

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Portage County

Ohio · Ravenna · FIPS 39133 · Population 161,217 · Crosodo Index #1581*

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: PORTAGE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1581* · FIPS 39133 · Ravenna

Portage County

Population 161,217 · 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 (Portage 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 — Portage 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 — products cannot be sold outside Ohio). Allowed venues: home, farmers markets, fairs, roadside stands, retail stores (some channels). No reduced oxygen packaging allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state law; local home occupation rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Portage County Zoning Resolution (home occupation provisions); OAC 901:3-20

RESEARCH NOTES

Pattern county. State baseline governs. Ohio has a specific approved product list (OAC 901:3-20-04). No Portage County-specific cottage food code identified. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio.

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/portage-county-discuss>

State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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