

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Richland County

Ohio · Mansfield · FIPS 39139 · Population 125,008 · Crosodo Index #2165\*

## STATE BASELINE

O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20; no sales cap; no registration; no inspection; approved product list required

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Good	—	MEDIUM	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: RICHLAND COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2165\* · FIPS 39139 · Mansfield

# Richland County

Population 125,008 · State baseline: O.R.C. §3715.023; §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20; no sales cap; no registration; no inspection; approved product list required · **MEDIUM**

**QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Ohio state law allows cottage food production from a home kitchen for approved product categories (non-potentially hazardous bakery products, candy, flavored honey, fruit butters, granola, popcorn, etc.) without registration. Products must be on the state-approved list per Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

No specific county overlay found. State food safety standards apply.

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Varies (Richland County unincorporated areas are governed by county zoning; incorporated areas (Mansfield) have city zoning. Home occupation permits may be required depending on zoning district. No specific Richland County home occupation cottage food permit details found; contact Richland County Planning Commission or city zoning office.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Conditional

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

No (Ohio does not require routine inspections for cottage food operations. Local health departments may investigate upon complaint.)

**Home kitchen rules**

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Ohio state law allows cottage food production from a home kitchen for approved product categories (non-potentially hazardous bakery products, candy, flavored honey, fruit butters, granola, popcorn, etc.) without registration. Products must be on the state-approved list per Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	No specific county overlay found. State food safety standards apply.
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Standard state food safety handwashing requirements apply.
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Shelf-stable approved products stored per food safety standards. Reduced oxygen packaging not permitted.

**Inspection & permitting**

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	No — Ohio does not require routine inspections for cottage food operations. Local health departments may investigate upon complaint.
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Varies — Richland County unincorporated areas are governed by county zoning; incorporated areas (Mansfield) have city zoning. Home occupation permits may be required depending on zoning district. No specific Richland County home occupation cottage food permit details found; contact Richland County Planning Commission or city zoning office.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Ohio state law allows direct sales to consumers including at home, farmers markets, events, and online (within Ohio only). Products may not be sold outside Ohio.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit for cottage food operations; local zoning home occupation rules may restrict non-resident employees.

### Relevant county code

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

#### RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied (OH tier Good). Ohio cottage food law requires no registration or inspection and uses an approved product list. No specific Richland County cottage food or home occupation overlay found. richlandcountyoh.us is the official county URL but no relevant cottage food pages found. Confidence medium: state law is clear and well-documented; county-level zoning overlay not researched in depth due to no county-specific URLs provided.

#### SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.richlandcountyoh.us>

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

<https://www.richlandcountyoh.us>

<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/richland-county-discuss>

## State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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

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