

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Belmont County

Ohio · Saint Clairsville · FIPS 39013 · Population 66,554 ·
Crosodo Index #1567*

STATE BASELINE

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

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.

OHIO: BELMONT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1567* · FIPS 39013 · Saint Clairsville

Belmont County

Population 66,554 · 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 (No sales cap. No food handler cert required. No registration required. No kitchen inspection required. Indirect sales allowed at limited venues (farmers markets, roadside stands). Non-TCS foods only per ODA approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04). No acidified foods, no low-acid canned foods, no reduced oxygen packaging, no fresh-fruit-dipped candies.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Belmont County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Saint Clairsville and other municipalities have their own zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; complaint-based possible)

Home kitchen rules

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED | Yes — No sales cap. No food handler cert required. No registration required. No kitchen inspection required. Indirect sales allowed at limited venues (farmers markets, roadside stands). Non-TCS foods only per ODA approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04). No acidified foods, no low-acid canned foods, no reduced oxygen packaging, no fresh-fruit-dipped candies. |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No |
| PET RESTRICTIONS | Not specified in state law |
| WATER SUPPLY | Standard residential water supply |
| HANDWASHING | Good sanitation practices implied |
| FOOD STORAGE | Non-TCS shelf-stable products; no reduced oxygen packaging |

Inspection & permitting

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED | No — No routine inspection; complaint-based possible |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Varies — No county govt URL provided. Belmont County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Saint Clairsville and other municipalities have their own zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies |

Customer-facing rules

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct and limited indirect sales at farmers markets, roadside stands; no out-of-state sales |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME | Not specified |

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio Good-tier state. Belmont County is in eastern Ohio along the WV border, coal/energy region. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation | Belmont County | Jefferson County | Guernsey County |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No | No | No |
| PETS ALLOWED | Not specified in state law | No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies | No specific pet restriction in Ohio state cottage food law. |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED | No | No | No |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes | Yes | Conditional |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | Conditional | Conditional | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP | Direct and limited indirect sales at farmers markets, roadside stands; no out-of-state sales | Direct and indirect sales allowed within Ohio; online sales within Ohio permitted. No out-of-state sales. | Direct sales (home, farmers markets, events) and indirect sales to licensed retail food establishments permitted within Ohio. No out-of-sta... |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Varies | Varies | Varies |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies | Varies | Varies |
| RESTRICTIONS | No sales cap. No food handler cert required. No registration required. No kitchen inspection required. Indirect sales allowed at limited ve... | No registration or inspection required. Must sell approved products from ODA approved list only. Cannot sell outside Ohio. No reduced oxyge... | Ohio cottage food law allows production of approved non-potentially-hazardous foods in a home kitchen with no sales cap and no registration... |
| FOOD STORAGE | Non-TCS shelf-stable products; no reduced oxygen packaging | Non-PHF approved products only; proper storage required | Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only per OAC 901:3-20-04 approved product list. |
| POPULATION | 66,554 | 65,280 | 38,409 |

State context — Ohio cottage food law

Belmont 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.

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| STATUTE | ANNUAL SALES CAP |
| O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20 | — |
| REGISTRATION REQUIRED | FOOD HANDLER CERT |
| No | No |
| KITCHEN INSPECTION | DIRECT SALES ONLY |
| No | No |
| INDIRECT SALES | |
| 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. | |

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

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/>

Questions?

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

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