

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Fairfield County

Ohio · Lancaster · FIPS 39045 · Population 159,371 · Crosodo Index #1580\*

## STATE BASELINE

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

## STATE TIER

**Good**

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

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## 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: FAIRFIELD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1580\* · FIPS 39045 · Lancaster

# Fairfield County

Population 159,371 · 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 allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration or sales cap. Products must be on the approved list (OAC 901:3-20-04): non-PHF bakery products, candy (not dipped fresh fruit), flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/granola bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee beans, dry baking mixes in a jar, dry herbs, and spice mixes with commercially dried ingredients. No reduced oxygen packaging.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Fairfield County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement by Ohio Dept of Agriculture.)

### Home kitchen rules

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED**

Yes — Ohio allows cottage food from home kitchens with no registration or sales cap. Products must be on the approved list (OAC 901:3-20-04): non-PHF bakery products, candy (not dipped fresh fruit), flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/granola bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee beans, dry baking mixes in a jar, dry herbs, and spice mixes with commercially dried ingredients. No reduced oxygen packaging.

**SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN**

No

**PET RESTRICTIONS**

No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.

**WATER SUPPLY**

No specific requirement under Ohio cottage food law.

**HANDWASHING**

Good manufacturing practices apply.

**FOOD STORAGE**

Approved products only; non-PHF; proper storage to prevent contamination.

### Inspection & permitting

**INSPECTION REQUIRED**

No — No routine inspection. Complaint-based enforcement by Ohio Dept of Agriculture.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT**

Varies — Fairfield County may require a home occupation permit under local 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-to-consumer and indirect sales (within Ohio only). No reduced oxygen packaging allowed. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may apply.                             |

### Relevant county code

Fairfield County Zoning Resolution; OAC 901:3-20

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. Ohio approved product list applies. No Fairfield County-specific cottage food code identified. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio.

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#### 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/fairfield-county-discuss>

## State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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

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