

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
December 24, 2020

**Storm Update**

The flood WATCH has been expanded to now include Addison County. This is a watch and not a warning, that is, conditions are developing that could result in some flooding, but it is not imminent. The watch period begins at 1 a.m. on Friday morning through 7 a.m. Saturday. Rainfall amounts have been increased from to 1.5- 2" of rain in our area. High winds will compound the problem, with the highest winds and gusts along the west side of the Green Mountains- Lincoln, Bristol, Ripton. Prior experience shows us that the Rte 116 corridor is also susceptible to higher wind gusts and straight line winds. There is a risk of trees being blown over and damage to power lines. Temperatures are expected to be mild, going up to the 60's on Friday but then falling below freezing through Friday night.

If you have lost power or need to be evacuated due to rising water, call 9-1-1 or the police department directly at 388-3191. Arrangements have been made for respite sheltering until the Red Cross can arrange lodging. The Police will be monitoring the usual flood areas overnight.

**COVID**

COVID remains with us, an unwanted holiday visitor who has apparently neglected to follow the Governor's orders. That's dour enough. The rest of this bulletin will give us the lighter side of the pandemic, hopefully to lighten the mood going into the holiday. With that, today the Gov gave a shout out to Mary Hogan School. We put the link to their presentation the other day but we'll republish it here:

<https://youtu.be/9Nq0wLS8I68>

**A Visit From Santa During the Pandemic**

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house  
Not a creature was stirring, as gath'ings were out.  
The masks were all hung by the chimney with care,  
In hopes that St. Nicholas would wear one when there;  
The children were all distanced yet snug in their beds;  
While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads;  
And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,  
Had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap,  
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.  
Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.  
The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow,  
Gave a lustre of midday to objects below,  
When what to my wondering eyes did appear,  
But a miniature sleigh and eight mask-wearing rein-deer,  
With a little old driver so lively and quick,  
I thought for a moment "I hope he's not sick"

The Gov said for travelers they must quarantine  
But did that include Santa? is that what he means?  
Then he whispered not shouted, lest he spread aerosols:  
"Now, *Dasher!* now, *Dancer!* now *Prancer* and *Vixen!*  
On, *Comet!* on, *Cupid!* on, *Donner* and *Blitzen!*  
To the top of the porch! to the top of the wall!  
Now dash away! dash away! dash away all!"  
As leaves that before the wild hurricane fly,  
When they meet with an obstacle, mount to the sky;  
So up to the housetop the coursers they flew  
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas too—  
And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the roof  
The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
As I drew in my head, and was turning around,  
Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.  
He was dressed all in tyvek, from his head to his foot,  
And his clothes were all tarnished with disinfectant and soot;  
A bundle of toys sealed in sanitary wrap,  
And he looked like a surgeon just opening his pack.  
His eyes—how they twinkled! That's all we could see  
His N95 hid his face from me.  
His droll little fingers covered in nitrile  
And his beard was all gone, his mask for to seal;  
The stump of a pipe he left up in his sleigh,  
And the smoke, it just rose and then blew away;  
He had a broad face and a little round belly  
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.  
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,  
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;  
Faucci vaccinated me, he then said  
This gave me to know I had nothing to dread;  
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,  
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,  
And laying his finger aside of his nose,  
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;  
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a wave,  
And away they all went, I'm so glad he behaved  
But I heard him mumble, through his mask fitted tight—  
*"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"*

### **Last Word**

Here we have some local musicians who wrote a song about relationship problems during the pandemic.  
<https://youtu.be/CLpW5rKsVgg>

Wishing you all a happy Christmas and happy and safe holidays....Stay positive, stay safe.