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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

November 1, 2021

Health Department urges: Get tested if exposed to COVID-19 or feeling ill

Testing is an important strategy in the fight against COVID-19. If you are experiencing symptoms or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department urges you to get tested. If you think you may have been exposed and do not have symptoms, testing is recommended at 3-5 days after the potential exposure.

“We continue to see many cases and outbreaks, so it is important not to let our guard down,” said Health Officer Lisa Peacock. “Please continue to properly wear your mask while indoors, frequently wash your hands, maintain your distance from others and, most importantly, get tested if you have been exposed to COVID-19 or are not feeling well,” she said.

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has created an [electronic self-reporting survey](#) to make it easy and convenient for residents testing at home to report positive COVID-19 tests.

In response for the increased demand for testing, we have also partnered with HONU lab to bring free rapid and PCR testing to our communities. Last week, testing sites in Benzie and Leelanau Counties provided nearly 200 tests with 15 % testing positive.

The health department recently created documents listing COVID-19 [testing sites](#) and [vaccination clinics](#) in Benzie and Leelanau counties. Residents are urged to check the individual clinic sites listed for vaccine availability.

Vaccination continues to be our most powerful tool. The health department offers convenient COVID-19 vaccination clinics for all area residents and visitors 12 and older by appointment ahead of time. Parent consent is required for minors. Anyone may call the Michigan COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136 if they have questions or are not able to find a time or date that works for them and/or their child. Clinics offer clients a choice of Pfizer, Moderna, or J&J’s Janssen unless otherwise noted. Upcoming clinics for appointments only include:

Tuesday, November 2nd

- VFW Post 7731, 7475 E Duck Lake Rd, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653
- Time: 1:00-5:00pm
- Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
- To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Wednesday, November 3rd

- Crystal Cafe, 1681 Benzie Hwy, Benzonia, MI 49616
- Time: 1:00- 5:00pm
- Vaccine: Moderna, Janssen, and Pfizer (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor)
- To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

COVID-19 Testing

The health department is offering free COVID-19 testing with the support of HONU lab. The test is free, and no doctor's order is required. Pre-registration is not required, but it is recommended to reduce time spent at the testing clinic, and walk-ins are welcome. Testing is available:

- On Monday and Thursday from 10 - 3pm at the VFW Post 7731. To register visit: <http://honumg.info/OldSuttonsBayMS>
- On Tuesday and Friday, from 10 am – 3pm at the Crystal Café in Benzonia. To register visit: <https://honumg.info/CrystalCafe>

COVID-19 Case Counts

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting the following case information:

- On Friday, October 29, 14 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Benzie (4), and Leelanau (10).
- On Saturday, October 30, 14 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Benzie (7), and Leelanau (7).
- On Sunday, October 31, 15 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Benzie (11) and Leelanau (4).
- Today, November 1, 10 new cases of COVID-19 were reported in Benzie (3) and Leelanau (7).

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,660, Leelanau– 1,686
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 156, Leelanau– 120
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,469, Leelanau– 1,545
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 34, Leelanau– 21
- Hospitalized: 205 total; 3 currently

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