

Bristol Town Administrator

From: Pritchard, Matthew <Matthew.Pritchard@vermont.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 3:46 PM
To: EMD List Serv
Subject: [Dps.allemdirectors] Current Cybersecurity Preparation
Attachments: ATT00001.txt

Good afternoon EMDs and Local Officials,

Due to the increased threat of malicious cyber activity around the nation we are reaching out to provide you with some information and resources that you can utilize to better protect your systems. On Monday, the White House announced there is now evolving intelligence that Russia may be exploring options for potential cyberattacks. Vermont Emergency Management and the Vermont Intelligence Center continues to engage with public and private sector organizations and agencies around the evolving threat and remains prepared to assist in an event should one occur.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has launched a resource webpage called [Shields Up](#). This site maintains the latest updates from CISA on the ongoing threat and provides resources to individuals and organizations on how to better prepare for cyber threats. For most, they encourage [some simple steps](#) to take:

- Implement multi-factor authentication on your accounts,
- Update your software and keep it up to date,
- Think before you click,
- Use strong passwords,
- And don't share your passwords.

Users and administrators should flag associated activity and report suspicious activity to CISA (see below) or FBI Cyber Watch (CyWatch) at [ic3.gov](#), and CC the Vermont Intelligence Center at [dps.viccyber@vermont.gov](#).

- CISA - 1-888-282-0870 (From outside the United States: +1-703-235-8832), [Central@cisa.gov](#)
- FBI CyWatch – [www.ic3.gov](#)
- VIC - [dps.viccyber@vermont.gov](#)

CISA encourages you to report any suspicious activity, including cybersecurity incidents, possible malicious code, software vulnerabilities, and phishing-related scams. Reporting forms can be found on the CISA homepage at <https://www.us-cert.cisa.gov/>.

As the situation evolves, we will continue to share information as appropriate. As always, in the event of an emergency, the VEM Watch Officer can be contacted at 800-347-0488.

Best Regards,
Matt

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