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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

November 24, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were eight new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and seven new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. New cases are currently being contacted and investigated.

We have been receiving questions about the COVID-19 vaccination availability in our region, and we want residents to know that planning is actively underway although information continues to be limited and will be until clinical trials are complete. While we would like to know all the details and be able to share more specific information about the plan for community COVID-19 vaccinations, the timing and number of vaccines we will receive is still unknown. We do know that we will prioritize the dispersal of vaccines according to state and federal requirements, and we will share more information about our plans when we are able to.

“We know these last nine months have been long and exhausting, but we are currently in the thick of it,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “Percent positivity in Michigan has increased by 225% since October 1 which has outpaced the number of tests being administered. Hospitalizations and deaths have risen across the state as well. We are encouraged by the planning underway for COVID-19 vaccination and look forward to being able to add that to the toolbox of protection along with masking, distancing, and proper hand hygiene.”

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 292, Leelanau– 322
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 170, Leelanau– 172
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 117, Leelanau– 147
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 5, Leelanau– 3
- Probable COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie – 38, Leelanau– 29
- Hospitalized: 47 total; 15 current

The State of Michigan has reported 320,506 cases and 8,688 deaths.

Visit our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#) for the latest local information including recovered data and contact tracing. Michigan Department of Health and Human Services 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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