

Benzie County Office

6051 Frankfort Hwy, Ste 100 Benzonia, MI 49616

Phone: 231-882-4409 Fax: 231-882-0143 Leelanau County Office 7401 E. Duck Lake Rd Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

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

www.bldhd.org

PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release May 27, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were zero new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and one new case of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County.

As the unofficial start to summer kicks off this weekend, several changes to mask wearing and gathering capacity will take place starting June 1, thanks to forward progress with the "Vacc to Normal" plan, which outlines steps Michiganders can take to come out of this pandemic strong.

"While the vaccination rates rise, average daily cases and positivity rates are dropping quickly! These are encouraging and hopeful signs that we are truly driving transmission down. They are signs that the vaccine is working and protecting us from COVID infection and transmission," said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "The new changes such as relaxed masking and distancing are welcomed, but once again, we are faced with a time that calls for grace and patience," she added.

Starting June 1, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) epidemic order states:

- There will no longer be capacity limits outdoors.
- There will no longer be residential gathering capacity limits.
- Indoor establishments can operate at 50% capacity.
- Social gathering guidelines are dependent upon and regulated by the venue. Detailed descriptions and requirements are outlined in the epidemic order.
- Face masks continue to be required indoors for non-vaccinated individuals.

Peacock added, "we know that everyone has a different comfort level with these changes. Even people who are fully vaccinated may still feel more comfortable wearing a mask and this is ok – they may be compromised or just concerned. These changes are exciting, and I am hopeful for the brighter days ahead!"

Information about upcoming pop-up and weekly clinics can be found below:

• Tuesday, June 1st

- o Suttons Bay Middle School Gymnasium, 310 S. Elm Street, Suttons Bay, MI 49682
 - Time: 12:00- 6:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
 - To schedule an appointment: Click Here

Wednesday, June 2nd

- Marvin's Garden Spot, 18345 Honor Hwy, Interlochen, MI 49643
 - Pop-up clinic, walk-ins welcome
 - Time: 1:00- 3:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)

Thursday, June 3rd

- Crystal Cafe, 1681 Benzie Hwy, Benzonia, MI 49616
 - Time: 12:00-6:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
 - To schedule an appointment: Click Here

Friday, June 4th

- Stormcloud Brewery Company, 303 Main Street, Frankfort, MI 49635
 - Pop-up clinic, walk-ins welcome
 - Time: 12:00- 3:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
- Lume Cannabis Co., 9899 Honor Hwy, Honor, MI 49640
 - Pop-up clinic, walk-ins welcome
 - Time: 12:00- 3:00pm
 - Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)

As of 4:00 p.m. today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie-1,245, Leelanau-1,255
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 61, Leelanau– 50
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie- 1,152, Leelanau- 1,189
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie 32, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 158 total; 0 currently

The State of Michigan is reporting 886,660 cases and 19,090 deaths.

Please Note: Beginning Monday, May 24, we will be changing the frequency of news releases relating to the COVID-19 vaccine and daily case counts. Unless a greater frequency is warranted, news releases about COVID-19 will be distributed on Mondays and Thursdays. Vaccine locations, daily case counts, and vaccine administration data will continue to be available on the health department website www.bldhd.org. News is also available by visiting our Facebook page.

Media Contact: Rachel Pomeroy, PIO 231-882-6085 RPomeroy@bldhd.org

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