



Dear Plainfield Co-op Members and Community,

The ongoing Corona virus situation necessitates that we temporarily close our doors to the public. This will enable us to protect the health and safety of our staff in this small building, as well as the shopping public. At this time, we are planning to remain closed through the month of April.

In the meantime, we have set up an alternative call-in system for ordering and pick up. This service will be available **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday**, and is for both members and the general public.

Here's how it works:

1. Call the Co-op at **454-8579 or 454-1343**. You will be asked to leave your name and call back number, and member number, if you have one. Your name will go in queue for call back.
2. Someone will call you back. They will ask if you wish to add to your gift card account in order to ensure you have enough to cover your order. If you are not a member, an account will be set up, and you can put money on it via credit or debit card. (Remember, these gift card accounts save us thousands of dollars each year in transaction fees.)
3. That person will then do your shopping for you. To the extent you can have your list ready, it will greatly help us meet your order quickly and efficiently. We are working to have an inventory list on line on our website to help you and us. In the meantime, you can email us your shopping list at orders@plainfieldcoop.com, or just call in.
4. When the shopping is completed, your order will be rung through the register as usual. Your order will be bagged or boxed for pickup, and we will tell you when it will be available. A receipt will be attached, which will include the balance on your account for future reference.
5. **When you come to pick up, please don't come in the building. Someone will come out and get your name and retrieve your order.**

For people who usually pay by check or cash, some options exist. You can mail a check or money order to the Plainfield Co-op, P.O. Box 266, Plainfield, VT 05667. You can also drop off checks, money orders, or cash (bills only) in an envelope with your name and phone number on it in the drop box by the main door into the Co-op. Please only do this between 9 AM and 6 PM. The box will be checked regularly. Your funds will be put on account, and you can then call in to place an order. **No change will be returned.** Any unused funds will remain on your account to put toward your next purchase. People on SNAP benefits can also call in. We will need your card number and PIN in order to ring you out.

Saint Corona Fund: For people who can't use any of the methods above or simply can't afford to shop, we have set up a Saint Corona account. Yes, it's true, there is a Saint Corona, the patron saint of pandemics, we kid you not. You can call in and order like anyone else, but will be limited to \$30 a week at this time, or until the fund is empty. We urge anyone who can to call and tell us you'd like to add to the Saint Corona fund. A great way to help your neighbors!

Finally, the current Co-op staff is overworked, under stress, and limited due to self-isolation and other family circumstances. We will need additional volunteers to assist. Our wonderful Membership Committee Chair, Paula Emery, is heading up this effort. Please contact her at pemery@pshift.com or text to 601-506-9966, if you'd like to help.

We deeply appreciate all the support and cooperation we have been getting from the members and the community. We are all inconvenienced, and this new system isn't perfect for anyone. So, please bear with us. We will continue to tweak this new system as we go, so stay tuned.

These are challenging times for all. I'm still the new guy here, but let me say this: I am so impressed with the passion all our staff has to our Co-op and to working for you. We're here to provide you with healthy, local, and nutritious foods, and our local producers continue to need our business. We're confident we can continue to serve you, just in a different way for the time-being.

Peter Youngbaer, General Manager, Plainfield Co-op