cottage food operations. Ross County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Ross County-specific cottage food ordinance found.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales permitted within Ohio. No sales outside Ohio. Specific approved product list applies.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; OAC 901:3-20. No Ross County-specific code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio cottage food law has no sales cap and no registration requirement, but has a specific approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04) and prohibits sales outside Ohio. No Ross County-specific overrides found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.rosscounty.gov>

<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/ross-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Ross County	Pickaway County	Fayette County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute.	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.	No specific pet restriction in Ohio state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and indirect sales permitted within Ohio. No sales outside Ohio. Specific approved product list applies.	Ohio allows direct and indirect sales within Ohio only. Farmers markets, retail stores, online (in-state), home pickup all permitted.	Direct sales (home, farmers markets, events) and indirect sales to licensed retail food establishments permitted within Ohio. No out-of-sta...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Approved product list only (OAC 901:3-20-04): non-potentially hazardous bakery products, candy (not dipped fresh fruit), flavored honey, fr...	Ohio cottage food operations allowed from home kitchens with no registration or inspection required. Specific approved product list (OAC 90...	Ohio cottage food law allows production of approved non-potentially-hazardous foods in a home kitchen with no sales cap and no registration...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous products must be stored appropriately. No reduced oxygen packaging permitted.	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable products required. No reduced oxygen packaging.	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only per OAC 901:3-20-04 approved product list.
POPULATION	76,957	58,809	28,901

State context — Ohio cottage food law

Ross 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 Ross 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/ross-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 Ross 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/ross-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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