



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
August 3, 2020

The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update

Today there was one new case of COVID-19 identified in Leelanau County. The investigation of the new case is in progress. Three total cases (Leelanau- 2 and Benzie- 1) have been reported since Saturday, August 1st. The information known at this time is below:

- Age:
 - 20-29 years – 1 case
 - 30-39 years – 1 case
 - 50-59 years – 1 case
- Residents – 2 new cases; Visitor – 1 new case
- Symptomatic – 67% of cases; Asymptomatic – 33%
- Potential low-risk public exposure locations for new cases where close contacts may not have been able to be identified include:
 - No new exposure sites

Today, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director Robert Gordon issued an [Emergency Order](#) requiring COVID-19 testing for agricultural and food processing employees. This emergency order outlines COVID-19 health and safety protections for agricultural and migrant workers.

The order requires migrant housing camp operators and employers of migrant or seasonal workers, meat, poultry and egg processing facilities and greenhouses with over 20 employees on-site at a time to provide COVID-19 testing as follows:

- One-time baseline testing of all residents ages 18 and over.
- Testing of all new residents within 48 hours of arrival, with separate housing for newly arriving residents for 14 days and a second test 10 – 14 days after arrival. Testing of all new workers prior to any in-person work at processing facilities and greenhouses.
- Testing of any resident with symptoms or exposure.

“It is this time, during the busy summer months, when our communities are most vulnerable to increased transmission. We must all do our part to prevent that by wearing face coverings, practicing hand hygiene, keeping our gatherings outdoors and smaller in numbers, and keeping our distance from others,” stated Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “We know that when multiple mitigation measures are practiced together, they are most effective. In order to protect each other, we must take them seriously”.

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 27, Leelanau– 64
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 8, Leelanau– 26
- Hospitalized: 10 total; 0 current
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 1

The State of Michigan has reported 83,386 cases and 6,212 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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