

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
November 19, 2020

### **Beating The COVID Blues**

Because COVID infections are on the rise, there is no reason to develop a bunker mentality and hide under your bed. Understand how COVID spreads- it invades your lungs through airborne aerosols finding a route of entry through eyes, nose, and mouth. You don't know where it is or who has it. Slam those doors shut and you have a good chance of keeping COVID out of your lungs.

Better Middlebury Partnership is helping to fight those winter doldrums and COVID blues while helping build community spirit- be socially distanced, of course, while covering those routes of COVID entry. And fresh air is good for you. Here are some of their upcoming events downtown:

December 3<sup>rd</sup>- a downtown market event, THT's Cirque de Fuego will also help brighten the evening. Just remember COVID likes social events as well. Stay protected by covering mouth and nose and socially distance and avoid close congregation, don't bring COVID home for the holidays.

December 5, 10 a.m.- noon A drive-thru visit with the big guy himself, Santa! Maple Landmark at 1297 Exchange St. Click on this link for details: <https://experiencemiddlebury.com/events/drive-thru-visit-with-santa/>

Watch for other announcements for activity downtown, all being planned with your health and safety in mind and following the Governor's orders. <https://experiencemiddlebury.com/>

### **This is What We're Talking About**

Tim Stello NBC News Wed, November 18, 2020.

A recent Ohio wedding attended by 83 people has become the latest super-spreader event amid a nationwide surge in COVID-19 after nearly half of them tested positive for coronavirus, the newlywed couple said.

Among the 32 people to contract the virus were the couple, Anthony and Mikayla Bishop, and three of their grandparents, two of whom visited the emergency room, the Bishops said in an interview with NBC affiliate WLWT of Cincinnati.

*"I didn't think that almost half of our wedding guests were gonna get sick," Mikayla Bishop told the station. "You're in the moment. You're having fun. You don't think about COVID anymore."*

### **Record Infection Day**

Washington County is still a mess. 50 new cases in Washington County alone, 36 in Chittenden, 11 in Franklin and 6 in Orange County. Addison County tallied 3 new cases. A total of 148 new cases statewide today. Two new deaths reported.

### **Agriculture Drought Relief**

COVID occupies much of our time, but emergency management is not exclusively COVID. The USDA Disaster Declaration for a drought commenced on 6/1/20. This applies to all counties in Vermont, including Addison,(as there are 10 primary counties, and the others are all continuous counties which are also eligible). Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of the disaster declaration (11/12/20) to apply for emergency loans.

Interested and qualified farmers would reach out directly to their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office – list of county offices found here: <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=vt&agency=fsa>  
The list of county offices is also attached to this email for your convenience.

Additional guidance for these programs is available on the USDA website:  
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Vermont/programs/index>

**Secretarial Designation Number: S4869**

**Approval date by the Secretary: 11/12/2020**

**Termination Date - EM loan applications: 07/12/2021**

Beginning date – Incident period: 06/01/2020

(For determining EM loan security values)

Ending Date - Incident Period: continuing

Crop Year(s) Affected: 2020

Disaster description: drought

Please proceed to take the appropriate actions required by 7 CFR 759.

EXPIRATION DATE: November 30, 2021