

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Stark County

Ohio · Canton · FIPS 39151 · Population 374,199 · Crosodo Index #2581*

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: STARK COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2581* · FIPS 39151 · Canton

Stark County

Population 374,199 · 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?

Conditional (Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foods from specific product list permitted (bakery products, candy, flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled baked donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee, dry baking mixes in a jar, dry herbs, spice mixes). No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Stark County Public Health has jurisdiction.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Stark County municipalities (Canton, Massillon, Alliance, North Canton, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances. Operators should verify home occupation permit requirements with local municipality. Ohio cottage food law does not preempt local zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required. Stark County Public Health may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional — Ohio cottage food law (O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code 901:3-20) requires no registration or permit. Only state-approved non-TCS foods from specific product list permitted (bakery products, candy, flavored honey, fruit butters, granola/bars, maple sugar, popcorn products, unfilled baked donuts, waffle cones, pizzelles, dry cereal/nut snack mixes, roasted coffee, dry baking mixes in a jar, dry herbs, spice mixes). No sales outside Ohio. No reduced oxygen packaging. Stark County Public Health has jurisdiction.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods from ODA-approved product list only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection required. Stark County Public Health may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Stark County municipalities (Canton, Massillon, Alliance, North Canton, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances. Operators should verify home occupation permit requirements with local municipality. Ohio cottage food law does not preempt local zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and some indirect sales within Ohio. No sales outside Ohio. Online within Ohio.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law; local home occupation rules vary.

Relevant county code

O.R.C. §3715.023/025; Ohio Admin. Code Ch. 901:3-20-04 (approved products); local Stark County municipal zoning codes.

RESEARCH NOTES

Ohio state cottage food law well-documented. Stark County includes Canton and Massillon. Ohio specific product list required — no generic non-TCS allowance. No state registration required. Local zoning compliance required. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; Stark County local zoning not specifically researched.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.starkcountyohio.gov>

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

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county's specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/ohio/stark-county-discuss>

State context — Ohio cottage food law

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

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