

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
October 27, 2020

COVID on the Rise

We mentioned in the last bulletin that the predicted rise in COVID coinciding with fall and more things opening has arrived. There has been a 21% increase in COVID in the region and for the first time in this pandemic every county in Vermont experienced positive tests in the same week. The travel map is vivid with fall colors - all of southern New England and New Hampshire are now quarantine required travel areas. The same is true across the lake in New York and all points south.

For those who like statistics, check out the Dept of Financial Regulation COVID report this week, found at: <https://dfr.vermont.gov/document/covid-19-modeling-october-27-2020>
Click on the pdf for October 27.

Update on Central Vermont Outbreak

While this was related to hockey groups, the infection wasn't spread through playing hockey. Contract tracing and subsequent investigation revealed that out of state travel without quarantine and engagement in small gatherings without following masking and social distance rules created the outbreak. This should serve as an example going forward as we consider holiday travel plans.

As a result, the Governor has stiffened up recreational sports limitations- teams can play in-state only and can only compete against Vermont based teams.

Midd College Update

For the most part, students are setting the gold standard for COVID compliance. As of 10:00 a.m. October 27, there have been about 10,000 tests administered with 0 new cases of COVID and 0 current cases. The College is committed to avoid what occurred recently at St. Michaels College with a COVID outbreak.

Twenty seven Midd students have been removed from campus for violations. You can find the daily report and updates at: <https://www.middlebury.edu/office/midd2021/covid-reporting-dashboard>

In the St Michaels college case, it appears that the outbreak spread through normal, within-the-rules gatherings. Just an example of how easy the infection can spread.

Vaccine Update

Dr. Bumstead, President and CEO of UVM Health Network is providing information on the vaccine trials, you can find it at UVMHealth.org/COVIDStudy. UVM H.N. is also hosting an information session for the general public on Monday, November 2nd from 5:30-6:45 p.m.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46DRxsyyTgg&feature=youtu.be>