



**Benzie County Office**  
6051 Frankfort Hwy, Ste 100  
Benzonia, MI 49616

Phone: 231-882-4409  
Fax: 231-882-0143

[www.bldhd.org](http://www.bldhd.org)

**Leelanau County Office**  
7401 E. Duck Lake Rd  
Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

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

## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

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**For Immediate Release**

**March 18, 2021**

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

Today there were five new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and two new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County.

In addition to health departments and hospitals, many additional providers are now receiving allocations of COVID-19 vaccine including Federally Qualified Health Centers, doctor's offices, as well as chain and local pharmacies.

Janssen (Johnson & Johnson), the most recent vaccine given Emergency Use Authorization by the Food and Drug Administration, is a single dose vaccine that can be stored in a refrigerator – opening options for further distribution. The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is redistributing the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) and Moderna vaccine to providers and pharmacies to increase access to the vaccine.

“We are fortunate that additional partners who can administer vaccinations are added every day,” said Health Officer Lisa Peacock. “Through strong partnership with agencies such as Commissions on Aging, EMS, and providers of in-home care, as well as our hospitals, providers, and pharmacies, we are able to stretch the resources of our communities in the most effective way!”

The health department has created and is distributing a [flyer](#) highlighting agencies, pharmacies, and other providers who are offering vaccine appointments to residents.

Health department staff are regularly adapting communications strategies to meet community needs. Next week, registered voters over the age of 50 in Benzie and Leelanau counties will be mailed a postcard with information about how to pre-register and schedule an appointment. These postcards are also being distributed through senior centers, Meals on Wheels, and other providers who serve older adults.

Anyone can assist an interested senior who has not yet been vaccinated by registering on the health department website [www.bldhd.org](http://www.bldhd.org), or by calling the health department at 231-256-0219, or their Senior Services or Commission on Aging office. Additional information about vaccine providers, availability, and clinic locations, can be found at [www.vaccinefinder.org](http://www.vaccinefinder.org).

The health department's vaccination status is as follows:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for next week: 1,228 doses (700- 1st dose, 528- 2nd doses)
- Number of vaccine doses distributed to other providers: 342 doses
- Number of vaccine doses administered so far this week: 768 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 8,752 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 7,880 doses

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 930, Leelanau– 940
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 49, Leelanau– 79
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 850, Leelanau– 846
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 31, Leelanau– 15
- Hospitalized: 134 total; 2 currently

The State of Michigan has reported 618,421 cases and 15,835 deaths.

Media Contact:

Rachel Pomeroy, PIO

231-882-6085

[RPomeroy@bldhd.org](mailto:RPomeroy@bldhd.org)

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