

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
January 15, 2021

Coming Attractions – PHASE II Vaccinations

Phase 1-A vaccinations are winding down with about 35,000 doses administered to date. Phase II- age banding- will commence January 25, 2021. The first group, those who are Vermont residents age 75 and over will go first. There are an estimated 49,000 Vermonters in that age group. The state is receiving about 8,800 doses per week so it is estimated the 75+ age group will take about 6 weeks to complete. The complete Phase II vaccinations are expected to wind up in early April when general availability should commence. *And you must prove residency* to qualify for a Vermont vaccination.

The vaccination plan is scalable based on available vaccine. Once Johnson and Johnson and AstraZeneca come on line these timelines may scale up. Vermont is dependent on the federal government for allocation and distribution.

How Do You Get The Vaccine for That 1st Group?

Registration for Vermonters age 75+ will open on Monday, January 25. There will be on-line and phone registration, details will be announced next week sometime. Agency of Human Services implores folks to use the on-line registration, and to have grandkids, kids, other family members assist the person if needed to avoid overwhelming the call center. It is important that when you make an appointment to get vaccinated you show up at the time you registered. Available doses have a short shelf life and there is a risk of having to discard the vaccine due to no-shows. At the time of the first dose you will make an appointment for the second dose.

Once the age 75+ group is winding down, the next group, age 70+ will go, after that group age 65+ will go. Others included in the Phase II group will include those under in-patient hospitalization and those with chronic conditions such as Sickle cel, immunocompromised, Type II diabetes, cancer, certain heart conditions, COPD (emphysema) , and the like.

Stay tuned to Healthvermont.gov the COVID-19 vaccination page for constant updates.

Emergency Order and Sports

No surprise here, the Governor extended the Emergency order through February 15. Sports have opened up slightly. Team practice can expand with limited contact. Still no games with other teams. Downhill and Cross-Country Skiing competitions may commence in small groups.

Around The Region

The weekly round-up on regional COVID activity. The increase/ decrease over the prior one-week period is in parenthesis. This goes from Tuesday to Tuesday.

CT- 20,079 (+5,078; MA- 42,841 (+9,631); ME- 4,061 (+470); NH- 5,156 (-139); NY- 117,110 (+18,562)
RI- 7,541 (+478); VT-1,210 (+254).

It's a COVID mess out there, folks, be careful.

Addison County

Right now, Addison County has the distinction of having the highest COVID positivity rate in Vermont. 10 new cases overnight, 200 in the past 14 days. Much of this is attributable to the Victory Baptist Church outbreak, up to 150 cases now. Middlebury has now logged 79 aggregate cases since March through January 13. Expect the Vermont aggregate case count to hit 10,000 by Monday. Deaths have now increased to 163. 44 people are currently hospitalized.

Over the summer we were able to estimate that at any one time there were between 140-180 active known cases in Vermont. We are now up to several thousand at any one time. It's plain to see that when you let your guard down, your risk of infection grows exponentially.