



MINNESOTA GROCERS ASSOCIATION

1360 Energy Park Drive, Suite 110 • St. Paul, MN 55108 • 651-228-0973 • 1-800-966-8352 • mga@mngrocers.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 29, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT:
Jamie Pfuhl, President
(651) 228-0973

MEDIA ADVISORY

**Minnesota Grocers Association Statement on
Industry Shopping Tips and Best Practices**

The Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA), serving over 120 years, is the leading resource for the food industry of the state. As we move forward with Governor Walz's Stay at Home Order, Minnesotans can rest assured that we, from farm to fork, are continuing to provide essential support to our communities in this time of need.

On behalf of the Minnesota food industry we ask our neighbors to please consider following recommendations when shopping at their local stores:

- Wear a face covering or mask while you are in the store. This is important as it protects both workers and customers. Please, if you are not feeling well, stay home. #GetYourMaskOnMN
- When using personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, wipes, or disposable face coverings please discard responsibly.
- Continue practicing social distancing by allowing six feet between yourself and others throughout the entire store. Avoid gathering around displays and registers and keep moving.
- Be patient and allot more time to shop. Allow for cashiers to clean all belts and areas prior to unloading your groceries.
- Due to this crisis, there are unprecedented pressures on the food chain from farm to fork. Deliveries are arriving daily to keep your pantry stocked. We encourage Minnesotans to remain calm and mindful as they shop. Overbuying any products can prevent your neighbor from providing for their family.
- There is no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with the transmission of the coronavirus. It is important to follow food safety best practices: wash hands and surfaces often, separate raw meat from other foods, wash fresh fruits and vegetables, cook to the right temperature, and refrigerate foods promptly.
- Garden centers and nurseries are now open. The layout of these stores will look a little different. You may see limitations on the number of customers allowed at one time, one-way traffic throughout store, visible boundaries to ensure the safety of employees and customers. Adhering to these protocols ensures the safest shopping for all.

The Minnesota food industry remains steadfast in its commitment to consumers, careers, and community. As the leading resource for the food industry of the state, the MGA is proud to represent an industry who provides essential support to our communities in this time of need.

###

The Minnesota Grocers Association (MGA) is the only state trade association that represents the food industry of Minnesota from farm to fork. We are a legacy organization, having served the industry for over 120 years. We have over 300 retail, manufacturer, and wholesale members supporting nearly 1,300 locations statewide. Our member companies employ over 150,000 union and non-union Minnesotans. We actively advance the common interest of all those engaged in any aspect of the retail food industry as a leader and advocate in government affairs.