

MACKINAC RENDEZVOUS XIX

SEPTEMBER 15-17, 2023





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Welcome to Mackinac Rendezvous XIX

The Michigan Crossroads Council is proud to host Mackinac Rendezvous XIX and provides this Leader's Guide to ensure you and your units have the best experience possible. ***Please carefully read all the information and share with your unit families!***

The Mackinac region of Michigan is rich in American history and Mackinac Rendezvous gives you the opportunity to visit many incredible places and experience several historical gems in the region! In addition to many traditional activities, this year's event incorporates new and expanded programming.

On behalf of MCC, the Mackinac Rendezvous XIX Planning Committee welcomes you to this premier Council event for your Scouts and Leaders!



1. History of Mackinac Rendezvous

In the summer of 1986, Scout Executive Dick Miller and the council's Activities Committee were searching for a place to hold a council fall camporee. Miller had visited Mackinac Island and suggested it as a challenging but rewarding destination. The committee agreed, and the very first Mackinac Rendezvous took place in 1987.

From the start, the idea was to run a simpler, smarter, better fall camping event. It needed to have stellar programming and be a financial success.

That inaugural year, Scouts camped at St. Ignace State Park in the Upper Peninsula. The Michigan National Guard provided manned army field kitchens to prepare all the meals for the Rendezvous.

Many Units began their journey north Friday morning because many schools were willing to excuse the Scouts based on the educational and historical value of this event.

Many Mackinac Island storefronts displayed "Welcome Boy Scouts" signs and Scouts enjoyed a grand and glorious day on the island. After the ferry ride back to St. Ignace, buses took Scouts back to camp. That evening, the Scouts marched across I-75, where traffic was stopped both ways, to Father Marquette State Park for a campfire program.

The event was such a success, participating unit leaders all but demanded a return engagement in 1989! And the biannual tradition has continued ever since.

In 2001, Mackinac Rendezvous was scheduled on Sept. 29 - two weeks after 9/11, Despite the nation's pain and angst, the Rendezvous went forward, if somewhat subdued. It was a difficult year, but everyone pulled together and made it a success.

In 2005, the National Guard was unavailable to provide meals, so units cooked for themselves in their campsites. Four years later, a new tradition was born – a catered meal on Saturday night!

Over the years, Mackinac Rendezvous moved south of the bridge with an enduring partnership with Mill Creek Campground that started in 2009. Because of many long-lasting partnerships – Star Lines ferry service, Michigan State Historic Parks, the shops of Mackinac Island, buses from Cheboygan Area Schools – Mackinac Rendezvous has become an enduring success.

As you enjoy your time at Mackinac Rendezvous, know that your experience rests on the sturdy shoulders of a long and storied history.

2. Quick Facts

WHAT: Scouts BSA & Venturing Program

WHEN: Friday, September 15 – Sunday, September 17, 2023

Check-in on Friday is between Noon & 10:00 PM

Check-out on Sunday is AFTER the Closing Ceremony, Campsite Inspection by Staff, and official check-out with the Registration Team

WHERE: Mackinaw Mill Creek Campground, 9730 US Hwy 23, Mackinaw City

COST: Regular Registration = \$95.00 through August 15, 2023

Late Registration = \$105.00 from August 16 to August 31, 2023

Register online through the events page at michiganscouting.org

FEES INCLUDE: Campsite, Ferry transportation, Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park, Fort Mackinac, the Richard & Jane Manoogian Art Museum, Saturday dinner & entertainment, Mackinac Rendezvous collector's patch, and several cool & fun activities!



3. Program Highlights*

- Camping at the scenic Mackinaw Mill Creek Campground on the shores of Lake Huron, with views of the Straits of Mackinac, Mackinac Bridge, and Mackinac Island!
- Mackinac Rendezvous Event App will provide program schedules, maps, event notices & communication, weather & emergency alerts, and an *Island Scavenger Hunt!*
- International Dark Sky Park at The Headlands
- Unlimited fun on the climbing tower & inflatable obstacle courses!
- Living History Re-enactors, demonstrations, and ceremonial Cannon firing!
- Trading post – including the Mackinac Rendezvous XIX limited edition collector’s patch!
- Transportation to and from Star Lines ferry boat dock!
- Tours of Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park, Fort Mackinac, and the Richard & Jane Manoogian Art Museum!
- “Honor Scout for a Day” at the Mackinac Island Scout Barracks for Arrow of Light and Webelos!
- Saturday dinner with 1,000+ of your closest Scout Friends!
- Honored Eagle Ceremony!
- For our adults, free bottomless coffee (*with purchase of coffee mug!*)
- Old Timey Circus fun event with Prize Concession Stand.
- Live entertainment on the Mackinac Rendezvous main event stage!

