

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Somerset County

Pennsylvania · Somerset · FIPS 42111 · Population 73,802 ·
Crosodo Index #2362*

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Somerset County, Pennsylvania — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

Not explicitly stated, but kitchen must pass initial inspection.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Pennsylvania cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Pennsylvania home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Pennsylvania label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

PENNSYLVANIA: SOMERSET COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2362* · FIPS 42111 · Somerset

Somerset County

Population 73,802 · State baseline: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-TCS foods that do not require refrigeration. Includes baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/fermented foods (with testing requirements), candy, and other shelf-stable foods. Initial on-site inspection required. 60-day lead time for application. Program not available in Philadelphia County.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not explicitly stated, but kitchen must pass initial inspection.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No state-level home occupation permit required beyond PA Limited Food Establishment registration (\$35 fee, 2-year). Somerset County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Somerset County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Initial on-site inspection required before Limited Food Establishment registration. Subsequent routine inspections apply.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Non-TCS foods that do not require refrigeration. Includes baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/fermented foods (with testing requirements), candy, and other shelf-stable foods. Initial on-site inspection required. 60-day lead time for application. Program not available in Philadelphia County.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not explicitly stated, but kitchen must pass initial inspection.

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required.

HANDWASHING

No food handler certification required at state level.

FOOD STORAGE

Shelf-stable non-TCS foods must be stored appropriately.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Yes — Initial on-site inspection required before Limited Food Establishment registration. Subsequent routine inspections apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Varies — No state-level home occupation permit required beyond PA Limited Food Establishment registration (\$35 fee, 2-year). Somerset County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Somerset County-specific cottage food ordinance found.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct and limited indirect sales permitted. Online sales within Pennsylvania allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

Relevant county code

No Somerset County-specific cottage food code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Somerset County follows Pennsylvania Limited Food Establishment framework (3 Pa.C.S. §§5721-5737). Initial inspection required. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.somersetcounty.gov>

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

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/pennsylvania/somerset-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Somerset County	Fayette County	Cambria County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not explicitly stated, but kitchen must pass initial inspection.	Not explicitly prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.	Not explicitly prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct and limited indirect sales permitted. Online sales within Pennsylvania allowed.	Direct and limited indirect sales permitted under Limited Food Establishment registration.	Direct and limited indirect sales permitted under Limited Food Establishment registration.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-TCS foods that do not require refrigeration. Includes baked goods, jams/jellies, beverages, acid/acidified/fermented foods (with testin...	Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registrat...	Registration required with PA Department of Agriculture (\$35 for 2-year registration). Initial on-site inspection required before registrat...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-TCS foods must be stored appropriately.	Non-TCS (non-refrigerated finished products) only. Stored in food-safe containers.	Non-TCS (non-refrigerated finished products) only.
POPULATION	73,802	128,417	133,263

State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

Somerset 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

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Yes

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Yes

DIRECT SALES ONLY

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](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/pennsylvania.

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 about Somerset County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/pennsylvania/somerset-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/pennsylvania/somerset-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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