

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Ashland County

Ohio · Ashland · FIPS 39005 · Population 52,522 · Crosodo Index #1211\*

## STATE BASELINE

O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20

## STATE TIER

**Good**

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

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## 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.

## OHIO: ASHLAND COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1211\* · FIPS 39005 · Ashland

# Ashland County

Population 52,522 · State baseline: O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20 ·

MEDIUM

**QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Production must occur at the site where products are sold directly to consumers. Products must be on Ohio's approved cottage food product list (non-TCS, approved non-PHF bakery goods, candy, jams, etc.). No reduced oxygen packaging. No sales outside Ohio.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not specified in state cottage food law.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (Ashland County zoning resolution (Section 604) requires home occupation to be located in main dwelling or attached garage. Max 300 sq ft. Only full-time live-in residents may be employed. No accessory building use. Signs limited to 6 sq ft. Zoning permit may not be required for businesses conducted entirely inside residence with no outside signs and no customer/supplier traffic (per Section 700 exemption). Township-level zoning inspector administers rules.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Conditional

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (No routine inspection. State/local health authority may inspect only upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness. Direct-from-site sales require no license or inspection.)

**Home kitchen rules**

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Production must occur at the site where products are sold directly to consumers. Products must be on Ohio's approved cottage food product list (non-TCS, approved non-PHF bakery goods, candy, jams, etc.). No reduced oxygen packaging. No sales outside Ohio.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in state cottage food law.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Not specified in state cottage food law.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard sanitation implied; no specific requirement in state cottage food law.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Products must remain non-potentially hazardous; proper storage implied by food safety standards.

**Inspection & permitting**

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — No routine inspection. State/local health authority may inspect only upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness. Direct-from-site sales require no license or inspection.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — Ashland County zoning resolution (Section 604) requires home occupation to be located in main dwelling or attached garage. Max 300 sq ft. Only full-time live-in residents may be employed. No accessory building use. Signs limited to 6 sq ft. Zoning permit may not be required for businesses conducted entirely inside residence with no outside signs and no customer/supplier traffic (per Section 700 exemption). Township-level zoning inspector administers rules.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales from production site permitted without license. Farmers market sales also allowed without separate license. Customer traffic at home may trigger township zoning permit requirement.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only full-time live-in residents per Ashland County zoning (Section 604). No outside employees.

### Relevant county code

Ashland County Township Zoning Resolution 2021, Section 317 and Section 604 (Home Occupation); O.R.C. §3715.025; OAC 901:3-20-04

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio cottage food operations require no license or inspection when selling directly to consumers from production site. Ashland County township zoning (2021 resolution) limits home occupations to main dwelling/attached garage, 300 sq ft, live-in residents only. Businesses with no outside signs and no customer/supplier traffic are exempt from zoning permits under Section 700. A separate Home Bakery License (\$10/year, ODA inspection) is available for broader operations. No county health department-specific cottage food rules found.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.ashlandcounty.org/planning/index.php?id=zoning>

<https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/cottage-foods>

<https://www.ashlandcounty.org/planning/data/uploads/zoning-resolution-2021-2.pdf>

<https://www.ashlandcounty.org/planning/index.php?id=zoning>

<https://ofbf.org/app/uploads/2024/04/Food-Guide-Ohio-Lic-Reg.pdf>

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

## State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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<b>STATUTE</b>	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b>
O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20	—
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b>	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b>
No	No
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b>	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b>
No	No
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b>	
Yes — Labeled cottage food products may be sold to or used by retail food establishments and food service operations licensed under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3717. This enables indirect/wholesale sales within Ohio. Products may not be sold outside the state of Ohio.	

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3715.025>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/cottage-foods>

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

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/ohio/ashland-county-discuss>

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