

**Immediate Release:
5/29/20**



Mobile COVID-19 drive-thru testing site in Traverse City this weekend

The Grand Traverse County Health Department is partnering with the Michigan National Guard, Michigan State Police and state officials to administer free COVID-19 testing this weekend at Turtle Creek Stadium. The drive-thru testing site is open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31.

"This has been a collaborative effort of the Michigan National Guard, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan State Police and the Grand Traverse County Health Department. We are honored to work so closely with those agencies and expand the testing in our community," said Grand Traverse County Health Officer, Wendy Hirschenberger.

"Being able to identify COVID-19 cases early and isolate them, all while informing and monitoring their close contacts is only going to help mitigate the spread of the virus in our regions. Our numbers have been relatively low up until this point. As the economy begins to reopen and people start moving around more, more opportunities for exposure will occur and we want to continue to keep community transmission rates low," added Hirschenberger.

Testing is open for any Michigan resident, regardless of symptoms. Results are expected to take about three to four days and will be reported by the local health department of which the resident resides in.

The two-day event is located in the parking lot of Turtle Creek Stadium, home of the Traverse City Pit Spitters. The park is located at 333 Stadium Drive, Traverse City. Testing will end at 4 p.m. This is the second weekend that the mobile testing site has been activated in the state, following Muskegon and Flint over Memorial Day weekend.

"We are happy that our community has been included in the mobile testing sites and hope that residents in our region will take advantage of it and go get tested," said Nate Alger, Grand Traverse County Administrator. "The residents of the Grand Traverse Region have modelled how to appropriately follow the imposed restrictions and mitigation measures and we want to continue to lead by example"

###

Media Contact: Emmy Schumacher (231) 493-8376, eschumacher@gtchd.org

On-site media availability for the Grand Traverse County Health Department will be on Saturday, May 30, from 9-11 a.m.