



# NEBRASKA GROCERY INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Media Release

## Coronavirus: How to Shop to Protect You and Your Family

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We would like to thank the Governor, Mayor Stothert and Mayor Gaylor-Baird for their leadership as we work our way through the COVID-19 epidemic. Due to their actions and guidance I believe that Nebraskan's will be safer. People need to listen to their messages and follow the guidelines they and other Mayors have established within our communities and across the State. Each week will bring new challenges.

Our challenge today is social distancing. Each one of us has a role to play in keeping our families, our friends and our community safe. We are doing things in retail stores that will help our customers make good decisions – decisions that are based on the guidelines established by our leaders. Our customers need to take this very seriously.

1. If you go to the grocery store and the parking lot is full – go home and come back later.
2. Shop alone – do not bring your family to the store. Designate one person to shop
3. **Plan** your trip to the store, make a list, and shop once a week to replenish your supplies.
4. Shop with your eyes – touch only the items you purchase. While the virus does not easily spread on packaging there is no reason to take a risk.
5. Keep social distance of 6' between other customers and our store employees. Give everyone room to breathe!
6. If you are ill – stay home. Ask someone to shop for you. Our church just sent out a request for volunteers to assist with shopping and at the same time asked those who needed assistance to let them know. There is help for those who can't shop.
7. Do not bring reusable bags or backpacks into the store. The bags could be contaminated and we want to limit every risk we possibly can.
8. Do not stockpile. Purchase what you need but leave something for your neighbor.
9. Trucks replenish supplies at stores on a regular basis and the flow of trucks will be constant. Those stores who historically receive one truck per week are getting at least one truck per week. Those stores who have received multiple trucks per day are still receiving multiple trucks per day.
10. Products are changing. Manufacturers have streamlined their processes as they increase production. Customers will see more “mega” rolls of toilet paper because it is easier to produce. Since there is 3 times more product in a mega roll compared to the regular roll, the price for the larger size will be higher.
11. Wash your hands more than you think you should

We understand the need to control the number of customers in our stores. If customers won't follow the directions of our leadership then I can only assume that other steps will be taken. As citizens of this state, as individuals, we need to be responsible and limit contact. Responsibility is everyone's job. Please do your part by following these recommendations and the guidance our Governor and Mayors are providing. We know this is a stressful time for our customers. But be nice to each other and treat each other with kindness because we truly are in this together.