

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
February 16, 2021

Vaccinations- VDH Sites or Pharmacies?

So where do you go to register? The choice is yours. Just understand that there ARE choices. The VDH sites (such as those at the American Legion Post in Middlebury) require obtaining the VDH account number first. Then there is Kinney Drugs and Walgreens. Walgreens is directly related to the federal vaccination program. VDH and Kinney drugs obtain their vaccines through the federal state allotment. VDH sites have much more choice in sites and times than the pharmacies, but the choice is yours. Currently the Middlebury VDH site is open 2 days a week. We hope that by the end of the month and into March, Porter Hospital will add two more days as a contractor for VDH- all will be at the Legion post.

You can access all the sites through the VDH website at [healthvermont.gov/my vaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/my-vaccine) where there are links to the pharmacy registration sites as well, or you can go to the pharmacy sites direct at:

<https://kinneydrugs.com/pharmacy/covid-19/vaccination-scheduling/vt/>

<https://www.walgreens.com/findcare/vaccination/covid-19>

There are two vaccines being administered right now- Pfizer and Moderna. You cannot choose which one you want. You get what the administrator has when you show up. When you register, your first and second doses are reserved, so you won't get a hybrid Moderna/Pfizer mix.

Johnson and Johnson is expected to receive emergency authorization within a few weeks. If that occurs, distribution will begin immediately. Currently Vermont is expecting an increase in the state allotment by 2500 doses next week.

Effects of Winter Storms on Distribution

Delivery to Vermont is done by aircraft, and aircraft have to be able to fly. Some states have seen postponements in vaccinations due to the inability of supply planes to get off the ground due to weather. It is uncertain at this time whether this will have an adverse effect on Vermont. So hope for pleasant weather!

70+, 75+, 1-A – The Weather is Hazy Gray But All Are Underway!

The age band 70+ commenced this morning. Almost a third of all those eligible have already registered. If you are in the other groups, you may still register, those bands remain open. We expect the Age 65+ band to open up in about 3 weeks. It depends on vaccine allotment.

Its best to register on line. There have been some delays with phone registering. If that method is your preference (855-722-7878) just be patient or call back. The state has 300 call takers and had 11,000 people register this morning alone.

Current COVID Status

502 cases since Friday in Vermont. The death rate nationally has fallen 24% in the past week. There were 13,000 fewer new cases in the New England region as well. What has been encouraging is that the ski areas, in spite of the amount of out-of-state visitors, have NOT been a source of viral transmission. In an informal survey along the Connecticut River Valley this weekend, I saw 100% compliance with masking and social distancing in spite of a plethora of out-of-state, out-of-region visitors. That's encouraging. So to restate our Walt Kelly (Pogo) comment from some months ago- "We have met the enemy, and he is us". So it will take all of us to suppress this awful thing and get back to 'normal'.