

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Seneca County

Ohio · Tiffin · FIPS 39147 · Population 55,062 · Crosodo Index #1661\*

## 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: SENECA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1661\* · FIPS 39147 · Tiffin

## Seneca County

Population 55,062 · 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 (Approved product list (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04) includes non-PHF bakery products, candy, flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/granola bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee, dry baking mixes in jar, dry herbs, spice mixes. No registration required. No sales cap. No inspections. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio or packed in reduced oxygen packaging.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

No specific OH state or Seneca County restriction.

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No state registration required for cottage food operations. Seneca County may have local home occupation zoning requirements. Contact Seneca County government in Tiffin.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspections; ODA or local health may investigate on complaint.)

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Approved product list (Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04) includes non-PHF bakery products, candy, flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/granola bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee, dry baking mixes in jar, dry herbs, spice mixes. No registration required. No sales cap. No inspections. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio or packed in reduced oxygen packaging.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific OH state or Seneca County restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement; primary residence kitchen.
HANDWASHING	No formal requirement; recommended best practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Approved non-PHF products only. No reduced oxygen packaging. Cannot be sold outside Ohio.

## Inspection &amp; permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspections; ODA or local health may investigate on complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No state registration required for cottage food operations. Seneca County may have local home occupation zoning requirements. Contact Seneca County government in Tiffin.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

### Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and indirect sales within Ohio. Products cannot be sold outside Ohio. Home Bakery license pathway available for those wanting broader options with inspection.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in OH statute.

### Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20-04; no Seneca County-specific ordinance identified

#### RESEARCH NOTES

Seneca County is in northwest Ohio. No county-specific cottage food rules found. State baseline applies with specific approved product list. Ohio has a distinct two-tier framework: cottage food operations (no registration) vs. Home Bakery (requires license and inspection). No sales cap but products limited to approved list and Ohio only.

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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/seneca-county-discuss>

## State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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

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