

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Monroe County

Pennsylvania · Stroudsburg · FIPS 42089 · Population
168,128 · Crosodo Index #1827*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

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HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

Home kitchen inspected; pets likely required away from food prep areas during production.

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: MONROE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1827* · FIPS 42089 · Stroudsburg

Monroe County

Population 168,128 · 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. Non-hazardous foods not requiring refrigeration of finished product only. Application must be submitted at least 60 days before operating. Direct sales and internet sales from production site included. Retail Food Facility License may be required for farmers market sales.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Home kitchen inspected; pets likely required away from food prep areas during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Monroe County allows home occupations in residential zones with conditions per PA Municipalities Planning Code. Business license or home occupation permit typically required. Monroe County has URLs in input (monroecounty.gov for govt, health, and planning). Stroudsburg, Mount Pocono, and East Stroudsburg have their own rules that may differ from county.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Initial inspection required before registration. Routine inspections apply to registered operators.)

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. Non-hazardous foods not requiring refrigeration of finished product only. Application must be submitted at least 60 days before operating. Direct sales and internet sales from production site included. Retail Food Facility License may be required for farmers market sales.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Home kitchen inspected; pets likely required away from food prep areas during production.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply; inspected during registration.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facilities required; assessed during inspection.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-refrigerated foods stored in sanitary conditions; assessed during inspection.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Initial inspection required before registration. Routine inspections apply to registered operators.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Monroe County allows home occupations in residential zones with conditions per PA Municipalities Planning Code. Business license or home occupation permit typically required. Monroe County has URLs in input (monroecounty.gov for govt, health, and planning). Stroudsburg, Mount Pocono, and East Stroudsburg have their own rules that may differ from county.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales from production site and internet sales included in registration. Farmers market sales may require separate Retail Food Facility License.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified beyond household-style kitchen requirement.

Relevant county code

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 (Food Safety Act, Subchapter B)

RESEARCH NOTES

PA Limited Food Establishment program official page (pa.gov) confirms initial inspection required, \$35 registration fee, 60-day application lead time, routine inspections. Monroe County is in the Pocono Mountains area. Not available in Philadelphia County. County health and planning URLs confirmed from input. PA program is administered by state, not county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/health>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov>

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

<https://www.monroecounty.gov>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/health>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Monroe County	Lackawanna County	Northampton County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Home kitchen inspected; pets likely required away from food prep areas during production.	PA Department of Agriculture home kitchen inspection verifies compliance with food safety standards; pet presence in food preparation areas...	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 from production site and internet sales included in registration. Farmers market sales may require separate Retail Food Facili...	Pennsylvania LFE program permits sales directly to consumers and through limited indirect channels (depending on product type). Home pickup...	Direct and limited indirect sales; farmers markets and retail allowed
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	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...	Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment (LFE) law requires registration (\$35 for 2-year registration) and an initial on-site inspection bef...	PA LFE registration and initial kitchen inspection required; non-TCS foods only; labeling required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-refrigerated foods stored in sanitary conditions; assessed during inspection.	Only non-refrigerated, non-TCS finished products permitted. Standard GMP storage practices required.	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions
POPULATION	168,128	215,672	314,299

State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

Monroe 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 Monroe 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/monroe-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 Monroe 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/monroe-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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