

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
December 23, 2020

**High Water Potential**

Overnight Christmas Eve into Christmas Day will be rainy, with rain heavy at times. Coupled with melting snow this will put us on alert for high water along the Middlebury River corridor as well as some yard and street flooding. Fortunately, there aren't any ice jams or other obstructions to the flow of water. The police will be out during the night checking on the usual flooding trouble spots. If you live along the river corridor in East Middlebury and detect a dangerous rise in water levels call 9-1-1 or the police at 388-3191. If need be we can arrange either shelter through the Red Cross or temporary respite through the town.

Expect puddling on streets and a chance of street flooding. Of course, the only ones out overnight, aside from Santa Claus, will be the police, MREMS on a call, and hospital staff coming and going from work! Rain is expected to be heaviest after 10 p.m. and tapering off through the morning. Here is the NOAA forecast as of 11 a.m. on December 23:

**Thursday**

A 50 percent chance of showers, mainly after 11am. Cloudy, with a high near 48. South wind 14 to 16 mph. New precipitation amounts of less than a tenth of an inch possible.

**Thursday Night**

Rain. The rain could be heavy at times. Low around 48. Breezy, with a southeast wind 16 to 21 mph, with gusts as high as 32 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New precipitation amounts between a half and three quarters of an inch possible.

**Christmas Day**

Rain, mainly before noon. The rain could be heavy at times. High near 55. South wind 13 to 17 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%. New precipitation amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

**Friday Night**

A chance of rain and snow showers before 10 pm, then a chance of snow showers between 10 pm and 1am. Cloudy, then gradually becoming partly cloudy, with a low around 22. South wind 11 to 13 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New precipitation amounts of less than a tenth of an inch possible.

The State Emergency Operations Center will have a pre-storm briefing for local emergency managers at 3 p.m. today.

Addison is on the line between the 3/4" to 1" and 1" to 2" rainfall areas. The heaviest effect of the storm will be in the southern counties. Otter Creek in Rutland is under a moderate flood watch, but guess where that water ends up a day later! There is no NOAA flood watch at this time in Addison County. There is, however a high wind warning- 30 MPH with gusts up to 50 mph. Wet ground + high winds = potential for trees falling and power loss. Temperatures are expected to reach 50's by mid-day Thursday and begin dropping Friday after noon into the 40's and sub-freezing Friday night. Expect significant snowmelt. This is a dynamic storm, so follow the weather reports. NOAA will be updating forecasts after 5 p.m. on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Regional COVID Activity**

New infection numbers are down slightly this week in all but New York and Maine. But the numbers are still very high. Case counts for this past week: CT- 16,021 ; MA -31,516; ME- 2,953; NH -5,586; NY- 71,990; RI- 6,994; VT- 600. COVID in Addison County remains stable, with 1 new case reported

overnight. Lamoille and Caledonia Counties are poised to surpass Addison in aggregate cases since March. If that trend continues only Essex and Grand Isle will have fewer cases than Addison. There are currently 7 people in ICUs in the state, which is a higher number than we've seen. That's a bit disturbing considering we had 5 more deaths reported overnight, bringing the Vermont COVID death toll to 117.