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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

Please Note: Beginning today, May 24, we will be changing the frequency of news releases relating to the COVID-19 vaccine and daily case counts. Unless a greater frequency is warranted, news releases about COVID-19 will be distributed on Mondays and Thursdays. Vaccine clinic locations, daily case counts, and vaccine administration data will continue to be available on the health department website. www.nwhealth.org. News is also available by visiting our [Facebook page](#). We will also frequently distribute news releases pertaining to other health department services and programs.

Preparing your child for vaccination

It has been just a little over a week since youth 12-15 years old could receive the COVID-19 vaccine, and since then, already 13.2% of the Health Department of Northwest Michigan's population in this age group and 32.6% in the 16-19 age group have gotten at least one dose. Widespread vaccination, including of children and teens, is critical to help stop this pandemic and get us all closer to normal.

"There are steps parents can take to help ready their child or teen for the vaccine," said Lisa Peacock, Health Officer. "Parents are first and foremost role models for their children so they can also prepare their child by modeling healthy behaviors and get vaccinated."

Steps include helping your [child know what to expect](#) when they receive their COVID-19 vaccination:

- [Get tips](#) for how to support your child before, during, and after the visit.
 - Explain there may be some [side effects](#), which are normal signs that their body is building protection. These side effects may affect your child's ability to do daily activities, but they should go away in a few days. Some people have no side effects.
 - Ask your child's healthcare provider about using a non-aspirin pain reliever to comfort your child after vaccination. It is not recommended you give pain relievers before vaccination for the purpose of trying to prevent side effects.
- Tell the doctor or nurse about any allergies your child may have.
- Comfort your child during the appointment.
- To prevent fainting and injuries related to fainting, your child should be seated during vaccination and for 15 minutes after the vaccine is given.
- After your child's COVID-19 vaccination, you will be asked to stay for 15-30 minutes so they can be observed in case they have a severe allergic reaction and need immediate treatment.

Minors under age 18 will need a parent or legal guardian to accompany them to their appointment and provide consent to receive the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine.

The health department is also working to coordinate vaccination blitzes in regions throughout its four-county jurisdiction. "This is our attempt to hit the road, offering pop-up locations in areas we haven't previously held many vaccination clinics, or where data shows there are still many unvaccinated people," Peacock said.

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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Walk-ins are welcome at all upcoming COVID-19 vaccination clinics, or people can make a reservation by clicking on the link provided for each clinic location listed below. As clinics, especially pop-up locations, are frequently added visit the website www.nwhealth.org for the most up-to-date clinic location listings.

Tuesday, May 25

- Great Lakes Center for the Arts, 800 Bay Harbor Dr, Bay Harbor, 8:30-10:30 a.m. Vaccine: **Pfizer** (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor) or **J&J** (must be 18 or older). To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- Petoskey Regional Chamber of Commerce, 401 E. Mitchell St., Petoskey, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Vaccine: **Pfizer** (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor) or **J&J** (must be 18 or older). Walk-up available; no appointments.

Wednesday, May 26

- Helena Township Hall, 8751 Helena Rd., Alden, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Vaccine: **Moderna** (must be 18 or older). To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- Ellison Place, 150 Dale Dr., Gaylord, 1-4 p.m. Vaccine: **Pfizer** (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor). To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Thursday, May 27

- Charlevoix Co. Shirley Roloff Northside Center (Old Elem. School), 13513 Division St., Charlevoix, 1-6:10 p.m. Vaccine: **Pfizer** (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor). To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)
- Emmet County Fairgrounds, 1129 Charlevoix Ave., Petoskey, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Vaccine: **Pfizer** (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor). To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Friday, May 28

- East Jordan City Picnic Pavilion, 151 Spring St, East Jordan, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Vaccine: **Pfizer** (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor) or **J&J** (must be 18 or older). To schedule an appointment: [Click Here](#)

Saturday, May 29

- Mancelona Bass Festival, noon-2:30 p.m. Vaccine: **Pfizer** (open to 12 or older, parent/guardian must accompany minor) or **J&J** (must be 18 or older). Walk-up available; no appointments.

The calendar on the website www.nwhealth.org lists clinics currently scheduled through June 25.

On Saturday, May 22, 8 new cases were reported: Antrim (1), Charlevoix (4), Emmet (3), and Otsego (0) counties. On Sunday, May 23, 1 new case was reported: Antrim (0), Charlevoix (0), Emmet (1), and Otsego (0) counties. Today, May 24, 6 new cases were reported: Antrim (1), Charlevoix (4), Emmet (1), and Otsego (0) counties, and 1 new death in Charlevoix County. As of 4 p.m. today, the health department is reporting:

- Total COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (1,617), Charlevoix (1,661), Emmet (2,367), and Otsego (2,338).
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim (1,474), Charlevoix (1,514), Emmet (2,099), and Otsego (2,048).
- Confirmed COVID-19 associated deaths in the following counties: Antrim (28), Charlevoix (21), Emmet (40), and Otsego (40).

The State of Michigan reported 884,580 cases and 18,953 deaths.

Stay up to date on the latest information in the Health Department of Northwest Michigan 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](#). For more information regarding the COVID-19 vaccine, visit the MDHHS [vaccine website](#) or the [CDC vaccine website](#).