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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release
April 2, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

As of 2pm, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting no new positive COVID-19 cases in the Benzie and Leelanau. The Health Department has recorded 67 individuals tested with 20 pending results. Total positive cases- One Leelanau County. Grand Traverse County reported today their second COVID-19 death. The State of Michigan has reported 10,791 cases and 417 deaths.

Governor Whitmer Signs Executive Order Suspending Face-to-Face Learning at K-12 Schools for Remainder of School Year. The [Executive Order](#) sets guidelines for remote learning, ensures teachers, school employees will be paid for remainder of school year. Lisa Peacock, Health Officer for the Benzie Leelanau District Health Department, stated "We recognize that these are extremely difficult and challenging times for families. However we remain focused on slowing the spread of this illness in our communities and appreciate everyone's patience and dedication to "flattening the curve" through measures like **Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives.**"

Tuesday, across the Northern Michigan Public Health Alliance region, which covers 31 counties in northern Michigan, 7 Health Departments, including Benzie Leelanau District Health Department issued a [Public Health Advisory](#) that contained the follow messaging for communities:

We care about all of our residents, including part time and full time but advise the public that a sudden surge in population in our rural areas could create a significant strain on health care and other resources. Therefore, although we recognize that the Governor's Executive Order to Stay Home, Stay Safe, allows for travel between 2 residences, travelers should carefully consider their decisions to travel from their primary residence to our counties.

If you do travel, there are a few things you need to remember:

You will now need to self-quarantine for 14 days. This means: When you arrive home to empty pantries and fridges, you need to get someone to pick up your groceries, mail, etc. You cannot go into stores, post office or other businesses for 14 days.

Most stores are providing on-line or phone ordering and curbside pick-up or delivery. There are community resources available to help make these connections by calling 211 or exploring the resources below.

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.

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