



Dearest Pesche's Customers,

We are reopening as of today, Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, to continue a 97-year tradition of serving you.

#### Why are we Reopening?

Our 2-week store closure was entirely a voluntary decision reached by us here at Pesche's, to give us the necessary time to respond to our current situation and draw up safety measures. We did not feel we could ensure your complete safety at the time whilst remaining open.

Being not just a garden center but also a grower of vegetables, herbs and fruits, we are classified as a vital resource and an essential business (*Illinois Executive Order, Paragraph 12, Sections A and B*). Last year we grew and sold over 250,000 vegetables alone, offering 200 varieties.

This gives us legal grounds to remain open, but what about moral grounds? At a time when our food supply is in question and we are confined to our homes, the importance of creating our own food source is more important now than ever. For those of us fortunate enough to have some growing space, make use of it and reduce your dependence on unpredictable sources. If your children are home with you, teach them too how to grow their own food.

Make use of this newfound time at home, whether voluntary or not, and reconnect with nature and the outdoors. Create a small haven of beauty and color for yourself. The health benefits of being outside in the fresh air and working with plants go far beyond securing a healthy food source.

#### Is it Safe?

Our number one priority was always that we would only reopen if we could do so, whilst ensuring the safety of both our customers and employees. We have been working around the clock to adapt our store accordingly.

- Installed acrylic shields at all checkouts
- Maximized outdoor open-air shopping
- Altered the layout of all checkouts to maintain safety distancing
- Altered the store layout to increase customer distancing
- Sanitized the entire store
- Devised a stringent sanitary regime for off-hours implementation
- Trained all staff in proper hygiene and social distancing etiquette
- Developed an extensive online catalogue to minimize in-store foot traffic
- Followed all state guidelines on maximum in-store customer occupancy
- Offer curbside pickup on all store items
- Trained staff in a 'no-interaction' curbside loading policy
- Reduced delivery rates on all items (except floral arrangements)



Can I Still Shop from Home?

- Yes! We are doing everything to make online shopping efficient and enjoyable
- Our online catalogue is growing daily ([pesches.com](http://pesches.com))
- If an item is not listed online, please call (847) 299-1300
- Select either curbside pickup or home delivery
- Be safe; never leave your vehicle for curbside pickup
- Call us from our parking lot

Immerse yourself into your garden, take your mind off current events for just a little while, and reap the rewards that mother nature has to offer.

Sincerely,

Chris Pesche