



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

April 6, 2021

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

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

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department was notified today that one case of the B.1.1.7 COVID-19 variant was identified in Benzie County. The cases were identified through active surveillance by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Case investigation and contact tracing have been completed, and the individuals are following isolation guidance. Research shows that the B.1.1.7 variant is more easily spread than other variants. Based on the latest evidence, current tests, and vaccines available for COVID-19 work effectively against this variant.

“We knew it was only a matter of time before it was identified in one of our counties,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “The identification of this variant strain in another northern Michigan county reminds us that we must continue to take steps to slow the spread of COVID-19. Anyone who has any symptoms or with known exposure to COVID-19 should get tested and quarantine themselves.”

Anyone who receives a positive COVID-19 test result, should [isolate](#) for a minimum of 10 days from the start of their symptom(s) or positive test date if they didn't have symptoms. In addition, notify your close contacts that they may have been exposed and encourage them to [quarantine](#) for 14 days from their last date of contact with you. If you know you are a close contact, start self-quarantine immediately. You may receive a call or a text message to get your case investigation details. Please answer your phone, even if it is from an unknown number, since it could be the health department calling to complete your case investigation.

In order to help school leaders keep their students and staff safe as they return from Spring Break, the health department provided an updated [COVID-19 Return to School Toolkit](#). The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services toolkit contains a school safety checklist, screening steps for staff and students, and prevention tips, among other useful information.

As of today, here is where we are currently:

- Number of vaccine doses allocated for this week: 1,310 doses.
- Number of vaccine doses given so far this week: 200 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses distributed to other providers: 934 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses administered: 11,516 doses.
- Total number of vaccine doses received: 13,382 doses.

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

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,001, Leelanau– 1,034
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 88, Leelanau– 118
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 882, Leelanau– 900
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 31, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 137 total; 1 currently

The State of Michigan has reported 707,463 cases and 16,297 deaths.

Media Contact:

Rachel Pomeroy, PIO

231-882-6085

RPomeroy@bldhd.org

###