

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
December 10, 2020

**New England COVID Accelerates**

As we approach the holidays, note the increase in COVID in our region in the past week:  
CT – 19,504 new cases; MA -32,475; ME- 2,247; NH- 4,857; NY- 68,598; RI- 9,161 VT- 824.  
Add another 119 cases to Vermont reported today.

In Vermont 2,951 new cases in the last 30 days. 89 people have perished, 14 in the past week, 30 in the last 30 days.

Make what you will of the infection numbers. COVID has done far more than make people unpleasantly ill and in some cases contributed or caused death. It's out there; it's viable, growing, and coming to a neighborhood near you. There's no place like home for the holidays. Protect yourselves and others.

**On a Lighter Note**

As Hanukkah – the Jewish holiday also known as the Festival of Lights – begins tonight, take a moment to remember that there are brighter days ahead.

Governor Phil Scott has encouraged Vermonters to share photos of seasonal displays — or favorites from around the community — on social media using the hashtag #VTLightsTheWay.

He's also asked Vermonters to share acts of kindness, selfless service and goodwill happening in our state.

“As our state continues to confront this once-in-a-century challenge, sometimes it's the little things – those simple, random, everyday acts of kindness and goodwill – that can make all the difference,” Gov. Scott said.

Submit yours at this link: <https://governor.vermont.gov/rays-of-kindness>.

**Vaccine Update**

There is a chance the first wave of vaccines will arrive in Vermont by the end of next week. But hold on—don't make an appointment with your health care provider for a shot. They will be delivered to the hospitals for health care workers and long term care facilities. There won't be enough to go around. The next shipment may follow two weeks later to continue with health care and EMS and vulnerable populations. At some point other first responders may be in the queue.

So you still must use our countermeasures to stave off the virus.

The next group may include road crews so that highways can be maintained and plowed.

**Farms to Families Program Extended**

The farms to families food program is extended to January and February as the current program ends on December 31.