

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
December 1, 2020

**Good News-Sort Of**

In November Vermont experienced COVID growth of about 45%. New cases in triple figures every day. This past week it's been trending downward, we still have case growth, but now it's sub-triple figures, falling into double figures every day. Think about it this way- getting punched in the nose pretty hard is no fun, getting punched in the nose a little less hard isn't as bad, but it's still getting punched in the nose. We'll see if we keep trending downward next week when holiday gathering cases come in.

**From the "We Warned You" Department**

An early Thanksgiving multi-household gathering has resulted in an outbreak of cases in an unidentified county in the state according to Dr Levine... 'nuff said.

**Traveling Abroad?**

The CDC has some helpful information for you, not just the usual "Wear your Mask, Social Distance", yadda yadda yadda.

On Saturday, November 21, CDC revised the Travel Health Notice system for COVID-19 and released new recommendations for testing before and after international air travel to help the public make informed decisions for safer, healthier, and more responsible travel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CDC's Travel Health Notices inform travelers and clinicians about current health issues in destinations around the world. For most diseases, the Travel Health Notices have 3 levels. This new 4-level travel health notice system is specific to COVID-19 and details the level of COVID-19 in international destinations and U.S. territories. The COVID-19 Travel Health Notices now indicate low, moderate, high, and very high levels of COVID-19 for each destination and are based primarily on incidence rate (or new case counts in destinations with populations of 200,000 or less) and trajectory of new cases (whether new cases over the past 28 days are increasing, decreasing, or stable). CDC has and will continue to review data daily to ensure travelers have the most up-to-date information to inform their decisions.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s1122-covid-travel-health-international-travelers.html>

**The Region is a COVID Mess**

The 7 day period ending November 25 saw these COVID case increases, yes, these are just the increases in a 7-day period:

CT- 12,294 MA- 17,286 ME- 1,508 NH- 3,079 NY-42,178 RI- 6,896. At the risk of sounding repetitive, these are the *known* cases. You can bet there's a bunch more asymptomatic carriers among the herd as well. Record numbers of COVID deaths were reported in 9 states- Alaska, Ohio, Missouri, Washington, Indiana, Wisconsin, Oregon, North Dakota, and just off to our right, Maine. And this is the heart

wrenching stat- 166 new infections in Vermont long term care facilities in the past week. Pretty much isolated from the outside world, the COVID has found its way in. Think about that!

### **Winter Sports Update**

No news is bad news. Recreational sports are still on hold. A new announcement is expected on Friday.

### **Clarification on Quarantine From a Destination Outside Vermont.**

It is preferred that the traveler coming in from the cold (that is, from another state) commence the 14 day quarantine here in Vermont on arrival, or 7 days plus a negative test. Remember, quarantine doesn't mean isolation. You can leave your quarantine location to go directly to the test site and return and await the result, usually within 48 hours.

However, the traveler may serve the quarantine from their point of departure – IF - they commute to Vermont directly in a private motor vehicle with no out-of-state stops. So stock up on munchies, fill the tank or get it charged up, serve your quarantine and don't stop till you pass those big green "Welcome To Vermont" signs.