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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting one new case today with a primary residence in Otsego County. The case investigation and contact tracing are in progress. Yesterday we reported case investigation data, which we will continue to report in the same format when the data is available.

We have received numerous questions about the state of the Torch Lake COVID-19 situation. There is much that we do not know about the details as the initial cases were outside of our jurisdiction, and we were only alerted to the presence of individuals at the sandbar who later tested positive with COVID-19. Because the positive cases were not able to identify the potential close contacts, all individuals that visited the sandbar on the July 4th weekend should self-monitor for symptoms, keep away from others as much as possible, and limit travel. At this time we have not been made aware of other potential public exposure sites visited by the individuals that tested positive.

Lisa Peacock, Health Officer, shared, “we are seeing the normal increase in traffic for our region but we must remind ourselves that COVID-19 is still in our communities, and residents and visitors may not know they have it. With the increased traffic, there is increased activity and movement in public spaces. While it may be helpful to know of a potential exposure site, everyone should assume that in any public setting someone with COVID-19 could be there and there is potential risk. Remember – mask up, wash up, and spread out. We must stay safe to stay open!”

As of 4:00pm, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting:

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 25, Charlevoix – 28, Emmet – 35, Otsego – 108
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 13, Charlevoix – 18, Emmet – 20, Otsego – 92
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 2, Emmet – 2, Otsego – 10.

The State of Michigan has reported 70,306 cases and 6,081 deaths.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department jurisdiction by [liking and following our Facebook page](#) and visiting our [COVID-19 Data Dashboard](#). To locate a testing facility, visit the [Michigan COVID-19 Test Finder website](#).

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is mandated by the Michigan Public Health Code to promote wellness, prevent disease, provide quality healthcare, address health problems of vulnerable populations, and protect the environment for the residents and visitors of Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Otsego counties. For more information, visit nwhealth.org.

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