

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Delaware County

Ohio · Delaware · FIPS 39041 · Population 216,074 · Crosodo Index #799*

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: DELAWARE COUNTY

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MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Ohio state law permits cottage food production from a home kitchen. No registration required. Approved product list (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04) must be followed. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Annual sales cap per Ohio law (up to \$75,000 per ORC §3715.024 per Massillon reference). Delaware County is a fast-growing suburban county north of Columbus with high incomes; township zoning is the primary local regulatory mechanism.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food, but GMP practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Delaware County unincorporated areas: home occupation rules enforced by individual townships (Berlin, Berkshire, Marlboro, etc.). Delaware City and other municipalities have their own zoning. Home occupation permit may be required from township/municipal zoning office for operating a food business from a residence.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection under Ohio cottage food law. ODA may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Ohio state law permits cottage food production from a home kitchen. No registration required. Approved product list (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04) must be followed. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Annual sales cap per Ohio law (up to \$75,000 per ORC §3715.024 per Massillon reference). Delaware County is a fast-growing suburban county north of Columbus with high incomes; township zoning is the primary local regulatory mechanism.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Ohio Admin. Code does not explicitly prohibit pets for cottage food, but GMP practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific county water testing requirement for cottage food under Ohio state law.
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing per GMP guidelines.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must comply with Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04 approved product list and standard GMP storage requirements.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection under Ohio cottage food law. ODA may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Delaware County unincorporated areas: home occupation rules enforced by individual townships (Berlin, Berkshire, Marlboro, etc.). Delaware City and other municipalities have their own zoning. Home occupation permit may be required from township/municipal zoning office for operating a food business from a residence.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Ohio cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales from home, at events, farmers markets, and online. Delivery to customers permitted. Products must stay within Ohio.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state-level employee cap for cottage food. Township/municipal home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04; Delaware County township zoning ordinances

RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio state baseline applies. Delaware County is among the fastest-growing counties in Ohio (Columbus metro). No county-level cottage food overrides found. Zoning administered at township/ municipal level. Ohio preempts local health department regulation of cottage food operations. No county-specific URLs provided in input.

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/delaware-county-discuss>

State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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