



Benzie County Office
6051 Frankfort Hwy, Ste 100
Benzonia, MI 49616

Phone: 231-882-4409
Fax: 231-882-0143

www.bldhd.org

Leelanau County Office
7401 E. Duck Lake Rd
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

Phone: 231-256-0200
Fax: 231-882-0143

PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

October 23, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were four new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie and two new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. Reminder, we will only be updating case counts Monday-Friday. The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has reported twelve new cases (Benzie- 7; Leelanau- 5) of COVID-19 since Tuesday. Below is a summary of our cumulative cases for the timeframe 10/20/2020 -10/23/2020:

- Age:
 - 20-29 years – 1 case
 - 30-39 years – 5 cases
 - 40-49 years – 3 cases
 - 50-59 years – 2 cases
 - 60-69 years – 1 case
- Residents – 12 new cases
- Symptomatic – 100% of cases for case investigations that have been completed
- Recovered – 7 new recovered (Benzie-1, Leelanau- 6)
- Death – 1 new death in Leelanau County
- Probable cases – 4 new probable cases (Leelanau- 4)
- No new exposure sites today

We are aware and understand the frustration related to the different reported cases between the state and the health department. The state continues to report 6-8 cases higher in Benzie County than what we have been reporting.

Cases are reported to the state directly from the labs, and at the same time are reported to the local health department. Through our case investigation it is not unusual to find that the individual is not living in Benzie or Leelanau county. Over the summer this reflected the large number of visitors and seasonal residents, and now the discrepancy is usually related to college students who are reported locally but are living in their college community. It is important that follow-up is done by the health department in the community in which the person resides while ill, so those students are transferred to the appropriate county.

“We continue to work hard to provide timely and accurate information to the community. The numbers reported by our health department are a reflection of the actual number of local cases that are identified and investigated by the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department.” stated Michelle Klein, Director of Personal Health.

As of 4:00pm, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting:

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 98, Leelanau– 133
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 29, Leelanau– 23
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 67, Leelanau– 108
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 2, Leelanau– 2
- Probable COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie – 7, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 20 total; 0 current

The State of Michigan has reported 154,688 cases and 7,147 deaths.

Visit our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) for the latest local information including recovered data and contact tracing. Michigan Department of Health and Human Service Dashboard: [Dashboard](#). Additional and updated information can be found on our [Website](#) and [Facebook](#) or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197. If you have COVID-19 related question, fill out a quick [survey](#), email questions to hotline@bldhd.org, or call our public information line at 231-882-2197.

Media Contact:

Rachel Pomeroy, PIO

231-882-6085

RPomeroy@bldhd.org

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