



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 18, 2020

VQ Heritage Center Closed Until Further Notice

MILBANK - Protecting the health and safety of our employees and our community is a top priority at Valley Queen. We have decided to close the Valley Queen Heritage Center effective immediately to protect against the ongoing spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). We look forward to reopening when guidance from the CDC advises it is safe and reasonable to do so.

Although the Heritage Center will be closed, operations at the factory will continue.

While we do not have any confirmed cases of COVID-19 among our employees, we continue to act in an abundance of caution by implementing a number of preventative measures to protect our employees and ensure the continual pickup of milk from our nearly 40 supplying dairy farms across the region. Some of these measures include:

- Continual reinforcement of existing hygiene and sanitation procedures, including frequent handwashing and avoiding handshakes or other close contact
- Additional cleaning of high-traffic touchpoints (employee plant entry doors, break rooms, locker room areas, restrooms, CHP areas and production doors, etc.)
- Screening of all visitors and any employees returning from travel to identify possible contact with COVID-19 before being admitted entry
- Restricted access to plant and offices by lock-controlling doors until visitors have been cleared for entry and preventing outside truck drivers from entering the plant
- Transitioning employee meetings and non-essential meetings with outside vendors to be held via web conference
- The creation of a 24-Hour COVID-19 Hotline, manned by our Executive Leadership Team, for employees to report concerns or contact with COVID-19
- Continual monitoring and contingency planning by management

Thank you for your understanding as we join many businesses in Milbank and across the country in taking the necessary steps to protect the health of our people and minimize the impact of COVID-19 on our employees, our business and our local economy.

Please refer to the [CDC](#) for the best information related to COVID-19.

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