



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

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

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

For Immediate Release

December 18, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were five new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and six new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has reported 55 new cases (Benzie- 22; Leelanau- 33) of COVID-19 since Tuesday. Summary of our cumulative cases for this week will be released next week.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) updated its [epidemic order](#) today to [resume some indoor activities](#) where Michiganders can remain masked and socially distanced. MDHHS had identified stabilization or declines in the [three metrics](#) they are using to measure COVID-19 spread and have used that as critical for relaxing protocols. The new order is effective Monday, December 21st and will last until Friday, January 15th.

“We are happy that progress is being made across the state and here locally in the metrics identified by MDHHS. This week, Northern Michigan received its initial shipments and administered the first doses of Pfizer vaccines, and today MDHHS released new orders modifying the pause and lifting some restrictions,” shared Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We know there is still work to be done, but our actions since the pause began are working. Let’s continue to mask up, wash up, keep our distance and be kind this holiday season!”

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 592, Leelanau– 560
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 268, Leelanau– 208
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 307, Leelanau– 348
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 17, Leelanau– 4
- Hospitalized: 79 total; 8 current

The State of Michigan has reported 454,956 cases and 11,274 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.

Media Contact:
Rachel Pomeroy, PIO
231-882-6085
RPomeroy@bldhd.org

###