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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release
November 18, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has reported 34 new cases (Benzie- 18; Leelanau- 16) of COVID-19 for Today. Case investigations for new cases are currently in progress. We were notified today of a COVID-19 associated death of a Benzie County resident.

On Sunday, November 15th, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon signed an [emergency order](#) effective today that enacts a three-week pause targeting indoor social gatherings and other group activities in an effort to curb rapidly rising COVID-19 infection rates. Although there were some changes to what [remains open](#), many residents have had questions about what this order means as we head into the holidays. MDHHS has created a [frequently asked questions page](#) to answer many of the questions we have also been receiving regarding the latest orders.

“It is normal to feel distressed about this as the virus begins to touch each of us in different ways. For months many of us were able to say that we didn’t know anyone who had COVID but now that is very different,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “This three-week pause will not be easy for our residents, but we hope it will curb the current upward trends of COVID. We hope everyone can choose safer ways to celebrate with their family and friends, so we can get through this wave.”

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 228, Leelanau– 278
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 125, Leelanau– 142
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 99, Leelanau– 134
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 4, Leelanau– 2
- Probable COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie – 20, Leelanau– 20
- Hospitalized: 35 total; 8 current

The State of Michigan has reported 277,806 cases and 8,190 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.

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