**Activities subject to change.*

4. General Information

REGISTRATION

All participants must be registered for the Mackinac Rendezvous event. Parents or guardians of a registered Scout may attend but must also be registered in Scouting and have CURRENT YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING. Additionally, Health Forms A & B will be required for ALL participants and should stay in unit leader's possession during event.

WEBELOS AND ARROW OF LIGHT

By Troop Invitation Only! Your Webelos, Arrows of Light, and their leaders may be invited by your Troop to participate in Mackinac Rendezvous and must be registered for this event with the Troop.

PARTICIPATION

At registration, **you will receive a colored wristband that serves as your ticket/pass to this event and all the associated activities**. If your wristband is damaged or lost, contact a member of the Security Team (*volunteers in GOLD hats*) who will connect you with the Registration Team for verification and a new wristband - A Scout is trustworthy! Admission and discounts to historical areas, campground, ferry, and Island attractions will **require the display of your wrist band**. This also provides a level of Youth Protection and Risk Management.

WHAT TO BRING

This is a traditional Scout camping event. You will need cooking gear to prepare meals in your campsite, hand tools for campsite set-up and clean-up, dining fly, water jugs, first aid kit, unit flag, plastic trash bags, and fire safety equipment. ***Individual suggested packing list is provided in Appendix V.***

UNIFORMS

All Scouts and leaders are expected to wear an Official Boy Scouts of America Uniform during the opening & closing ceremonies and while visiting Mackinac Island or Historical Sites. Let's set a great Scouting example!

MEALS

Units are responsible for planning and providing their own meals - Friday lunch & dinner, Saturday breakfast & lunch, and Sunday breakfast. ***Saturday night dinner is the only meal provided by the event.***

WEATHER

Please check the weather and dress accordingly. This is northern Michigan where it can be sunny & 70 degrees during the day and have flurries & 32 degrees at night! *Wind – Rain – Snow – Hail – Sun* are all possible, so BE PREPARED!

ARRIVAL

As a courtesy to others, units will be expected to rapidly unload unit equipment and move their vehicle(s) to the designated parking areas before campsite setup begins.

Troop/Crew trailer(s) are allowed in campsites as long as a tow vehicle remains attached to the trailer. No other unit vehicles are allowed in your campsite, per the Guide to Safe Scouting. If you require accessibility accommodations, please notify check-in personnel.

DO NOT TO BRING FIREWOOD – It will be provided by Mill Creek Campground.



5. Rendezvous Daily Schedule

NOTE: This is a general event schedule. Additional details for specific activities will be provided at the event and through the online event App.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17		
Noon – 10:00 PM	Unit Check-in	Mill Creek Camp
1:00 – 10:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark Sky Park (Off-Site) • Midway & Council Activities Displays • Fabulous Fun Inflatables/ Rockets • Climbing Tower • Re-enactors Camp Village • Patch Trading 	
10:00 PM	Leader’s Meeting & Cracker Barrel	
10:30 PM	Quiet Time	
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18		
9:00 AM	Opening Ceremony	Mill Creek Camp
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ferry Ride to and from • Explore Mackinac Island & Eat Fudge! • Island Scavenger Hunt • Honor Scout for a Day • Meet a member of the Michigan Legislature 	Mackinac Island
6:00 PM	Event Dinner	Mill Creek Camp
7:00 – 10:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circus Midway Events/Planetarium • Climbing Tower • Leader’s Meeting & Meet the Key 3 • Entertainment - Main Event Stage • Honored Eagle Ceremony 	
10:00 PM	Quiet Time	
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19		
9:00 AM	Closing Ceremony & Prize Presentations	Mill Creek Camp
9:45 AM	Campsite Inspections & Sign-out Process	

6. Planning Committee & Contacts

Russ Kolski – **Committee Chair** – rkolski@mi-chn.com

Sue Fiebig – **Registration Chair** – camp4fun@gmail.com

Rick VanGrouw – **Marketing Chair** – rvangrouw@gmail.com

Travis Babcock – **Program Chair** – trbabcock1@gmail.com

Bruce Emaus – **Island Adventure Program Chair** – divehi@mybrokentoed.com

Scott France – **Trading Post Chair** – scott.france@sbcglobal.net

Jason Kiste – **Physical Arrangements Chair** – strider19_2001@yahoo.com

Tyler Brownell – **Safety & Security** – [\\$](mailto:xpiv2fv{rip@kqen@sq)

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Daniel Hill – **Professional Staff Advisor** – [\\$](mailto:hernip2lmp@wgsyxmk2vk)

Send General Event Questions to macrenteam@gmail.com

Mackinaw Mill Creek Campground: 231-436-5584 or office@campmackinaw.com

Mackinaw City Police/Emergency: 231-436-7861 or 911

MACKINAC ISLAND EMERGENCIES: In case of medical emergencies, call 911 or go to the Mackinac Island Medical Center, 7474 Market Street, phone number 906-847-3382. Please report any incidents to Safety & Security Chair.

