

Town of Middlebury
Emergency Management Bulletin
May 14, 2020

Transfer Station Opening

Back by popular demand, the Addison County Solid Waste Management District Transfer Station on Rte 7 South is reopening on Monday, May 18th to residential traffic. All programs/services will reopen with the exception of the Reuse Sheds, which remain closed for the foreseeable future.

Please note the programs/services are do-it-yourself. Staff will be unable to assist in unloading by hand. Please maintain a safe social distance from other customers and wear a mouth/nose covering when utilizing ACSWMD programs and if you're not feeling well, please refrain from coming.

Go to: <https://www.addisoncountyrecycles.org/> for further information or call Jessie-Ruth Corkins Public Outreach Coordinator, Addison County Solid Waste Management District Tel: (802) 388-2333, ext: 221

All Quiet on the Announcement Front

Nothing new from the State Emergency Operations Center, VDH, or others today. Friday, May 15 will be the important day as the Emergency Orders are set to expire. But don't go burning your mask yet, the Governor is expected to continue the orders. We'll know better tomorrow. We expect announcements on the finalized child care and summer camp plans and the opening up of hospitals for non-emergency care.

Out-of-State Workers

Contractors coming in to Vermont cannot lodge in Vermont unless they have received an exemption from the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD). There are a number of these throughout the state primarily working on infrastructure projects such as roads.

Retail Business Openings

ACCD has published re-opening guidelines on their website. With respect to customers, businesses *MAY* require masks as a pre-requisite for patronage. This is NOT a mandate. The following are some of the mandates, here is the link for the entire list: <https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-stay-home-stay-safe-order>

- Employees shall not report to, or be allowed to remain at, work or job site if sick or symptomatic (fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell).
- Employees must observe strict social distancing of 6 feet while on the job. Businesses and non-profit or government entities shall ensure customers observe strict social distancing of 6 feet while on location, to the extent possible.

- Employees must wear face coverings over their nose and mouth when in the presence of others. In the case of retail cashiers, a translucent shield or “sneeze guard” is acceptable in lieu of a mask. Businesses and non-profit and government entities may require customers or clients to wear masks.
- Employees must have easy and frequent access to soap and water or hand sanitizer during duration of work, and handwashing or hand sanitization is required frequently including before entering, and leaving, job sites.
- All common spaces (when open) and equipment, including bathrooms, frequently touched surfaces and doors, tools and equipment, and vehicles must be cleaned regularly *and*, when possible, prior to transfer from one person to another, in accordance with [CDC guidance](#).
- Prior to the commencement of each work shift, pre-screening and health survey shall be required to verify each employee has no symptoms of respiratory illness

There’s a bunch more. The bottom line is, don’t be a facilitator of disease spread, and don’t expose yourself. Let that be your guide.

How Many is Too Many?

The guideline for occupancy is 25% of capacity. Uh-huh. Who knows what that is? Any commercial building or building for public gathering should have had the occupancy determined. There are a number of variables in determining occupancy and any certificate of occupancy or a State Fire Marshal’s inspection should have this clearly stated. If not, go back to the basics for CV-19 safety- if the occupancy is such that there is an unreasonable risk of disease transmission, (by now everyone should have a pretty good handle on how CV-19 is transmitted), then there’s too many people in the building. If people aren’t masking, that number gets quite a bit lower. If they are masking – a bit higher. People should be, on their own, able to keep 6 feet or so apart. The risk of disease transmission goes up exponentially the longer you are within that six foot ‘zone’ and the closer you are.

What do I do If I Require Masks for Patrons and the Unmasked Come in?

Don’t get in a fist fight over it. You’re not required to do anything. You may ask them to mask up, you may ask them to leave. As an employee or business owner you are not charged with the duty of enforcing the Governor’s orders. If you want only masked persons in the business, post it at the entrance. But unless something changes, the Governor desires only voluntary compliance.

Everyone has basic safety instincts- if the activity looks risky, from what you see, know, and even don’t know, it probably is.