

Dear members and community,

We have learned that one of our staff received a positive test result today for Covid-19. We have informed staff, while at the same time we are required to keep this staff person's name confidential.

The employee last worked at the Co-op on Sat, Dec. 26, the day after Christmas and was symptom-free when last working.

This staff person is currently at home with mild symptoms and in contact with the Vermont Dept. of Health (VDH). The Co-op offers generous time off for staff in this situation.

Our first step was to communicate with the Vermont Dept. of Health (VDH) as soon as we learned of the positive test. We will be following all of their instructions.

VDH is not recommending any additional sanitizing of the store. And they are also not seeing the need to do contact tracing of Co-op staff or customers at this time, or have any staff quarantine.

Our Co-op takes pride in our cleanliness and food safety standards, and we are taking multiple steps to best serve you, care for our staff and be a responsible community business.

- Since March, we've established an enhanced cleaning regimen including sanitizing with alcohol all high touch surfaces around the Co-op multiple times/day.
- We require customers to wear masks and offer free masks and gloves to anyone.
- We have hand sanitizing stations in many places around the store.
- Staff are screened daily at the start of their shift for temperature and symptoms before working.
- Our policy is that any staff with symptoms is required to stay home and inform HR. We offer time off for staff in this situation to support employees who need to stay home.
- We control the number of customers allowed in the store at any one time to assist with social distancing.
- 8:00 – 9:00am is reserved for high risk shoppers.
- We offer emergency curbside pickup program for customers who can't come into the store.

**Reminder for customers:**

We all play a role in helping to keep our community safe. Please do not shop if you are experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 or if you've potentially been exposed to Covid-19.

Wear a mask that covers both nose and mouth.

Shop solo if at all possible.

Consider shopping during less crowded times: try to avoid the lunch rush 11 am- 1 pm

Here is the link to our curbside service

<https://middlebury.coop/temporary-orders-for-curb-side-pick-up>

We wish you and your family a safe and happy new year.

Yours,

Glenn Lower  
General Manager