

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Darke County

Ohio · Greenville · FIPS 39037 · Population 51,751 · Crosodo Index #1209\*

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: DARKE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1209\* · FIPS 39037 · Greenville

# Darke County

Population 51,751 · 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, non-PHF bakery goods, candy, jams, flavored honey, granola, 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 (Darke County townships have individual zoning resolutions governing home occupations. Recommend verifying with Darke County Planning/Zoning and the relevant township zoning inspector. City of Greenville has its own zoning code for incorporated areas.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Conditional

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (No routine inspection or license required. Local health authority may act on complaint or suspected foodborne illness.)

**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, non-PHF bakery goods, candy, jams, flavored honey, granola, 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.

**Inspection & permitting**

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — No routine inspection or license required. Local health authority may act on complaint or suspected foodborne illness.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — Darke County townships have individual zoning resolutions governing home occupations. Recommend verifying with Darke County Planning/Zoning and the relevant township zoning inspector. City of Greenville has its own zoning code for incorporated areas.
<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.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law; township zoning may impose limits.

### Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.025; OAC 901:3-20-04; Darke County Township Zoning Resolutions

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio cottage food operations require no license or inspection when selling directly from production site. No Darke County-specific cottage food ordinances found. Township-level zoning in Ohio is administered by individual township trustees; rules vary. A separate Home Bakery License (\$10/year, ODA inspection) is available for broader operations.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

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

## State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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

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