



MEDIA CONTACT:
Erin Luckhardt, PIO
O: 231-347-5628
e.luckhardt@nwhealth.org
www.nwhealth.org

For Immediate Release
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Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update and Location Information

PLEASE NOTE: *The Health Department will be releasing an informational update daily by 4:00 pm. As testing capacity continues to expand and the results increase accordingly, it is not feasible to report each separate result. We are developing a method of reporting compiled results at the end of each day which will also be posted on our website.*

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan wants to make the public aware of an area that may have allowed for significant exposure and therefore making individual identification difficult. Individuals who were present at Bennethum's Northern Inn (3917 Old 27 South, Gaylord, MI 49735) on March 12th from 5:00 - 8:00pm and March 14th from 8:00 - 10:30pm may have been exposed to COVID-19 and should self-monitor for 14 days from the date of potential exposure (either March 12th or March 14th). The Health Department of Northwest Michigan is conducting a case investigation and contact tracing and may also identify individuals who need to self-quarantine. These individuals will be contacted directly by the health department.

Self-Monitoring includes:

- Monitoring for symptoms of a COVID-19 infection which include fever, cough, shortness of breath.
- If you are self-monitoring and develop symptoms, you should call your primary care physician first. If you do not have a primary care physician, you can utilize the health department's Public Health Information Line at 1-800-386-5959.

Per Governor Whitmer's Executive Order issued today, *Stay Home, Stay Safe*, all individuals (other than those identified as essential workers) are required to limit outings to those that are essential in order to ensure the health of our entire communities. The governor's executive order can be found here: https://www.michigan.gov/whitmer/0,9309,7-387-90499_90705-522626--,00.html.

We understand that the actions required by this executive order are difficult. We know that they can have powerful and impactful results in controlling the spread of this disease and urge all our residents comply with this order.

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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