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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is reporting 5 new confirmed cases in Antrim (1), Charlevoix (1), Otsego (3) counties. Case investigations and contact tracing are in progress, and relevant information will be shared when it is available.

Some of the [symptoms of cold, flu, and COVID-19](#) are similar, and this can make it difficult to tell them apart. The best way to reduce the spread of cold, flu, and COVID-19 is to keep sick people home and away from those who are not sick. Therefore, anyone who has symptoms should stay home and not go out into the community, which includes going to work or school.

“With cold and flu season around the corner it is even more important now to monitor ourselves for any symptoms of cold, flu, or COVID-19,” shared Dr. Meyerson, Medical Director. “While there is overlap between cold, flu, and COVID-19 symptoms, heightening our awareness and keeping record of our personal health will better help each of us to differentiate and determine when and if a COVID-19 or flu test is necessary. To protect one another, we continue to ask our residents to stay home whenever you are experiencing even mild symptoms.”

Today we are reporting case investigation information for 10 COVID-19 cases. All of the 10 cases are being reported in our jurisdiction. The following information is from case investigations conducted on September 23rd. The information known at this time is below:

- 10 of the 10 cases are primary residents
- Age:
 - 20-29 years – 3 cases
 - 40-49 years – 4 cases
 - 60-69 years – 3 cases
- Symptomatic: 8 cases; Asymptomatic: 2 case
- 0 cases linked to travel either into or out of the area as reported during their case investigation
- Over 72 total close contacts identified, notified, and instructed to quarantine

During case investigations, the following locations were identified as potential low-risk, public exposure sites.

- Avalanche Bay Indoor Waterpark, Boyne Falls on September 13th from 9:00 – 5:00 pm, September 18th from 3:00 – 9:00 pm, and September 19th from 9:00 – 2:00 pm
- Family Fare, Boyne City on September 19th and 23rd from 12:00 – 4:00 pm
- Dollar General, Boyne City on September 19th from 12:00 – 4:00 pm

All locations have been contacted and are working with the health department to ensure their employees and customers are safe. If you have questions about testing or about your potential exposure, please call the health department at 1-800-432-4121.

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 62, Charlevoix – 93, Emmet – 141, Otsego – 152
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 53, Charlevoix – 63, Emmet – 97, Otsego – 110
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 3, Emmet – 4, Otsego – 11.

The State of Michigan has reported 119,597 cases and 6,700 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](#). To track the risk levels of COVID-19 pandemic indicators, visit the [MI Safe Start Map website](#).

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