

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Clinton County

Pennsylvania · Lock Haven · FIPS 42035 · Population 38,632  
· Crosodo Index #1736\*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737	Good	—	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

**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.

PENNSYLVANIA: CLINTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1736\* · FIPS 42035 · Lock Haven

# Clinton County

Population 38,632 · State baseline: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Non-TCS foods only; registration required (\$35/year); initial on-site kitchen inspection required before registration issued; submit application at least 60 days before operating. Not available in Philadelphia County (does not apply here). Acidified and fermented foods require recipe submission and laboratory testing approval.)

**SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?**

No

**PETS ALLOWED?**

Not specified in statute; home kitchen must meet sanitation standards during inspection

**HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?**

Conditional (PA LFE application packet (Section 2) explicitly requires producers to first contact their local municipality to verify zoning allows a food business at the proposed location. Clinton County has no county-wide zoning. Lock Haven City and rural townships have their own ordinances. Producers must document zoning approval before PDA application.)

**ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?**

Yes

**INSPECTION REQUIRED?**

Yes (Initial on-site inspection required before registration is issued; subsequent routine inspections apply; assigned to PA Region 2 (Montoursville office))

## Home kitchen rules

<b>HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED</b>	Yes — Non-TCS foods only; registration required (\$35/year); initial on-site kitchen inspection required before registration issued; submit application at least 60 days before operating. Not available in Philadelphia County (does not apply here). Acidified and fermented foods require recipe submission and laboratory testing approval.
<b>SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN</b>	No
<b>PET RESTRICTIONS</b>	Not specified in statute; home kitchen must meet sanitation standards during inspection
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	Potable water supply; private well requires testing
<b>HANDWASHING</b>	Adequate handwashing facilities required per state food safety standards
<b>FOOD STORAGE</b>	Non-TCS shelf-stable finished products; no refrigeration required for finished product

## Inspection & permitting

<b>INSPECTION REQUIRED</b>	Yes — Initial on-site inspection required before registration is issued; subsequent routine inspections apply; assigned to PA Region 2 (Montoursville office)
<b>HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT</b>	Conditional — PA LFE application packet (Section 2) explicitly requires producers to first contact their local municipality to verify zoning allows a food business at the proposed location. Clinton County has no county-wide zoning. Lock Haven City and rural townships have their own ordinances. Producers must document zoning approval before PDA application.
<b>LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE</b>	Varies

**Customer-facing rules**

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales and limited indirect sales allowed under LFE registration; online sales permitted; may need separate Retail Food Facility License for farmers market sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

**Relevant county code**

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737; PA LFE application packet (Rev 3/2024)

**RESEARCH NOTES**

Clinton County is a north-central Pennsylvania county. PA Limited Food Establishment program under 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 is the operative framework. Clinton County falls within PA Region 2 (Montoursville office: 542 County Farm Rd., Suite 102, Montoursville PA 17754, 570-433-2640). No county-wide zoning; municipalities govern.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.clintoncountypa.gov>

<https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/food-safety/limited-food-establishment->

**Questions?** Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/pennsylvania/clinton-county-discuss>

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Clinton County	Cameron County	Potter County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in statute; home kitchen must meet sanitation standards during inspection	Not specified in statute; home kitchen must meet sanitation standards during inspection	Standard food safety GMP requirements apply during production.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales and limited indirect sales allowed under LFE registration; online sales permitted; may need separate Retail Food Facility Lice...	Direct sales and limited indirect sales allowed under LFE registration; online sales permitted; may need separate Retail Food Facility Lice...	Direct-to-consumer sales permitted; some limited indirect sales allowed. Online sales and in-state delivery permitted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-TCS foods only; registration required (\$35/year); initial on-site kitchen inspection required before registration issued; submit applic...	Non-TCS foods only; registration required (\$35/year); initial on-site kitchen inspection required before registration issued; submit applic...	Pennsylvania requires a Limited Food Establishment (LFE) registration from PA Dept. of Agriculture (\$35 fee, 2-year registration). An initi...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable finished products; no refrigeration required for finished product	Non-TCS shelf-stable finished products; no refrigeration required for finished product	Non-TCS, non-refrigerated finished products only. No foods requiring temperature control.
POPULATION	38,632	4,447	16,526

## State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

Clinton County's rules sit on top of Pennsylvania's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Yes	No

### INDIRECT SALES

Limited (see notes) — Registration includes sales direct from the production site including internet sales. However, a separate Retail Food Facility License may be required for sales at events or Farmers Markets. Businesses aiming to sell across state lines might also need FDA registration. The registration covers home-based operations in residential kitchens as well as residential-style kitchens in alternate locations such as churches, fire halls, or remodeled garages. Not available in Philadelphia County.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Pennsylvania cottage food law report](#).

### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/LI/consCheck.cfm?txtType=HTM&t1=03&div=0&chpt=57>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/pda/food/limited-food-establishment.html>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/pennsylvania/>

## Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Clinton County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/pennsylvania/clinton-county-discuss>

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