

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Schuylkill County

Pennsylvania · Pottsville · FIPS 42107 · Population 143,201 ·
Crosodo Index #2348*

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: SCHUYLKILL COUNTY

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Schuylkill County

Population 143,201 · 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 issued. Submit application at least 60 days before operating. Non-TCS foods only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not explicitly prohibited by state statute; kitchen must be sanitary during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Schuylkill County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. Individual municipalities (Pottsville and others) have their own home occupation provisions. Operators should check local municipal zoning code.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Initial on-site inspection required before registration. Routine inspections thereafter.)

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 issued. Submit application at least 60 days before operating. Non-TCS foods only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not explicitly prohibited by state statute; kitchen must be sanitary during production.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required. Private well users may face additional testing.
HANDWASHING	Required per food safety standards; inspected during initial kitchen review.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS (non-refrigerated finished products) only. Stored in food-safe containers.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Initial on-site inspection required before registration. Routine inspections thereafter.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Schuylkill County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. Individual municipalities (Pottsville and others) have their own home occupation provisions. Operators should check local municipal zoning code.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, restaurants, and retail stores permitted under the Limited Food Establishment registration.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level.

Relevant county code

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 (Limited Food Establishment)

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (PA) confirmed: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737. Schuylkill County is a largely rural county with coal heritage. No county-specific cottage food URLs or ordinances identified. County follows state baseline. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

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

State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

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

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