



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**New Leaf Community Markets Temporarily Closes Store in Aptos Village**

*Customers Can Place Online Orders for Instacart Delivery or Pickup from the Westside Store Location*

**SANTA CRUZ, Calif. – April 22, 2020** – New Leaf Community Markets has been working diligently to protect the health and safety of our neighbors as the challenges posed by COVID-19 continue to evolve. In these unprecedented times, we remain committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of our staff and community and we will be temporarily closing the Aptos Village location (161 Aptos Village Way, Aptos, CA 95003) until further notice.

While health authorities did not require us to close the store, we want everyone who walks through our doors to feel safe. To help give our staff and neighbors that peace of mind, we are working with a healthcare provider in the community to make testing available to all of our Aptos staff, and will cover all costs of screening staff members for COVID-19. Our optimism grows with each negative test that has come back thus far and we are continuing to work swiftly to provide testing for all store staff. While we are eager to welcome our neighbors back to the store, we are committed to only reopening once store staff have been tested and cleared to return to work.

We made the decision to temporarily close our Aptos location after learning members of our staff tested positive for COVID-19. Upon confirming the results, we quickly took action to notify the Santa Cruz County Public Health Department and our store staff, and sanitize the store. We deeply care about the well-being of those affected and will continue to support them as they get the medical care they need. We acted quickly to identify staff who may have been in prolonged close contact with affected individuals and have required them to stay home and monitor their symptoms. We will continue to pay our staff while they are home and will work closely to confirm their health before they return to work.

We know these are trying times for our neighbors but believe temporarily closing the store is the best decision. We will share updates on future reopening details. Customers can place orders online with Instacart for delivery or pickup at our Westside location. To find out more about ordering online, visit us at: [www.newleaf.com/grocery-delivery](http://www.newleaf.com/grocery-delivery). For additional details on how we are taking care of our staff and customers, please visit [www.newleaf.com/stay-healthy](http://www.newleaf.com/stay-healthy).

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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](http://www.newleaf.com).

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