



Barry-Eaton District Health Department

Be Active • Be Safe • Be Healthy

Barry County: 330 W. Woodlawn Ave., Hastings MI 49058
Phone: 269-945-9516 Fax: 269-818-0237

Eaton County: 1033 Health Care Dr., Charlotte, MI 48813
Phone: 517-543-2430 Fax: 517-543-7737

Eaton Behavioral Health: 1033 Health Care Dr., Charlotte, MI 48813
Phone: 517-543-2580 Fax: 517-543-8191

July 2, 2019

Update as of July 2nd, 2019

In coordination with the Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD), Tequila's Mexican Grill is still closed. The restaurant is cooperatively working with BEDHD and has hired a food safety consultant. The restaurant is working with BEDHD to create and follow a plan to re-open.

BEDHD has received 79 reports of ill individuals who ate at Tequila's Mexican Grill. The investigation is still continuing in regards to what caused the outbreak.

If you have questions or concerns about the outbreak, please contact BEDHD's Environmental Health Division at (517) 541-2615 during business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM; 1:00 PM-5:00 PM). BEDHD will provide updates on the investigation as information becomes available. To access this information visit the Barry-Eaton District Health Department's website at www.barryeatonhealth.org.

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June 21, 2019

Update as of June 21st, 2019

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) has closed Tequila's Mexican Grill again as of 11:45 AM on Friday, June 21st. BEDHD received additional information from the investigation and from epidemiology that suggests the illness is **not** norovirus. Based on this information, BEDHD staff reviewed additional food handling procedures at the restaurant and determined it was in the best interest of public health to close the restaurant. BEDHD staff will continue working with Tequila's Mexican Grill to assure food handling standards are being met. Once all requirements are implemented, BEDHD will consider re-opening the restaurant.

BEDHD is continuing to investigate this outbreak by analyzing the data collected so far. Individuals who reported their illnesses greatly assisted this investigation. The source of the illness is still unknown and the investigation is ongoing.

If you have questions or concerns about the outbreak, please contact BEDHD's Environmental Health Division at (517) 541-2615 during business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM; 1:00 PM-5:00 PM). If you are feeling sick you may also contact your health care provider.



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June 20, 2019

Update as of June 20th, 2019

The Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) is continuing to investigate reports of gastrointestinal (digestive) illness in individuals who ate at Tequila's Mexican Grill between Saturday, June 15th and Tuesday, June 18th. At this time, 39 individuals have contacted BEDHD to report feeling ill after eating at the restaurant. BEDHD is interviewing individuals that reported feeling well, and those who reported feeling ill after eating at Tequila's Mexican Grill. The source of the illness is still unknown and the investigation is ongoing.

Tequila's Mexican Grill is cooperating with the investigation. On the evening of Tuesday, June 18th, all ready-to-eat food that had been prepared between Sunday, June 16th and Tuesday, June 18th was discarded. On Wednesday, June 19th the restaurant completed environmental cleaning and BEDHD completed interviews with all staff. After these public health interventions BEDHD allowed Tequila's Mexican Grill to re-open with health department oversight at approximately 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19th.

If you ate at Tequila's Mexican Grill (430 N Cochran Ave, Charlotte, MI 48813) on Saturday, June 15th through Tuesday, June 18th and are feeling ill (especially with nausea, abdominal cramping, vomiting, or diarrhea), please contact BEDHD's Environmental Health Division at (517) 541-2615. If you are feeling sick you may also contact your health care provider.

BEDHD will provide updates on the investigation as information becomes available. To access this information visit the Barry-Eaton District Health Department's website at www.barryeatonhealth.org.

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June 19th, 2019

Restaurant Closure at Tequila's Mexican Grill in Charlotte

On the evening of June 18th, the Barry-Eaton District Health Department (BEDHD) temporarily closed Tequila's Mexican Grill, located in Charlotte, Michigan. The closing was ordered after gastrointestinal



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(digestive) illness was reported in 10 individuals who ate at the restaurant for lunch on Sunday, June 16th. BEDHD is conducting an investigation of the restaurant and the illnesses.

On the morning of June 18th, BEDHD received the first complaint and received a second later in the day after investigation had begun. The restaurant will not open before employees are interviewed by BEDHD staff as part of the investigation. Next steps for Tequila's Mexican Grill will be decided based on the results of these interviews. The restaurant is cooperative and is participating in BEDHD's investigation.

All known individuals who were ill report feeling better.

If you ate at Tequila's Mexican Grill (430 N Cochran Ave, Charlotte, MI 48813) on Sunday, June 16th through Tuesday, June 18th and are feeling ill (especially with nausea, abdominal cramping, vomiting, or diarrhea), please contact BEDHD's Environmental Health Division at (517) 541-2615. If you are feeling sick, please also contact your health care provider.

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