June 16, 2020

Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Update

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan wants to remind those tested at the Odawa Casino on 6/6 and 6/7 that results can be accessed online by visiting www.bioreference.com/patientportal. We are continuing to work with our local hospitals and providers toward a smooth process and increased access to testing.

As travel to our region continues to increase with warmer weather, we want to reassure and remind residents of a few important items.

- If an individual visits one of our four counties and tests positive for COVID-19, their local health department would conduct a case investigation to identify close contacts.
- Standard contact tracing helps determine where the individual was during the symptomatic period. During that process, if close contacts within our region were identified, the local health department would contact those affected as well as the Health Department of Northwest Michigan.
- If a visitor were to become ill with COVID-19 while in our jurisdiction, we ask that the hospital or provider contact us in addition to the local health department of the county of residence.
- If a seasonal resident is obtaining a test while residing in our region, we ask that they use their local address for testing.

This situation has not occurred in our health department jurisdiction, however, should this occur and cause the public to be at an increased risk of COVID-19 exposure, that information would be shared.

Dr Meyerson, Medical Director, shares, “as we have more visitors to our area from many different places it is still important to wear a mask and practice social distancing when in public spaces, and regularly wash hands or use hand sanitizer. These health and safety precautions coupled together provide each of us with the best protection from the virus.”

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

- Positive COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 13, Charlevoix – 17, Emmet – 21, Otsego – 102
- Recovered COVID-19 cases in the following counties: Antrim – 11, Charlevoix – 13, Emmet – 19, Otsego – 90
- Confirmed COVID-19 deaths in the following counties: Charlevoix – 2, Emmet – 2, Otsego – 10.

The State of Michigan has reported 60,189 cases and 5,790 deaths; and as of June 12, cumulative recovered cases: 44,964.

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.