

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
September 10, 2020

Testing, Testing, All Over the Place

Testing has ramped up and become more available. Here are testing sites in Middlebury:

September 15 – Health Department District Office 156 So Village Drive 9-3

September 16 – Kinney Drugs, Court St.

September 17 – American Legion Post on Wilson Rd. 9-3

September 22 – Health Department District Office 156 So Village Dr 9-3

September 23 – Kinney Drugs, Court St

September 29 – Health Department District Office- 156 So Village Dr 9-3.

Testing at the American Legion is walk-in testing

To register for Health Dept testing, go to- <https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>

Kinney Drug info is not yet up, but you can check this site for updates and registration:

<https://kinneydrugs.as.me/MiddleburyStore38>

Remember, if you aren't feeling well, call your healthcare provider. These "pop-up" sites are not for the sick.

Masks

Plenty of masks are still available at no cost from the police department. You can stop in any time between 7 am and 11 pm Monday-Saturday to pick one up. We've delivered masks to the 4 public schools to be used to augment their supplies for students and staff.

Info from VDH on Contact Tracing

1. The Health Department's trained teams are on it! They determine potential exposures and reach out to contacts.
2. Contact tracing is not a notification system. A contact tracer determines the epidemiological facts – things like when a person was actually contagious, and then identifying who they may have been within 6 feet of, for at least 15 minutes.
3. They ensure the person knows how to isolate or quarantine, answer questions, provide support, and protect patient privacy.
4. If you don't hear from the Health Department, that's good news. Learn more. at:
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/coronavirus-covid-19/about-coronavirus-disease-covid-19#contacttracing>

Vermont's contact tracers have interviewed 96% of people with COVID-19 within 24 hours of receiving their test result. This turnaround time ensures people can isolate themselves quickly and tracers can identify and reach out to anyone who was potentially exposed – critical to containing outbreaks and further spread of the virus..

Students Are Back – How's it Going?

So far so good. The College is setting the gold standard for transparency – you can see all the updated details on their efforts at their COVID-19 dashboard:

<https://www.middlebury.edu/office/midd2021/covid-reporting-dashboard>

With 90,000 students statewide returning to schools, VDH and their epidemiologists expect outbreaks of COVID. This won't surprise anyone, least of all the folks at VDH. They have put in place upgraded and robust contact tracing teams, an increase in testing capacity (see above!) symptomatic and asymptomatic, and upgraded call centers.

The Addison Central School District is also in the process of setting up a COVID-19 dashboard to facilitate communication with families of students.

The Fall Invasion is Coming

This is no time to let our guard down and succumb to COVID weariness. Reports are coming in from around the state of visitors with plans on descending on Vermont in the fall. Good for the economy- not so good if safety rules are relaxed or ignored. Concerns were expressed at today's state EOC meeting of people seeking reservations without the requisite quarantine, and when turned down, finding lodging at other hostleries. We've just come out of a very pleasant labor day weekend while holding our breath that we don't get the spikes a week or later as we experienced with the July 4th holiday. Toss in 90,000 returning school students, thousands of college students statewide, COVID weariness, and what the heck, why not toss in the advent of flu season, and we have a mixture for a perfect storm.

Our schools and College and our businesses are all doing yeomen's work in their effort to keep COVID at bay. So now it's up to us- stand fast and stay clean or toss our luck to the wind.