

PRODUCT LABELING GUIDELINES for Cottage Food Operations:

(From CCDEH Guide-12/21/12)

For a detailed description, see the California Department of Public Health document “Labeling Requirements for Cottage Food Products” at www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/fdbCottageFood.aspx . All cottage food products must be properly labeled in compliance with the Federal, Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. Sec. 343 et seq.) The label must include:

- The words “Made in a Home Kitchen” or “Repackaged in a Home Kitchen” in 12-point type
- The name commonly used to describe the food product
- The name city, state and zip code of the cottage food operation which produced the cottage food product. If the firm is not listed in the current telephone directory then a street address must also be declared. (A contact phone number or email address is optional but may be helpful for consumers to contact your business.)
- The registration or permit number of the cottage food operation which produced the cottage food product and the name of the county where the permit was issued.
- The ingredients of the food product, in descending order of predominance by weight, if the product contains two or more ingredients.
- The net quantity (count, weight, or volume) of the food product. It must be stated in both English (pound) units and metric units (grams).
- A declaration on the label in plain language if the food contains any of the eight major food allergens such as milk, eggs, fish, shellfish, tree nuts, wheat, peanuts, and soybeans. There are two approved methods prescribed by federal law for declaring the food sources of allergens in packaged foods: 1) in a separate summary statement immediately following or adjacent to the ingredient list, or 2) within the ingredient list.
- If the label makes approved nutrient content claims or health claims, the label must contain a “Nutrition Facts” statement on the information panel.
 - The use of the following eleven terms are considered nutrient content claims (nutritional value of a food): free, low, reduced, fewer, high, less, more, lean, extra lean, good source, and light. Specific requirements have been established for the use of these terms. Please refer to the Cottage Food Labeling Guideline for more details.
 - A health claim is a statement or message on the label that describes the relationship between a food component and a disease or health-related condition (e.g., sodium and hypertension, calcium and osteoporosis). Please refer to the Cottage Food Labeling Guideline for more details.
- Labels must be legible and in English (accurately translated information in another language may accompany it).
- Labels, wrappers, inks, adhesives, paper, and packaging materials that come into contact with the cottage food product by touching the product or penetrating the packaging must be food-grade (safe for food contact) and not contaminate the food.

Example:

<p>MADE IN A HOME KITCHEN Permit #: 12345 Issued in county: County name</p> <p>Chocolate Chip Cookies With Walnuts Sally Baker 123 Cottage Food Lane Anywhere, CA 90XXX</p> <p>Ingredients: Enriched flour (Wheat flour, niacin, reduced iron, thiamine, mononitrate, riboflavin and folic acid), butter (milk, salt), chocolate chips (sugar, chocolate liquor, cocoa butter, butterfat (milk), walnuts, sugar, eggs, salt, artificial vanilla extract, baking soda.</p> <p>Contains: Wheat, eggs, milk, soy, walnuts</p> <p>Net Wt. 3 oz. (85.049g)</p>
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Note: For the "Issued in County" – Identify the jurisdiction (city/county) where you are obtaining approval.

Contact Plumas County Environmental Health at 530-283-6355

if you have any questions.