

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
April 1, 2020

Recognizing Health Care Workers at Porter

Porter Hospital staff – doctors, nurses, and all those who are providing support so health care workers can do their jobs, are due our gratitude. To express your support, the hospital has set up an on-line link:

Thanks Health Heroes link:

<https://xd.wayin.com/display/container/dc/f40eb2ff-7ef4-4942-aad1-08d53ee73f82/details>

Highway Safety and Enforcement During This Contagion

Misinformation is circulating that the police will not be enforcing motor vehicle laws in order to minimize officer contact with potentially infected persons. This is not true. While Middlebury Police are concentrating on deterrent patrols and protective actions and have taken other actions to reduce close physical contact, officers remain vigilant and are likewise working to keep highways safe. Yes, you will be stopped for traffic violations. Our intent is to help reduce the stress on a health care system already stressed by COVID-19 by reducing traffic crashes. Please drive carefully. Don't divert or dilute health care by careless driving.

If You're Ill...

You've heard it repeatedly- if you are sick, stay home. However, don't wait for your illness to get out of hand. Porter Hospital recommends calling your health care provider. Don't let a mild illness turn into a medical crisis. Yes, health care workers have their hands full right now, and it will probably get worse. But it's far easier to begin treatment, if necessary, before it creates further stress on emergency medical services and health care workers.

Lodging

The State of Vermont, through the Office of the Attorney General (AGO) is moving to crack down on lodging establishments that violate the Governor's closure order. The AGO is notifying all on-line listings for Air BnB, VRBO, other on-line listings and ordering them to take down on-line listings for Vermont. The AGO has requested the police to make note of any lodging establishments that remain open and report to that office. At this time, Middlebury Inn, Courtyard Marriott, and Sweets are open on a limited basis to house displaced persons, over the road truckers, and others in support of the state's COVID-19 response.

Local Conditions

All town services are in place. All roads are open. Water and waste water utilities are being operated. The Fire Department is prepared to respond. The Police are staffed and on the road 24 X 7. Don't let the current crisis deter you from calling for help when needed or reporting suspicious activity.

We are monitoring rain, mountain snow melt, and other conditions that could create flooding. The next two weeks are forecast to bring cool weather, minimal sunshine, and periods of showers and rain.

Get out if you can, as so many have done, by walking or exercising, and breathing fresh air. In 10 days fishing season opens- trout and salmon; catch and release for bass. In 30 days turkey hunting season begins. Hiking trails may be a bit muddy. Beware of ticks and apply your permethrin or DEET. As the weather slowly warms, air out your homes, open windows for a bit.

During this contagion there are a lot of things you can spread – good will, sunshine, and homemade jam on toast – don't spread the infection!