

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Butler County

Ohio · Hamilton · FIPS 39017 · Population 388,327 · Crosodo Index #2582*

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: BUTLER COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2582* · FIPS 39017 · Hamilton

Butler County

Population 388,327 · 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?**

Conditional (Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foods from specific product list permitted. No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Butler County Health District has jurisdiction. Local municipal zoning rules apply.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction in cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Butler County municipalities (Hamilton, Middletown, Fairfield, Oxford, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances. Operators should verify home occupation permit requirements with local municipality. Ohio cottage food law does not preempt local zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required. Butler County Health District may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED | Conditional — Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foods from specific product list permitted. No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Butler County Health District has jurisdiction. Local municipal zoning rules apply. |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No |
| PET RESTRICTIONS | No specific state restriction in cottage food law. |
| WATER SUPPLY | No specific state requirement. |
| HANDWASHING | Standard food safety practices. |
| FOOD STORAGE | Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from ODA-approved product list only. |

Inspection & permitting

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|-------------------------------|--|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED | No — No routine inspection required. Butler County Health District may investigate upon complaint. |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Conditional — Butler County municipalities (Hamilton, Middletown, Fairfield, Oxford, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances. Operators should verify home occupation permit requirements with local municipality. Ohio cottage food law does not preempt local zoning. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies |

Customer-facing rules

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Conditional |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE | Conditional |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | Direct and some indirect sales permitted within Ohio. No sales outside Ohio. Farmers markets, from home, online within Ohio. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME | Not specified in state cottage food law; local home occupation rules vary. |

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20-04 (approved products); local Butler County municipal zoning codes.

RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio state cottage food law well-documented. Butler County includes Hamilton, Middletown, and Fairfield — all have own zoning ordinances. Ohio has specific approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04); no generic non-TCS allowance. No state registration required. Ohio does not preempt local zoning. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; Butler County local zoning not specifically researched.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.butlercountyohio.org>

<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/butler-county-discuss>

State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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