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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

October 26, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were three new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County. The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has reported twelve new cases (Benzie- 7; Leelanau- 5) of COVID-19 since Saturday. Below is a summary of our cumulative cases for the timeframe 10/24/2020 -10/26/2020:

- Age:
 - 13-19 years – 2 cases
 - 20-29 years – 3 cases
 - 40-49 years – 1 case
 - 50-59 years – 1 case
 - 60-69 years – 2 cases
 - 70-79 years – 2 cases
 - 80-89 years – 1 case
- Residents – 12 new cases
- Symptomatic – 92% of cases, Asymptomatic – 8% of cases
- Recovered – 3 new recovered (Benzie-2, Leelanau- 1)
- Probable cases – 3 new probable cases (Benzie- 1, Leelanau- 2)
- No new exposure sites where close contacts cannot be identified

Since October 1st, we have reported 62 confirmed cases in Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department's jurisdiction. It is important to know that while we have increased our case investigation staff, we may still not be able to connect with new cases and contacts right away. If you know that you have, or likely have COVID-19 or if you know that you have been exposed, please stay home until you hear from our team. If you do not hear from us within 24 hours, reach out to our health department so that we can ensure you have the information you need. With this in mind, it is an understatement to say that case investigations are an invaluable component to limiting further spread of the virus in our area. We urge anyone that receives a telephone call from the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department or from MDHHS to please return the call promptly and comply with case investigations. Our goal is to provide the information needed for you to protect your friends, family, and co-workers.

Reminder, you will be notified if you are identified as a close contact and need to be quarantined. A negative test does not replace quarantine and we will provide information on when testing is most accurate or recommended. Otherwise, if you are not feeling well, you should stay home. If you are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please call your primary care provider or call the health department at 231-882-2197. Symptoms may be mild and mimic cold or allergy symptoms, a stomach bug, or a respiratory illness.

[Local testing site list.](#)

“So, what can we do? We know what to do – past experience and emerging research shows us that the mitigation strategies we have been implementing for months are working and represent the most effective protection we have right now,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “This is a time when we need to stick together – as a community, as a state, and as a nation. It seems as though there are new hurdles each day to face related to the pandemic.”

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 105, Leelanau– 138
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 34, Leelanau– 27
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 69, Leelanau– 109
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie– 2, Leelanau– 2
- Probable COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie – 8, Leelanau– 18
- Hospitalized: 20 total; 0 current

The State of Michigan has reported 161,907 cases and 7,211 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. If you have COVID-19 related question, fill out a quick [survey](#), email questions to hotline@bldhd.org, or call our public information line at 231-882-2197.

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