**Covid-19 and Islands**

***Beaver Island, Michigan, USA***

1. What actions are being taken to protect the island community from Covid 19? In particular, how are travel restrictions being put in place and enforced?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Pamela Grassmick  Beaver Island Association  [pgrassmick@gmail.com](mailto:pgrassmick@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * Social distancing, curb side service for gas, food, and groceries. County Transit delivering Meals on Wheels and other necessities to seniors. Our governor has a stay home mandate that islanders are complying. |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * Travel restrictions are set by the State of Michigan prohibiting travel to vacation rentals or for other than essential reasons. People can travel to their summer homes or return to their primary home on the Island. Beaver Island has recommended that those returning self-quarantine for 14 days. |

1. What actions will be taken should people on the island have Covid 19?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Pamela Grassmick  Beaver Island Association  [pgrassmick@gmail.com](mailto:pgrassmick@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * We have a small health center and a fixed winged ambulance to fly people to the mainland for treatment should the need arise. Our island also has a full time paramedic with back-up EMTs. |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * There is no hospital on Beaver Island, if a patient needed hospitalization they would be flown to a mainland hospital. The Beaver Island Rural Health Center will initiate contact with the regional health department to begin contact tracing. Persons who do not require hospitalization would isolate at home. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that essential goods and services are provided to the island community?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Pamela Grassmick  Beaver Island Association  [pgrassmick@gmail.com](mailto:pgrassmick@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * We have our stock piles from the winter such as meats still in the freezers but we rely on mail service and fresh foods to arrive during the winter by air. Our ferry system closes down late December and returns to service mid-April. |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * There are two airlines currently operating and bringing in essential goods and workers as needed. The BI Boat Company is making regular runs for freight and passengers who are allow to travel. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure that people working on the islands, not only in the tourism sector, are sustained financially in the short term and in the long term?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Pamela Grassmick  Beaver Island Association  [pgrassmick@gmail.com](mailto:pgrassmick@gmail.com) | 25 March 2020 | * We have a food pantry and the three churches have aid money. Our school is also delivering free meals to students even though the schools are closed. |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * Many people are relying on unemployment benefits and stimulus checks from the State of Michigan and the Federal Government. Locally, the food pantry and generous patrons are assisting families with basic needs. |

1. What actions are being taken to ensure the mental well-being of people on the islands?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * No tangible efforts are underway. The State of Michigan has launched a 'Stay Home, Stay MIndful' website to Offer Free Mental Health Resources During COVID-19 Pandemic and this will be shared with the community through a weekly Covid-19 Public Statement. |

1. If you consider it appropriate, feel free to share any data about people who have Covid 19 on your island and of people who, sadly, have passed away because of Covid 19.

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * As of May 13, 2020 there have been 33 people tested, 0 tested positive, 19 tested negative and 14 pending. The role of testing has changed since the early stages of the pandemic when testing was only done if symptoms were apparent. The health center now has the ability to test all essential workers as encouraged by the governor. They can also test individuals with minimal symptoms and those with no symptoms who think they may have been exposed. The health center’s increased testing capacity will provide more local information to better understand where COVID-19 is and how it is spreading in our region and state. This information can help give a better picture of when more restrictions can be lifted. Contact the health center for more information about testing. Beaver Island's current population is less than 600. |

1. If applicable, how are the lockdown measures being relaxed?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * The State of Michigan has reopened certain sectors of the economy including construction. People are moving around more and people are returning to their Island homes from winter destinations. The grocery store and gas station/convenience store continue to provide call-ahead or curbside service as do the few restaurants that are operating. |

1. Is there anything else you want to share?

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| Respondent | Date | Response |
| Kathleen McNamara  St James Township  [mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com](mailto:mcnamara.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com) | 13 May 2020 | * The goal of the Township Supervisors is to make sure emergency organizations have what they need to carry out their individual missions during this crisis: BIEMS, BIRHC, BIFD, CCSD (Charlevoix County Sheriff Department). As such, we ask for regular input from their leaders through conference calls and we monitor the Regional EOC calls twice times a week. We release a Public Statement once a week. The island has a radio station, WVBI, which keeps the community informed about COVID-19 issues over the air and on their website. |

1. Resources

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| Resource | Date | Link |
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*This information has been collated by the Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance in collaboration with Island Innovation and can be found at* [*https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/*](https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/strathclydecentreenvironmentallawgovernance/ourwork/research/labsincubators/eilean/islandsandcovid-19/)*.*