



GROCERY STORES OPEN TO THE ELDERLY

Grocery stores in the Valley that are now offering special hours to help seniors and other vulnerable customers shop safely during the coronavirus outbreak:

- **Big Lots** is reserving its first hour of shopping, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., for senior citizens and others most vulnerable to COVID-19. The retailer is also doing curbside pickup outside the store for customers who order online and choose the pick-up in store option.
- **Dollar General** is dedicating the first hour of business to senior citizens. Hours vary by store, with most opening at 7 a.m. or 8 a.m. There are seven stores in Fresno and Clovis. Call your closest store for exact hours.
- **State Foods Supermarkets** is setting aside the 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. hour daily for senior citizens, pregnant women, and shoppers requiring assistance. They will have extra workers available to help during that time. State Foods has locations in Sanger, Parlier, Madera, Avenal, Firebaugh, Riverdale, Woodlake, Chowchilla and Dos Palos.
- **Vallarta Supermarkets** are opening from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. daily for people age 65 and over, pregnant women and people with disabilities. Vallarta has three locations in Fresno: at Butler and Chestnut avenues, Cedar and Dakota avenues, and Weber and Clinton avenues. Visalia also has a store on Dinuba Boulevard near Riggan Avenue.
- **Vons** stores are reserving the hours of 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. for seniors every Tuesday and Thursday.
- **Target** is devoting the first hour of shopping every Wednesday to vulnerable guests like the elderly and people with other health issues. For most stores, that's between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m.
- **Walmart** stores are setting aside an hour before the stores officially open just for people age 60 and up to shop every Tuesday. Most stores open at 7 a.m., so seniors can shop starting at 6 a.m. on Tuesdays. Pharmacies and vision centers will also be open during that time.
- **Whole Foods** is opening at 8:15 a.m. daily for customers age 60 and up. It opens to the general public at 9 a.m. Have your ID ready.

OTHER CHANGES

- Expect things to be a little different when you go to the grocery store.
- Because stores have been so busy, they need more time to restock and clean. That means many stores are shortening their hours.
- It varies by store, but many are closing an hour early. Target, for example, is now closing all stores at 9 p.m.
- You also won't find salad bars or self-serve options at places like The Market and Whole Foods. The stores are selling prepared foods like salads, soups and olives already in packages.