

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Lebanon County

Pennsylvania · Lebanon · FIPS 42075 · Population 143,258 ·
Crosodo Index #2442*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737	Good	—	MEDIUM	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

Lebanon County, Pennsylvania — 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

Yes

PETS

Not explicitly prohibited by state statute, but kitchen must be maintained sanitary; pets excluded from production areas during food preparation is recommended per good practices.

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: LEBANON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2442* · FIPS 42075 · Lebanon

Lebanon County

Population 143,258 · State baseline: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registration is issued. Must submit application at least 60 days before operating. Not available in Philadelphia County (not applicable here). Non-TCS foods only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not explicitly prohibited by state statute, but kitchen must be maintained sanitary; pets excluded from production areas during food preparation is recommended per good practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Lebanon County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. The City of Lebanon and other municipalities within the county have their own zoning codes. No specific county-level cottage food home occupation ordinance identified. Operators should check with their local municipality for home occupation permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

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

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registration is issued. Must submit application at least 60 days before operating. Not available in Philadelphia County (not applicable here). Non-TCS foods only.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not explicitly prohibited by state statute, but kitchen must be maintained sanitary; pets excluded from production areas during food preparation is recommended per good practices.

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required. Private well or septic users may face additional testing requirements.

HANDWASHING

Required per food safety standards; inspected during initial kitchen review.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS (non-refrigerated finished products) only. Products stored in food-safe containers. Low-acid canned foods have additional requirements.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Yes — Initial on-site inspection required before registration. Subsequent routine inspections apply after registration.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — Lebanon County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. The City of Lebanon and other municipalities within the county have their own zoning codes. No specific county-level cottage food home occupation ordinance identified. Operators should check with their local municipality for home occupation permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, restaurants, and retail stores. Some indirect sales channels allowed under limited food establishment registration.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level for limited food establishment operators.

Relevant county code

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 (Limited Food Establishment provisions)

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (PA) confirmed: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737, \$35 2-year registration fee, initial inspection required. No county-specific URLs in input. Lebanon County follows state baseline. No Philadelphia County exception applies. Confidence medium as county-specific zoning/planning URLs not verified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.lebanoncounty.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/lebanon-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Lebanon County	Schuylkill County	Dauphin County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not explicitly prohibited by state statute, but kitchen must be maintained sanitary; pets excluded from production areas during food prepar...	Not explicitly prohibited by state statute; kitchen must be sanitary during production.	Pets excluded from food production areas
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales permitted from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, restaurants, and retail stores. Some indirect sales channels allowed un...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, restaurants, and retail stores permitted under the Limited Food Establishment reg...	Direct and limited indirect sales; farmers markets and retail allowed
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registrat...	Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registrat...	PA LFE registration and initial kitchen inspection required; non-TCS foods only; labeling required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS (non-refrigerated finished products) only. Products stored in food-safe containers. Low-acid canned foods have additional requireme...	Non-TCS (non-refrigerated finished products) only. Stored in food-safe containers.	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions
POPULATION	143,258	143,201	286,108

State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

Lebanon 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

—

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 Lebanon 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/lebanon-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 Lebanon 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/lebanon-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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