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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

**For Immediate Release**

**October 27, 2020**

### The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were four new cases of COVID-19 identified in Benzie County and three new cases of COVID-19 identified in Leelanau County. Case investigations are currently in progress.

As a reminder, schools are typically not open to the general public and have records of everyone who has been in and out of their buildings. We continue to work directly with the school to do their case investigation and contact tracing, and we do not report details regarding school cases or outbreaks in our daily updates because schools tend to have a contained population and maintain records of entry into their buildings which allows us to complete case investigation and contact tracing efficiently.

“Unfortunately, we have notified an increase in cases and some school-related cases,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We knew that we would eventually see cases related to the school population and our goal is to interrupt transmission as effectively as possible. To do this, we continue to work directly with schools to help slow/stop the spread through case investigation and contact tracing. Each school has [reporting requirements](#) and COVID-19 action plans in place when addressing COVID within the schools.”

We are approaching Halloween weekend and with an uptick in cases locally we want to remind residents to celebrate safely. Because traditional Halloween activities tend to occur in large groups or community settings, guidance for safer activities has been created by [MDHHS](#) and the [CDC](#). With community spread evident in our jurisdiction, continued masking, social distancing, and regular handwashing are our best protection from COVID-19.

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 109, Leelanau– 141
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 37, Leelanau– 30
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 70, Leelanau– 109
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 2, Leelanau– 2
- Probable COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie – 6, Leelanau– 18
- Hospitalized: 23 total; 3 current

The State of Michigan has reported 164,274 cases and 7,239 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](mailto:hotline@bldhd.org), or call our public information line at 231-882-2197.

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