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PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

For Immediate Release

March 19, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there were two new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and eight new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County.

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department has updated its pre-registration and scheduling process for COVID-19 vaccination clinics to enhance security and efficiency measures as well as created a [survey form](#) for residents who have received their COVID-19 vaccine from another provider to easily remove themselves from our list.

The updated Patient Education Genius (PEG) software system now has an additional security authentication step for those receiving a link to schedule their vaccination appointments. The more secured scheduling helps prevent any sharing of the link and allows the health department to continue to schedule eligible individuals for vaccination in a more organized manner.

“We are excited and relieved to have increased security for our self-scheduling links,” said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “These vaccines are in high demand and we want to ensure that every dose not only gets into an arm, but it is also important that we maintain an organized and equitable distribution of vaccine based on eligibility and prioritization. The update means it’s more efficient for our community residents - from pre-registration through scheduling their vaccine appointment,” she said.

Those wanting a COVID-19 vaccine should:

- Visit www.bldhd.org to access the pre-registration survey. A confirmation email will be sent upon completion. This technology enhancement also allows for efficient messaging to those on the waiting list to keep them informed of progress.
- Once an appointment is available, based on your eligibility phase and priority group, a link to self-schedule an appointment will be sent in a text message ([see image #1](#)) to the smart phone number entered during pre-registration or in an email if a smart phone number was not provided.
 - If the link is received, but you cannot access internet or have issues with the link and cannot schedule on your phone, call 231-256-0219 for assistance.
- When scheduling your appointment, the location and address of your clinic appointment is in the upper right-hand corner of the screen ([see image #2](#)).
- Once the appointment scheduling step is complete, a confirmation email will be sent to the email address entered. This email will contain all necessary details for your vaccination appointment.

Anyone 16 and older can pre-register on the health department website, but information to schedule a vaccination will not be sent until appointments are available.

To help residents locate COVID-19 vaccination sites, the health department created a [flyer available](#) listing additional vaccine providers, availability, and clinic locations. Residents can also view vaccination sites throughout the state by visiting www.vaccinefinder.org. Anyone can assist an older adult who has not yet been vaccinated by registering on either the health department website or by calling the senior hotline at 231-715-5557, or their Senior Services or Commission on Aging office.

The health department’s vaccination status is as follows:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for next week: 1,342 doses (792 1st doses, 550 2nd doses)
- Number of vaccine doses administered so far this week: 1,227 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses distributed to other providers: 342 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 8,739 doses
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 9,081 doses

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 932, Leelanau– 948
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 51, Leelanau– 83
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 850, Leelanau– 850
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 31, Leelanau– 15
- Hospitalized: 134 total; 0 currently

The State of Michigan has reported 622,151 cases and 15,850 deaths.

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