

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Centre County

Pennsylvania · Bellefonte · FIPS 42027 · Population 158,665 ·
Crosodo Index #2781*

STATE BASELINE

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737

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

Centre County, Pennsylvania — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

Pets in the home are a concern under GMP requirements; animals may not be in food prep areas.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Pennsylvania 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
- ☐ Pennsylvania home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Pennsylvania label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

PENNSYLVANIA: CENTRE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2781* · FIPS 42027 · Bellefonte

Centre County

Population 158,665 · State baseline: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment registration required (\$35 fee, 2-year renewal). Initial on-site inspection required before registration issued. Non-TCS foods only (those not requiring refrigeration). Not available in Philadelphia County. Must submit application at least 60 days prior to operating. Allowed foods: baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/fermented foods (with testing), candy, and other shelf-stable foods.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Pets in the home are a concern under GMP requirements; animals may not be in food prep areas.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Centre County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. Penn State is located in Centre County; local home occupation rules may vary by municipality. No county-specific cottage food overlay found beyond state rules.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Initial on-site inspection required before registration. Subsequent routine inspections apply.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment registration required (\$35 fee, 2-year renewal). Initial on-site inspection required before registration issued. Non-TCS foods only (those not requiring refrigeration). Not available in Philadelphia County. Must submit application at least 60 days prior to operating. Allowed foods: baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/fermented foods (with testing), candy, and other shelf-stable foods.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Pets in the home are a concern under GMP requirements; animals may not be in food prep areas.
WATER SUPPLY	Private water supply (well) testing may be required as part of registration review.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facility required; diagram of processing areas required with application.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination and cross-contact.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Initial on-site inspection required before registration. Subsequent routine inspections apply.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Centre County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. Penn State is located in Centre County; local home occupation rules may vary by municipality. No county-specific cottage food overlay found beyond state rules.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales and limited indirect sales permitted. Online sales allowed within Pennsylvania. Wholesale to restaurants and food establishments has restrictions.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local zoning may apply.

Relevant county code

Centre County Zoning Ordinance; 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737

RESEARCH NOTES

Verified-large county. State baseline governs. PA requires initial inspection and \$35 registration fee. No Centre County-specific cottage food code identified beyond state rules. County govt URL verified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://centrecountypa.gov>

<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/limited-food-establishment.html>

<https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&ttl=03&div=0&chpt=57>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Centre County	Blair County	Clearfield County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Pets in the home are a concern under GMP requirements; animals may not be in food prep areas.	Standard food safety GMP practices apply; inspection will assess kitchen cleanliness and sanitation.	Not explicitly stated, but kitchen must pass initial inspection.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales and limited indirect sales permitted. Online sales allowed within Pennsylvania. Wholesale to restaurants and food establishments...	Pennsylvania allows direct sales and limited indirect sales (farmers markets, events, limited retail). Online sales permitted with in-state...	Direct and indirect sales permitted (to retail stores with specific requirements). Online sales allowed within Pennsylvania. Application mu...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment registration required (\$35 fee, 2-year renewal). Initial on-site inspection required before registr...	Pennsylvania requires a Limited Food Establishment registration with the PA Department of Agriculture. Blair County is outside Philadelphia...	Non-TCS foods that do not require refrigeration of the finished product. Includes baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/ferm...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination and cross-contact.	Non-TCS shelf-stable products required. No refrigerated finished products. Acidified/fermented foods have specific pH/water activity testin...	Shelf-stable non-TCS foods must be stored appropriately.
POPULATION	158,665	122,640	79,707

State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

Centre County's rules sit on top of Pennsylvania's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737

ANNUAL SALES CAP

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REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Yes

DIRECT SALES ONLY

No

INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Registration includes sales direct from the production site including internet sales. However, a separate Retail Food Facility License may be required for sales at events or Farmers Markets. Businesses aiming to sell across state lines might also need FDA registration. The registration covers home-based operations in residential kitchens as well as residential-style kitchens in alternate locations such as churches, fire halls, or remodeled garages. Not available in Philadelphia County.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Pennsylvania cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&ttl=03&div=0&chpt=57>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/limited-food-establishment.html>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/pennsylvania/>

Questions about Centre 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/pennsylvania/centre-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 Centre County, Pennsylvania. 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/pennsylvania/centre-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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