



"A World of Flowers"

9322 196th Street SE
Snohomish, Washington 98296
425-481-7565 or 360-668-9575
FAX 360-668-6741

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To our customers:

In response to the many questions whether Flower World will be able to stay open and after last night's proclamation by Governor Inslee, the answer is, "Yes, Flower World is and will be open as usual."

Flower World is defined under Federal and State regulation as "essential" in the Food and Agricultural Sector for the wellbeing of the general public so we are open as usual. (See foot note below).

The growers and employees of Flower World and Maltby Produce Market are producing food for the public by planting, growing and producing vegetable plants, fruit trees, berry bushes and eggs on 150+ acres. Flower World is essential for the good of the public as recognized by Governor Inslee.

We are not sure how the "Shelter In Place" regulations in California will affect the nation's food supply, (California supplies 80% of the US Fresh Produce Market) but we have doubled our fresh produce production and are preparing for an increased demand of home-grown food.

We fully support the governor's efforts to mitigate the effects that can lead to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and are doing everything we can to prevent the spread of this infectious disease. Since Flower World's retail area covers over 15 acres, social distancing is easily accomplished. We have constructed cart return corrals, where we collect any used carts to be sanitized before being re-used. Any shopping carts outside of the corrals are easily available to the customers and are safe to be used. We ask you to enter and exit through the open doors, so that no contact with door handles is necessary. Our restroom facility is operating under strict control of the Front End Managers (with keys) who are responsible for the sanitation after each use.

As growing plants for food or pleasure is such an inherent natural process, not only for Flower World's employees, but also for our 500,000+ customers, we would be failing not to continue doing so.

Gardening is not a team sport and does not lend itself to a massive audience. It is just you and nature so make the most of it while you have the time! Flower World has been growing plants for you for more than 50 years and we can certainly help you do the same now when the chips are down.

**John and Marijke Postema
Owners**

Excerpt from the Governors proclamation:

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE Sector Profile The Food and Agricultural (FA) Sector is composed of complex production, processing, and delivery systems and has the capacity to feed people and animals both within and beyond the boundaries of the United States. Beyond domestic food production, the FA Sector also imports many ingredients and finished products, leading to a complex web of growers, processors, suppliers, transporters, distributors, and consumers. This sector is critical to maintaining and securing our food supply.

• Commercial Retail Stores, that supply essential sectors, including convenience stores, pet supply stores, auto supplies and repair, hardware and home improvement, garden stores and nurseries that support food cultivation and production, office supply stores that support working-from home, and home appliance retailers