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## PERSONAL HEALTH DIVISION

**For Immediate Release**

**May 5, 2021**

### **The Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department COVID-19 Update**

Today there were four new cases of COVID-19 reported in Benzie County and two new cases of COVID-19 reported in Leelanau County. One new COVID-19 related death reported today in Benzie County of a female in her 70's.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) updated its [COVID-19 Gatherings and Face Masks epidemic order](#) to encourage safer outdoor activities. In addition, anyone who is fully vaccinated and not experiencing symptoms is not required to wear a [mask](#) at residential gatherings, including indoors. New guidance for organized sports no longer requires routine COVID-19 testing for fully vaccinated participants if they are asymptomatic. Masks continue to be required for contact sports but are no longer required outdoors during active practice and competition for non-contact sports. For example, softball and baseball players will be required to wear a mask in the dugout but not when at bat or playing first base.

“These are all good signs that we are making progress across the state and in northern Michigan,” said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. “For people who are fully vaccinated – meaning two weeks past their second vaccination for Pfizer or Moderna or two weeks past the one-dose Johnson & Johnson – they have more freedoms. It really illustrates the benefits of being fully vaccinated,” she said.

For people who are not yet fully vaccinated, this means masking up whenever around other people not from their own household, Peacock noted.

The Health Department will be offering pop-up clinics in Benzie and Leelanau on Friday. There is no scheduling required for pop-up clinics. The clinic will be offering Johnson and Johnson's Janssen and Moderna vaccines. Our next round of these clinics will take place Friday, May 7th:

- Leelanau County pop-up clinics will begin at Northport Tribune in Northport from 10-12pm, NJ's Grocery in Lake Leelanau from 12:30-3:00pm, and finishing at Farm Club in Traverse City from 3:30-5:30pm.
- Benzie County pop-up clinic will begin at Shop N Save in Benzonia from 12-3pm and finishing at Lake Ann Brewery in Lake Ann from 4-6pm.

As of 4:00 p.m. today, the Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 1,211, Leelanau– 1,225
- Active COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 186, Leelanau– 136
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Benzie– 993, Leelanau– 1,073
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Benzie – 32, Leelanau– 16
- Hospitalized: 153 total; 2 currently

The State of Michigan is reporting 854,536 cases and 17,939 deaths.

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