



# Plumas County Environmental Health

270 County Hospital Road, Ste. 127, Quincy CA 95971

Phone: (530) 283-6355 ~ Fax: (530) 283-6241

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Date: March 31, 2020

From: Gerald Sipe, Director

## Social Distancing Guidance for Grocery Stores

Plumas County has received numerous reports from customers who are feeling uncomfortable with social distancing strategies being implemented by many grocery stores and markets. Even though grocery stores and markets are essential services, the goal remains to minimize person-to-person contact as much as possible for both your customers and your workers. Social Distancing is the creation of physical space between individuals and maintaining this space is crucial to helping contain and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Here are the some ways that grocery stores / markets can achieve Social Distancing and help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Stores that have call in or online ordering with outside pick-up or delivery options should encourage use of these when possible *in lieu* of indoor shopping. **Stores that do not currently have ordering capabilities are strongly encouraged to develop contingency plans in the event that it becomes impractical or required to discontinue normal instore operations.**
- Physical markings every 6 feet at registers and any other locations throughout the facility where lines may occur. The use of colored tape for markings is an easy and effective way to accomplish this.
- Establish one way aisles to create a set traffic flow through the facility. This will help ensure adequate separation between patrons and help avoid customer having to pass each other in narrow aisles.
- Limiting the number of customers at any given time as necessary to reduce outdoor/indoor crowding and lines to meet social distancing guidance.
- Increase number of operating registers to reduce the amount of time that patrons wait to check-out.
- Consider installing a physical barrier between patrons and register tellers such as plexi glass.

In addition to Social Distancing, all facilities need to increase routine sanitation and food handling precautions that are normally in place to protect employees, customers, and food from disease transmission including:

- Do not work if you are sick. Go home if you become ill and stay home until you are symptom free for 24 hours.
- Train employees on best hygiene practices including washing their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Increase cleaning and sanitizing frequency of restroom and other high contact areas.

As COVID-19 information is rapidly changing, we will update this guidance as necessary. If you have any questions, please contact Environmental Health at 283-6355.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to food safety.

Coronavirus Guidance for Grocery Stores / Markets

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