For Immediate Release
April 9, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Governor Whitmer has extended the stay at home order to April 30th, 2020. As with the prior order, Executive Order 2020-42 limits gatherings and travel and requires all workers who are not necessary to sustain or protect life to stay home. Executive Order 2020-42 also imposes more stringent limitations on stores to reduce foot traffic, slow the spread of the coronavirus, and save lives.

The order also directs that after April 10th, travel between two residences and travel to vacation rentals is not permitted. In addition, no one shall advertise or rent a short-term vacation property except as necessary to assist in housing a health care professional or volunteer aiding in the response to the COVID-19 crisis.

Health Officer, Lisa Peacock shared “We are happy that Governor Whitmer recognized some of the difficulties and concerns we are facing in Northern Michigan and included additional details in this Executive Order. We know that it is becoming more difficult to remain patient. But we also know we are not yet at the peak of this illness. Our communities must stay strong together and believe that staying home is working.”

As of 2pm today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting no additional cases of COVID-19 cases. That leaves the count at zero in Benzie County and four in Leelanau County (one recovered). The Health Department has recorded 96 individuals tested with 20 pending results. The State of Michigan has reported 21,504 cases and 1,078 deaths.

Additional and updated information can be found on our Website and Facebook or by calling our public information line 231-882-2197. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has a statewide hotline for COVID-19. Public health and other experts will answer health-related questions about COVID-19. The hotline will be open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 1-888-535-6136. The MDHHS has created a COVID-19 stress line that will be open seven days a week 1-800-985-5990.

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