

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Brown County

Ohio · Georgetown · FIPS 39015 · Population 44,292 ·
Crosodo Index #1940*

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

2026-05-06

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.

OHIO: BROWN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1940* · FIPS 39015 · Georgetown

Brown County

Population 44,292 · 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 (Ohio cottage food law allows production of approved non-potentially-hazardous foods in a home kitchen with no sales cap and no registration. Products must be labeled per O.R.C. §3715.023. Sales within Ohio only. Direct and indirect (retail) sales both permitted. Brown County zoning may apply to home-based businesses in unincorporated areas.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific pet restriction in Ohio state cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No state-level permit required. Brown County zoning resolutions may require a home occupation permit for unincorporated areas. Contact Brown County Building/Zoning in Georgetown for local requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (ODA has sampling authority; no routine inspection required.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Ohio cottage food law allows production of approved non-potentially-hazardous foods in a home kitchen with no sales cap and no registration. Products must be labeled per O.R.C. §3715.023. Sales within Ohio only. Direct and indirect (retail) sales both permitted. Brown County zoning may apply to home-based businesses in unincorporated areas.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific pet restriction in Ohio state cottage food law.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific water testing requirement in Ohio cottage food law.

HANDWASHING

No specific statutory handwashing mandate beyond good manufacturing practices.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable foods only per OAC 901:3-20-04 approved product list.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — ODA has sampling authority; no routine inspection required.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — No state-level permit required. Brown County zoning resolutions may require a home occupation permit for unincorporated areas. Contact Brown County Building/Zoning in Georgetown for local requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Conditional |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct sales (home, farmers markets, events) and indirect sales to licensed retail food establishments permitted within Ohio. No out-of-state sales. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME | Not specified in state statute. |

Relevant county code

No county-specific cottage food ordinance identified. State law (O.R.C. §3715.025 and OAC Ch. 901:3-20) governs.

RESEARCH NOTES

Brown County is a rural county in southwest Ohio. No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance found. Defaulted to Ohio state baseline at medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://agri.ohio.gov/divisions/food-safety/cottage-foods>
- <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-3715.025>
- <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/chapter-901:3-20>

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

State context — Ohio cottage food law

Brown 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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|--|--------------------------|
| 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 Brown County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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