

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Bath County

Kentucky · Owingsville · FIPS 21011 · Population 12,523 ·  
Crosodo Index #1562\*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
KRS §217.136	Okay	60000	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

**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.

KENTUCKY: BATH COUNTY

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# Bath County

Population 12,523 · State baseline: KRS §217.136 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CHFS is required (\$50/year). Annual sales cap of \$60,000. Direct sales only — farmers markets, farm stands, home pickup, and events permitted. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators permitted.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

No (Bath County is a small rural northeastern Kentucky county. No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance beyond the state registration requirement was identified. CHFS registration (\$50/year) is the primary permit requirement.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection; complaint-driven only per state baseline.)

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CHFS is required (\$50/year). Annual sales cap of \$60,000. Direct sales only — farmers markets, farm stands, home pickup, and events permitted. No more than two non-commercial ranges/ovens and three refrigerators permitted.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	No specific state handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practices.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Upon-complaint — No routine inspection; complaint-driven only per state baseline.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	No — Bath County is a small rural northeastern Kentucky county. No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance beyond the state registration requirement was identified. CHFS registration (\$50/year) is the primary permit requirement.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Yes
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based indirect sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified; commercial equipment and separate commercial kitchen prohibited.

### Relevant county code

No specific Bath County cottage food ordinance identified.

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Bath County is a small rural northeastern Kentucky county (pop. ~12,523). No county-specific cottage food ordinance was found. Defaulting to Kentucky state baseline.

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#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/homebasedprocessing.aspx>

<https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=48558>

**Questions?** Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/bath-county-discuss>

## State context — Kentucky cottage food law

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

<b>STATUTE</b> KRS §217.137	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> 60000
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Sales limited to direct-to-consumer only within Kentucky — from home (pickup or delivery), markets, roadside stands, community events, and online; shipping outside Kentucky is prohibited, and sales to restaurants or retail stores for resale are not allowed.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Kentucky cottage food law report](#).

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=44478>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dphps/fsb/Pages/cottage-foods.aspx>

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

## Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Bath County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/kentucky/bath-county-discuss>

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