

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Venango County

Pennsylvania · Franklin · FIPS 42121 · Population 50,475 ·
Crosodo Index #1748*

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: VENANGO COUNTY

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Venango County

Population 50,475 · State baseline: 3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must apply for Limited Food Establishment (LFE) registration (\$35 fee, 2-year registration). Initial on-site kitchen inspection required before registration issued. Must submit at least 60 days prior to operating. Non-TCS foods only. Private well or septic users may face additional testing requirements.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state cottage food law, but GMP requirements apply during inspection.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Venango County and its townships/municipalities may have home occupation zoning requirements. City of Franklin has its own zoning code. Recommend verifying with Venango County Planning Commission and relevant municipality.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Initial on-site inspection required before registration issued. Subsequent routine inspections apply as part of LFE program.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must apply for Limited Food Establishment (LFE) registration (\$35 fee, 2-year registration). Initial on-site kitchen inspection required before registration issued. Must submit at least 60 days prior to operating. Non-TCS foods only. Private well or septic users may face additional testing requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state cottage food law, but GMP requirements apply during inspection.
WATER SUPPLY	Private well or septic users may face additional testing requirements.
HANDWASHING	Required as part of LFE kitchen inspection standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-TCS; proper storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Initial on-site inspection required before registration issued. Subsequent routine inspections apply as part of LFE program.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Venango County and its townships/municipalities may have home occupation zoning requirements. City of Franklin has its own zoning code. Recommend verifying with Venango County Planning Commission and relevant municipality.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer and limited indirect sales allowed under LFE. Products may be sold at farmers markets, events, home, and to some retailers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state LFE rules.

Relevant county code

3 Pa.C.S. §§5721–5737; Venango County/municipality zoning codes

RESEARCH NOTES

Pennsylvania LFE program requires initial kitchen inspection and \$35 registration fee. Venango County is in northwestern PA. No county-specific cottage food rules found beyond state LFE requirements.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

State context — Pennsylvania cottage food law

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

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