

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
March 25, 2021

Registration For Age 60+ Opened Today

Going online to healthvermont.gov/MyVaccine is the fastest way to make an appointment, and there are enough slots at sites throughout Vermont for everyone who is eligible.

Click on the “*Make an appointment*” button to use the Health Department registration system. If you prefer to make your COVID-19 vaccine appointment through a participating pharmacy, you can find links on the same page to Kinney Drugs, CVS and Walgreens. In the Health Department system, you will be asked to create an account. You can then log in to make your appointment.

If you already have an account because you were tested for COVID-19 through a Health Department site, use the same account to make your appointment. You can also find helpful videos and more information on the website about what information you’ll need to make your appointment.

Anyone who is unable to make their appointment online, or who needs to speak with someone in a language other than English can call 855-722-7878. Vaccination sites are available around the state, and people can choose a nearby location when making their appointment.

On Monday, March 29, those age 50+ can begin the registration process; the following Monday, April 5, age 40+ can register; April 12, age 30+ can register, and on April 19, registration is open to all age 16 and over.

Coming Attractions

Nearly 3,000 additional doses of vaccine from the 3 manufacturers are coming in to Vermont over the next few days. This is a one-time boost in the supply. AstraZeneca has applied for emergency use authorization in the U.S., and that approval is expected soon. This will amplify the vaccine supply coming to Vermont. So things are rolling along as far as vaccines go. VDH reminds us that from the time you register for your first dose, it will be about 2 months before you are considered immunized. This considers the variance between registering and getting your first dose, the 21 or 28 days in between doses 1 and 2, and then the 2 week inoculation period following the final dose. This time period is halved if you received the Johnson and Johnson single dose vaccine.

With vaccination research on-going, the Agency of Human Services reports that it is hoped that by fall of 2021, all high school students can be offered vaccinations and by spring of 2022, younger children can be offered vaccinations.

Around the Region

This is the weekly look at COVID activity compared with the prior week. Universally, cases increased in the northeast in the past week. In Vermont, this case growth is predominantly among younger people,

with an outbreak at UVM among students. The median age for infections in Vermont has dropped again to under age 30. With vaccinations on-going for at-risk populations, infections in the upper age bands has dropped significantly. It is incumbent on the young, therefore, to follow the safety protocols of masking, distancing, and hand washing to avoid being vectors of the disease to others. A number of those in the higher risk age bands (15% + or -) have declined the offer to be vaccinated.

CT: 6,610 (+800); MA: 11,521 (+1,864); ME: 1,585 (+451); NH: 2,062 (+244); NY: 54,293 (+7,016); RI: 2,586 (+113); VT: 919 (+183).

In Other Parts of the World (for those considering travel)

The Dutch government will extend its lockdown measures by three weeks until April 20 due to rising numbers of COVID-19 infections and hospital admissions. Ireland remains in lockdown at "Level 5", things are closed down. Other European countries are under similar orders. Turkey has registered 26,182 new coronavirus cases, the highest daily number since mid-December, health ministry data showed, as cases continued to rise amid an easing in measures to restrict infections this month. Norway is introducing new national measures to contain the coronavirus outbreak, including a ban on the public serving of alcohol, and will postpone the introduction of a plan to reopen society.

A top expert at the World Health Organization (WHO) on Monday said that COVID-19 deaths are seeing a "slight increase" for the first time in six weeks.

For Those Inquiring - What is the Cost Of A Vaccine?

Pfizer of Brooklyn, NY, has accepted no US government aid in the development of their vaccine, and sells the vaccine at \$19.50 per dose to the US Government. The vaccine sells for \$14.75 to European governments. They are expanding their vaccine research and production facility in Ireland. The per-dose cost of the vaccine is expected to at least double after the pandemic. Moderna of Massachusetts has received 1.5 billion dollars in research grants from the US and sells their vaccine at about \$35 per dose to the US Government. Johnson and Johnson has received just under a billion dollars from the US for R&D of their vaccine which is sold to the US at about \$10 for the single dose. AstraZeneca likewise received aid from the US for research, development and production. Their vaccine is selling for between \$3 and \$5 per dose in Europe.

Once the pandemic is over and the COVID vaccine becomes an annual vaccine like the flu vaccine, the per dose cost will be passed on to the consumer.

Just in case anyone was wondering!

Lights in the Darkness

It's the little things, acts of kindness, and vestiges of hope that have gotten us all through this pandemic. At a time when it seemed like a dark cloud covered the earth, Aqua Vitae, when hand sanitizer couldn't be found, stepped up manufacturing it in bulk and providing it to Porter and 1st response agencies; It's Pierre Vachon cooking up sanitizer at his home and delivering it; It's Adam Forbes of TLC, spreading sand of his own volition on Rte 116 on a frigid February day when cars were

sliding off the road and VTRANS hadn't shown up yet; our local VDH office and Addison Home Health and Hospice; H.O.P.E aiding the marginalized and so many more. Lots of good things to keep our spirits up. Our MUHS girls hockey team won the DIV II state championship yesterday afternoon, and were welcomed back to town by an ad hoc parade, and it's going to be in the 70's today folks. Pretty good stuff! Stay safe!