



AN UPDATE ON COVID-19 FROM NEW LEAF COMMUNITY MARKETS

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. – April 18, 2020 – We have learned a staff member in our Aptos store has tested positive for novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Upon learning the news, we took swift action to notify health authorities and store staff. While health authorities have not required us to close the store, we are choosing to do so to deep clean and care for our staff. We are working closely with the Santa Cruz County Public Health Department to follow recommended guidance.

As your neighborhood grocer, we want to reassure you that during this time of uncertainty, we remain deeply committed to serving you and advocating for the health and well-being of our community. Out of an abundance of caution, the Aptos store will be closed for deep cleaning in partnership with a third-party sanitation company, and will plan to reopen on Sunday, April 19.

We deeply care about the well-being of this staff member, and we have been in touch to support them while they are recovering and self-isolating at home, including compensating them for the necessary leave of absence. The diagnosed staff member last worked in the store on Monday, April 13. Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and public health authorities is for anyone who has been in prolonged “[close contact](#)” with a person who tests positive for COVID-19 to self-quarantine. We are working to identify any other staff who may have been in prolonged close contact with the affected individual. We will pay staff while they are home and work closely to ensure their health before they return to work. Upon reopening, the store will be staffed by store members who did not come into prolonged close contact with the individual who tested positive for COVID-19.

As a community member and your neighbor, know we are doing everything we can to ensure we serve your family while maintaining clean, safe and stocked stores. To learn more about the steps we are taking to ensure the health and safety of our staff, customers and community, please visit our [website](#).

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About New Leaf Community Markets

An organic and natural grocer with five stores along the Central Coast, New Leaf Community Markets has been serving the community for 34 years. New Leaf is committed to offering customers foods and products that have the most beneficial impact on their health and the health of the environment. Helping customers make informed decisions is an integral part of this commitment. A wholly owned subsidiary of New Seasons Market since November 2013, New Leaf Community Markets is the first grocer in California to achieve B Corporation certification, which means that New Leaf uses the power of business to solve social and economic problems. New Leaf’s mission, to nourish and sustain our community, is reflected in the 10 percent of profits given annually to support local nonprofits working to improve the quality of life. Connect at: www.newleaf.com.

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