

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Estill County

Kentucky · Irvine · FIPS 21065 · Population 14,359 · Crosodo Index #1294*

| 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: ESTILL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1294* · FIPS 21065 · Irvine

Estill County

Population 14,359 · 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 (Estill County is a small rural east-central Kentucky county in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. 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

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 DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

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

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state cottage food water testing requirement.

HANDWASHING

No specific state handwashing mandate beyond general food safety practices.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

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

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

No — Estill County is a small rural east-central Kentucky county in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. 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.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

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 Estill County cottage food ordinance identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

Estill County is a small rural east-central Kentucky county (pop. ~14,359). No county-specific cottage food ordinance was found. Defaulting to Kentucky state baseline.

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/estill-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation | Estill County | Clark County | Jackson County |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No | No | No |
| PETS ALLOWED | No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected. | No specific pet restriction in state statute, but good manufacturing practices expected. | Pets and children must be excluded from the kitchen during food production per KRS §217.136 and associated regulations. |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED | Upon-complaint | Upon-complaint | No |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | Yes | Yes | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP | Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based... | Direct sales only. Sales at farmers markets, farm stands, events, and home pickup permitted. No wholesale, retail stores, or internet-based... | Direct-to-consumer only. Permitted venues: home (on-premises pickup), farmers markets, certified roadside stands, community events, fairs, ... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | No | No | Varies |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies | Varies | Varies |
| RESTRICTIONS | Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CH... | Kentucky home-based processor law (KRS §217.136) allows direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods from a home kitchen. Registration with CH... | Kentucky Home-Based Processor (HBP) law (KRS §217.136) allows production and direct sale of non-TCS shelf-stable foods from a primary resid... |
| FOOD STORAGE | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage. | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. No more than three refrigerators for storage. | Non-TCS (non-potentially hazardous), shelf-stable foods only. No commercial refrigerators permitted beyond household limits (up to three st... |
| POPULATION | 14,359 | 36,860 | 13,002 |

State context — Kentucky cottage food law

Estill 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.

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| STATUTE KRS §217.137 | ANNUAL SALES CAP 60000 |
| REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes | FOOD HANDLER CERT No |
| KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint | DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes |
| INDIRECT SALES 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 Estill County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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