

Town of Middlebury  
Emergency Management Bulletin  
March 9, 2021

**New CDC Guidelines for Vaccinated People**

CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, MD, MPH: “There are some activities that fully vaccinated people can begin to resume now in their own homes. Everyone – even those who are vaccinated – should continue with all mitigation strategies when in public settings. As the science evolves and more people get vaccinated, we will continue to provide more guidance to help fully vaccinated people safely resume more activities.”

- Visit with other fully vaccinated people indoors without wearing masks or staying 6 feet apart.
- Visit with unvaccinated people from one other household indoors without wearing masks or staying 6 feet apart if everyone in the other household is at low risk for severe disease.
- Refrain from quarantine and testing if you do not have symptoms of COVID-19 after contact with someone who has COVID-19.

A person is considered fully vaccinated two weeks after receiving the last required dose of vaccine. Although vaccinations are accelerating, CDC estimates that just 9.2% of the U.S. population has been fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine that the FDA has authorized for emergency use. While the new guidance is a positive step, the vast majority of people need to be fully vaccinated before COVID-19 precautions can be lifted broadly. Until then, it is important that everyone continues to adhere to public health mitigation measures to protect the large number of people who remain unvaccinated.

CDC recommends that fully vaccinated people continue to take these COVID-19 precautions when in public, when visiting with unvaccinated people from multiple other households, and when around unvaccinated people who are at high risk of getting severely ill from COVID-19:

- Wear a well-fitted mask.
- Stay at least 6 feet from people you do not live with.
- Avoid medium- and large-sized in-person gatherings.
- Get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Follow guidance issued by individual employers.
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations.

In addition, Vermont guidelines no longer quarantine on return when leaving Vermont (only if you are vaccinated, travel prohibitions remain in force for those not yet vaccinated)

**16+ With High Risk Opens Thursday, March 11.**

Opening for registration at 8:15 a.m. this Thursday, those 16 and older with high risk conditions can commence registering for their COVID shot at the VDH site at [healthvermont.gov/myvaccine](https://healthvermont.gov/myvaccine). Or you can call 855-722-7878

**Addison County Educators Begin Next Week**

COVID vaccinations for teachers and in-school staff in Addison County will begin the registration process next week. VDH will notify the school districts directly. This also includes licensed child caregivers- they can register at the VDH site or through Walgreens.

### **B 1.1.7 Variant is In-State**

No, this is NOT a popular song selection on a jukebox. If you must ask what a jukebox or nickelodeon is the analogy may escape you, but suffice it to say B 1.1.7 is not a tune you want to play. Vermont health officials have confirmed detection of the COVID-19 variant B.1.1.7 – the viral mutation first detected in the U.K. in the fall of 2020. This is the first lab-confirmed evidence of the variant in the state.

This variant is a type that can spread more quickly than regular old COVID. It was detected in a specimen taken from a resident of Chittenden County. The Health Department sends select samples from people who had already tested positive for COVID-19 to the Massachusetts Public Health Laboratory, Molecular Diagnostics and Virology program for genetic sequencing. Another reason to keep practicing safety protocols.

### **COVID Growth**

On January 15, VDH reported 200 cases in Addison County in the prior 14 days. On February 4<sup>th</sup>, VHD reported 71 cases in the prior 14 days. We've been creeping up ever since we bottomed out at 71. There have now been 91 cases in the past 14 days with 4 new cases in A/C overnight. Over 16,000 Vermonters have been infected in the past year, and there are currently about 2,800 known active cases in the state. Aggregate case counts since March 5, 2020 through March 3, 2021 per Addison County towns follows: 126-Middlebury; 106- Vergennes; 87- Bristol; 74-Ferrisburg; 60-Bridport; 58-Shoreham; 51- New Haven; 38-Orwell; 33-Starksboro; 28-Addison; 16-Whiting; 15-Salisbury; 13-Cornwall; 12-Leicester; 11-Panton; 10-Hancock; 10- Monkton; 9-Lincoln; 8-Weybridge; Less than 5 each-Goshen, Ripton, Waltham and Granville. It just goes to show you, COVID is anywhere and everywhere.

### **Spigot Opening- This Friday**

The Governor indicated today that there will be some new announcements regarding gatherings and other things this Friday.