

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Summit County

Ohio · Akron · FIPS 39153 · Population 539,361 · Crosodo Index #1226*

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

Summit 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

Conditional

PETS

Ohio Home Bakery Law: pets banned from indoors at all times. Cottage food (basic): no specific pet restriction

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: SUMMIT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1226* · FIPS 39153 · Akron

Summit County

Population 539,361 · 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 (Cottage Food: home must be primary residence with only one stove/oven for domestic use. Home Bakery (broader product license): requires separate Home Bakery License and kitchen inspection. Both programs: no pets indoors for Home Bakery; pets permitted for basic Cottage Food production (no home bakery license).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Ohio Home Bakery Law: pets banned from indoors at all times. Cottage food (basic): no specific pet restriction

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Ohio state cottage food law does NOT preempt local ordinances. Summit County and City of Akron may have home occupation permit requirements. Operators should contact Summit County Planning/Zoning or City of Akron Planning Department to determine if a home occupation permit is required for cottage food production from a residential property.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Conditional (Cottage Food: no inspection required. Ohio Home Bakery License: kitchen inspection required before license issued. ODA may sample food products to check for misbranding/adulteration.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Cottage Food: home must be primary residence with only one stove/oven for domestic use. Home Bakery (broader product license): requires separate Home Bakery License and kitchen inspection. Both programs: no pets indoors for Home Bakery; pets permitted for basic Cottage Food production (no home bakery license).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Ohio Home Bakery Law: pets banned from indoors at all times. Cottage food (basic): no specific pet restriction
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement in state cottage food law
HANDWASHING	Implied by good sanitation practices; no specific separate provision for cottage food
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored at primary residence; standard home kitchen storage

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional — Cottage Food: no inspection required. Ohio Home Bakery License: kitchen inspection required before license issued. ODA may sample food products to check for misbranding/adulteration.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Ohio state cottage food law does NOT preempt local ordinances. Summit County and City of Akron may have home occupation permit requirements. Operators should contact Summit County Planning/Zoning or City of Akron Planning Department to determine if a home occupation permit is required for cottage food production from a residential property.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Cottage food and home bakery products may be sold directly from home, online, at farmers markets, community events, grocery stores, and restaurants within Ohio. No interstate sales permitted. No annual sales cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20. Local: Summit County/City of Akron zoning codes.

RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio has two tiers: Cottage Food (no permit, limited product list, direct sales and wholesale allowed within Ohio) and Home Bakery Law (license required, broader products including perishable baked goods). Ohio does NOT preempt local ordinances. Summit County/Akron home occupation permit requirements not confirmed from direct source. Key Ohio distinction: retail wholesale sales to grocery stores and restaurants are allowed for both cottage food and home bakery (unusual nationally). No interstate sales. No annual cap. Confidence medium: state law confirmed from official ODA page and IJ research; Summit County-specific local rules not retrieved.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://co.summitoh.net>

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

<https://ij.org/issues/economic-liberty/homemade-food-seller/ohio/>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Summit County	Stark County	Cuyahoga County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Conditional	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Ohio Home Bakery Law: pets banned from indoors at all times. Cottage food (basic): no specific pet restriction	No specific state restriction.	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Cottage food and home bakery products may be sold directly from home, online, at farmers markets, community events, grocery stores, and res...	Direct and some indirect sales within Ohio. No sales outside Ohio. Online within Ohio.	Cottage food products may only be sold in Ohio. Direct sales, grocery stores, farm markets, and restaurants allowed. No out-of-state sales.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	Cottage Food: home must be primary residence with only one stove/oven for domestic use. Home Bakery (broader product license): requires sep...	Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foo...	Ohio Cottage Food Production Operations exempt from ODA licensing. Home must be primary residence with only one residential stove/oven. Cuy...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored at primary residence; standard home kitchen storage	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from ODA-approved product list only.	State baseline applies
POPULATION	539,361	374,199	1,256,620

State context — Ohio cottage food law

Summit 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 Summit 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/summit-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 Summit 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/summit-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