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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

**For Immediate Release**  
**July 20th, 2020**

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

Today there were 2 new cases of COVID-19 identified in Leelanau County. The investigation of the new cases is in progress. 6 total cases (Leelanau- 5 and Benzie- 1) have been reported since Saturday, July 18. The information known at this time is below:

- Age:
  - 0-19 years – 2 cases
  - 30-39 years – 1 case
  - 40-49 years – 3 cases
- Symptomatic – 17% of cases; Asymptomatic – 50%; Unknown – 33%
- Total close contacts identified, notified, and instructed to quarantine: 138 close contacts to our active cases have been identified and the recent cases are still under investigation
- Newly Recovered- 0
- Hospitalized – 3 of our active cases are currently hospitalized
- Potential low-risk public exposure locations for new cases where close contacts may not have been able to be identified include:
  - No new exposure sites

We ask residents who have been tested to be prepared to answer or return a call to begin contact tracing and case investigation. To break the chain of infection and slow the spread of the virus we, along with the state of Michigan and other local health departments, rely on a three-part strategy – Test, Trace, and Protect. We are working diligently with all state and community partners to continually increase access to testing. We rely on those who receive positive test results to answer our calls so we can complete their case investigation, contact tracing, and provide them with isolation guidance in order to protect our communities from further spread.

On Friday, the Governor signed [Executive Order 2020-153](#) making minor changes to the previous masking executive order. While there are many opinions on face coverings and masks, we want to remind the public that this is an important action we can all take together to keep our local businesses open, our communities healthy, and prepare us to re-open schools in the fall.

Dr. Meyerson, Medical Director, shared, “masks are inexpensive and, if we all wear them, they are an easy way to allow us to continue doing the things we like to do. Masks play an important role in preventing the spread of the virus.”

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 23, Leelanau– 53
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 5, Leelanau– 12
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 1

The State of Michigan has reported 74,152 cases and 6,126 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.

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