

Safeway adjusts hours for seniors during COVID-19 outbreak

March 18, 2020



Starting March 19, Crescent City's Safeway store, located at 475 M St., will be open from 6-9 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday for only senior citizens and at risk members to the COVID-19 coronavirus.

"We've reserved a three-hour window for them to get their shopping done, get prescriptions and essentials," said Brian Ridgely, Crescent City Safeway Store Director.

Ridgely said in the wake of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommending self quarantine measures for at-risk population, Del Norte County Public Health Officer Dr. Warren Rehwaldt called him and recommended the revised hours.

Ridgely said he hopes the rest of the community honors the block of time set aside for their fellow senior citizens and at risk residents and self regulates.

“I don’t want to have to turn away every 19 year old. Let these other folks who have been contained or cooped up, some with circumstances in dire straights and with no other outlet, to come in and get their supplies,” Ridgely said.

As the northern-most Safeway of the 290 stores in the NorCal Division, Ridgely said his store is experiencing no problems getting supplies in. The only demand is on the warehouse and manufacturers.

“We’re still getting loads every day. We’re still getting the vast majority of everything we order,” he said, adding there is still an unnecessary high demand on toilet paper. “We get toilet paper in every single day, but by 8 p.m. it’s gone.”

To accommodate the large shipments his store is still receiving, Ridgely said he has also eliminated being open 24 hours. The store now closes at 10 p.m. for restocking and opens again at 6 a.m.

In addition, Ridgely has implemented a ration on high-demand items, like a limit of two packs of toilet paper, hand sanitizer and other basic essential items.

“We want to make sure everybody can get what they need,” he added.

The new store hours will last for the foreseeable future during the COVID-19 crisis, Ridgely said.