

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Monroe County

Pennsylvania · Stroudsburg · FIPS 42089 · Population
168,128 · Crosodo Index #1827*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737	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.

PENNSYLVANIA: MONROE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1827* · FIPS 42089 · Stroudsburg

Monroe County

Population 168,128 · State baseline: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registration is issued. Non-hazardous foods not requiring refrigeration of finished product only. Application must be submitted at least 60 days before operating. Direct sales and internet sales from production site included. Retail Food Facility License may be required for farmers market sales.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Home kitchen inspected; pets likely required away from food prep areas during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Monroe County allows home occupations in residential zones with conditions per PA Municipalities Planning Code. Business license or home occupation permit typically required. Monroe County has URLs in input (monroecounty.gov for govt, health, and planning). Stroudsburg, Mount Pocono, and East Stroudsburg have their own rules that may differ from county.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Initial inspection required before registration. Routine inspections apply to registered operators.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registration is issued. Non-hazardous foods not requiring refrigeration of finished product only. Application must be submitted at least 60 days before operating. Direct sales and internet sales from production site included. Retail Food Facility License may be required for farmers market sales.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Home kitchen inspected; pets likely required away from food prep areas during production.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply; inspected during registration.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facilities required; assessed during inspection.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-refrigerated foods stored in sanitary conditions; assessed during inspection.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Initial inspection required before registration. Routine inspections apply to registered operators.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Monroe County allows home occupations in residential zones with conditions per PA Municipalities Planning Code. Business license or home occupation permit typically required. Monroe County has URLs in input (monroecounty.gov for govt, health, and planning). Stroudsburg, Mount Pocono, and East Stroudsburg have their own rules that may differ from county.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales from production site and internet sales included in registration. Farmers market sales may require separate Retail Food Facility License.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified beyond household-style kitchen requirement.

Relevant county code

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 (Food Safety Act, Subchapter B)

RESEARCH NOTES

Monroe County has county URLs in input data (monroecounty.gov). PA Limited Food Establishment program official page (pa.gov) confirms initial inspection required, \$35 registration fee, 60-day application lead time, routine inspections. Monroe County is in the Pocono Mountains area. Not available in Philadelphia County. County health and planning URLs confirmed from input. PA program is administered by state, not county.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/health>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/planning>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov>

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

<https://www.monroecounty.gov>

<https://www.monroecounty.gov/health>

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

State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

Monroe 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&ttl=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 Monroe County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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