



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 29, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were three new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and six new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. One new death reported in Benzie of a female resident in their 90's and we extend our deepest sympathies to their family and friends. One case in Benzie was removed due to duplicate case.

MDHHS will use the [Critical Infrastructure Protection \(CIP\) Program](#) as well as continuity of operations plans in prioritization. Front line essential workers in critical infrastructure (Phase 1B, Priority two) include:

- Pre-Kindergarten through High School teachers, support staff and childcare workers who usually have direct contact with children
- First responders not covered in Phase 1A (e.g., firefighters, police)
- Food and agriculture workers
- Critical manufacturing workers
- Corrections workers (ex. prisons, jails, juvenile justice facilities)
- U.S. Postal Service workers
- Public transit workers
- Grocery store workers
- Workers in homeless shelters, congregate childcare institutions, and adult and child protective services
- Workers with unique skill sets not covered above, such as non-hospital laboratories and mortuary services

"We are experiencing a decrease in cases which is great news, but we can't stop till we meet our COVID-19 vaccine goals," stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "Our team has been working hard to plan, organize, and administer vaccines across our jurisdiction and we are excited at the progress we've made in just two weeks after receiving the first shipment of COVID-19 vaccines."

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 655, Leelanau– 629
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 178, Leelanau– 190
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 451, Leelanau– 433
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 26, Leelanau– 6
- Hospitalized: 90 total; 8 current

The State of Michigan has reported 483,922 cases and 12,282 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

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