

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
October 14, 2020

Testing for COVID

175,256 COVID tests have been administered so far with 1,889 positives for COVID. But more tests are available.

- Porter Medical Center, Thursday, October 15. You must make an appointment by calling 802-388-8852. There are no costs or fees for this test and no referral or provider is needed. This is for asymptomatic people only. If you are not well or have symptoms, call your doctor!
- VT Department of Health Middlebury District office is administering COVID tests on Tuesdays, October 20 and 27 at their office at 156 South Village, Middlebury, across from the People's Bank. Register here: <https://vermont.force.com/events/s/selfregistration>

Vermont COVID Response Recognized

An article in *Politico* recognizes Vermont as one of the most successful states in dealing with COVID.

"While health experts say the state has likely benefited from its rural geography, other sparsely populated areas of the country that let their guard down were overwhelmed by the virus this spring and summer. That sense of complacency never took hold in Vermont, where a moderate Republican governor and a Democratic-led Legislature helped defuse partisan tensions that hampered the response elsewhere." ... Read the full article here:

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/10/14/best-state-responses-to-pandemic-429376>

Have COVID Don't Travel

As stable as things are in Vermont, surrounding areas are not doing so well. With the winding down of leaf peeper season travel into Vermont may slow down and with it the risk of COVID importation. There are very few areas outside of Vermont where you can travel without the requirement of COVID on return. This includes most of New Hampshire, MA, all of CT and a large portion of western and southern Maine. We've heard many cases where someone checked the cross state travel map, saw their destination county was green, only to find it turned yellow or red while there. Yes, you are supposed to quarantine in that case. We've mentioned this before- follow the map, if the county and its environs have been stable and green for a couple of weeks, the risk for that is lower. Vermont's a beautiful state especially in fall. The crisp air is great for outdoor recreation; fishing is open for all species; bear, deer, turkey, rabbits, game bird hunting is all open. And the skeeters and flies are gone. Stay here, stay safe!

Outdoors

Big game check-in stations are open for in-person reporting of bear, deer, turkeys. We are awaiting guidance on the upcoming ski season. Just an advisory- 12 participants, youth to adult, engaged in hockey in the Montpelier area tested positive for COVID. Talk about back-checking! The stuff is catchy, folks. It's like playing hockey with your head down, you become vulnerable when you don't watch out.