



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

February 11, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were two new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and one new case of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. One Benzie case was transferred to another state due to an address change.

On February 10, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its clinical considerations for mRNA vaccines. Those updates include quarantine recommendations for those who completed their COVID-19 vaccine series. At this time, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) guidance has not yet been updated. It is likely that MDHHS will adopt the updated guidelines from the CDC, and at that time the local health department will make necessary adjustments to protocols and guidance.

According to the newly released CDC guidelines, vaccinated persons with an exposure to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case will likely be allowed to be exempted from quarantine for an approved period of time if they meet all of the following criteria:

- Are fully vaccinated. Individuals are fully vaccinated when 2 or more weeks have passed since receiving their second dose in a 2-dose series, OR 2 or more weeks have passed since receiving one dose of a single-dose vaccine. Single-dose COVID-19 vaccines have not been approved for use in the U.S. yet.
- Are within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series. After 3 months following their last dose, individuals should continue to quarantine as instructed.
- Have remained asymptomatic since their COVID-19 exposure.
- Vaccinated individuals who become infected may have milder symptoms but would still be contagious. They should still self-monitor for 14 days following exposure and if they experience ANY (even mild) symptoms, they should get tested and isolate pending results.

An exception to these guidelines includes the following:

- Vaccinated inpatients and residents in healthcare and congregate care settings should continue to quarantine following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 regardless of symptom status to prevent further spread.

Vaccinated persons should continue to follow current guidance to protect themselves and others, including wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet away from others, avoiding crowds, avoiding poorly ventilated spaces, covering coughs and sneezes, washing hands often, following CDC travel guidance, and following any applicable workplace or school guidance.

“The updated guidance from the CDC does not give people a free pass. Individuals who have been fully vaccinated should still be cautious and when symptomatic should get tested as we know that there is no vaccine that is 100% effective,” stated Dr. Josh Meyerson, Medical Director. “Vaccinated people should continue to follow all protective measures in the community, at work and while traveling to protect themselves and others.”

The estimated time to complete vaccinating individuals 65 years and older and those eligible essential workers is mid-July 2021. Here is where we are currently:

- All allocated doses have been scheduled for this week.
- Number of vaccine doses administered this week: 883 doses (405- 1st dose, 478- 2nd dose)
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 3,761 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 3,677 doses

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 863, Leelanau– 847
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 105, Leelanau– 98
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 728, Leelanau– 734
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 30, Leelanau– 15
- Hospitalized: 126 total; 4 current

The State of Michigan has reported 572,179 cases and 15,052 deaths.

Media Contact:

Rachel Pomeroy, PIO

231-882-6085

RPomeroy@bldhd.org

###