

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
April 20, 2021

May Is Coming and With It Optimism!

COVID case growth is slowing. Case numbers in the 802 are down 250 from the prior week, about 450 from the week before. Cases are down 33% in the younger age groups, including a big drop in colleges in the state. This is attributed not to the vaccines but due to behavioral changes among our youth. As of Saturday, anyone 16+ can register and are encouraged to do so. As of today, over 40,000 people in the younger age groups have registered since Saturday. There have been no new deaths in the past few days. 93.6% of Vermonters age 65+ have been vaccinated.

Do your part and let's keep Vermont ready to kick COVID out the door and welcome summer! The sense is we've been on a roller coaster the past 14 months and we may be on that last downward slope to the end of the ride!

A Look Back

April 20, 2020, we announced the first "1/4 turn spigot opening" as COVID had not yet fully impacted the state. Then came fall. Hopefully lessons learned.

Traveling?

If you're headed out of state and then returning to Vermont (and why would you NOT want to return to VT?) , you must get tested within 3 days of return and quarantine until you get a negative test report. If you have achieved immunization (last dose + 2 weeks) you needn't do this.

States Relaxing COVID Measures

CT Governor Lamont has announced that effective May 19, all COVID restrictions are lifted, except for the mandatory mask requirement. New Hampshire has followed likewise, leaving the mask mandate as optional for businesses to require. The issue here is that if you haven't been vaccinated and go to these areas, protect yourselves. COVID numbers are still pretty high, though coming down. And remember, there is still that's light chance you could still get sick post immunization. Today's statistics show that about .007% of vaccinated folks have had breakthrough infections, based on nationwide reporting. The actual number is probably higher due to non-reporting. .007% is NOT zero. And remember, few states have the vaccination rates that Vermont does.

J&J Update

Johnson and Johnson is still making their vaccine at one of their plants. We may learn on Friday (April 23) the status of that vaccine. If approved to be released, supply may resume to Vermont sometime a week later. In the meantime, there should be sufficient vaccine coming in from Pfizer and Moderna to meet the Governor's May 1 plan to get vaccinations in the final phase.

Bulletin

Thanks to our Town Manager, Kathleen Ramsay, for taking on the bulletin the past 2 weeks to keep everyone informed as we get through this pandemic. And thanks to the many people extending their well wishes due to my recent unpleasantness. Very much appreciated! It will be some weeks before I'm fully back, but we'll stay tuned to pandemic issues and work to keep you informed.