7. Facilities & Safety

We have streamlined our “Gate to Campsite” check-in procedure! Upon entry, each vehicle will receive a **color-coded card** to be displayed on the dash and will include a **time limit to have your vehicle in the campsite**. Once the time limit has expired, the vehicle **must be moved to the main parking area**.

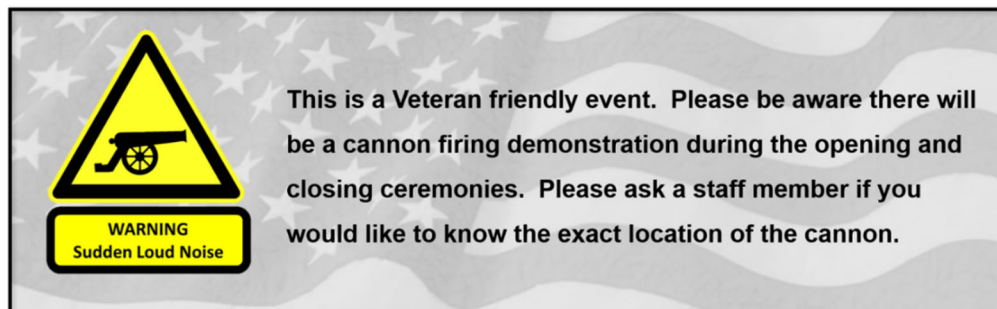
Those units that bring a Troop/Crew trailer may leave their tow vehicle in the campsite if it stays attached to the trailer. If the tow vehicle is disconnected from the trailer, you are expected to move it to the parking area. We have found that the use of an equipment trailer expedites the movement of vehicles in the camp and frees up space in vehicles to transport Scouts.

This is a **tent camping Rendezvous!** If you are planning to bring your RV camper, trailer, or motorhome, you will need to **make separate arrangements, at your expense, with the Mill Creek Campground** at 231-436-5584 or office@campmackinaw.com. RV campsites are in a different part of the campground.

All Rendezvous participants must be registered through the online registration page at michiganscouting.org.

If you have any special needs or requests, please send an email to macrenteam@gmail.com. Special requests in the past have included: dietary restrictions, special parking, transportation to events for persons with disabilities, electrical hook-up for those with medical needs, and camping near a specific Troop or Crew.

Finally, campsite picnic tables are in limited supply. Please bring your own chairs and small portable tables.



8. Frequently Asked Questions

- **May we bring our families, younger children, and or spouses?**
 - Only if they are registered Scouts and attending as a member of your troop.
- **Do all adult participants need to be registered in Scouts BSA?**
 - Yes, *and have current Youth Protection Training.*
- **Can we bring our own firewood?**
 - No. Mill Creek Campground will have firewood available at designated locations in the park.
- **What can we do to speed up check in?**
 - Follow the **“Gate to Campsite”** check-in procedure:
 - 1) One week before Rendezvous, email your final unit roster information to our Registration Chair, Sue Fiebig, at camp4fun@gmail.com.
 - 2) Attend the online orientation meeting in August.
 - 3) Follow the “Gate to Campsite” vehicle unloading instructions, which you will receive via email upon receipt of your final unit roster.
 - 4) **Relax** – it will be a great weekend!
- **Are individual Health History Forms required?**
 - Yes, [BSA Health Forms A & B](#) for both youth and adult participants are required. Health history forms must be in the possession of a unit leader during the event (*we recommend having them in a three-ring binder for ease of organization and transport*).
- **Can we bring bikes, skateboards, or roller blades?**
 - No, however bikes rentals are available on Mackinac Island!
- **May Scouts or Scouters with special needs or diets attend?**
 - Yes. Please be sure any special needs are indicated during the registration process.
- **Are meals provided?**
 - Only one meal, Saturday evening dinner, will be provided by the event. All other meals (*including equipment for preparation and cooking*) are the responsibility of individual units.

- **Are Scout uniforms required?**
 - Yes. Uniforms are required for opening & closing ceremonies and while visiting Mackinac Island or Historical Sites - *TUCKED IN and BUTTONED UP!*
- **What plans are in place for lost Scouts or “missing the boat?”**
 - Well, **neither will happen** if we all follow the security procedures and use some good Scouting common sense! **Tell your Scouts: 1) All security team members will be wearing gold colored security hats and are available to help, 2) use the Buddy System, and 3) follow the color group schedule!**
- **When can we get our vehicles and depart on Sunday morning?**
 - You may get your vehicles and depart **only after 1) the Rendezvous closing ceremony has concluded and 2) your campsite is cleaned, inspected, and you have officially checked out with the Registration Team (having received your exit packet with event patches).**
- **What if my question wasn’t listed here?**
 - No worries! Send your question to macrenteam@gmail.com or ask a staff member during the event!

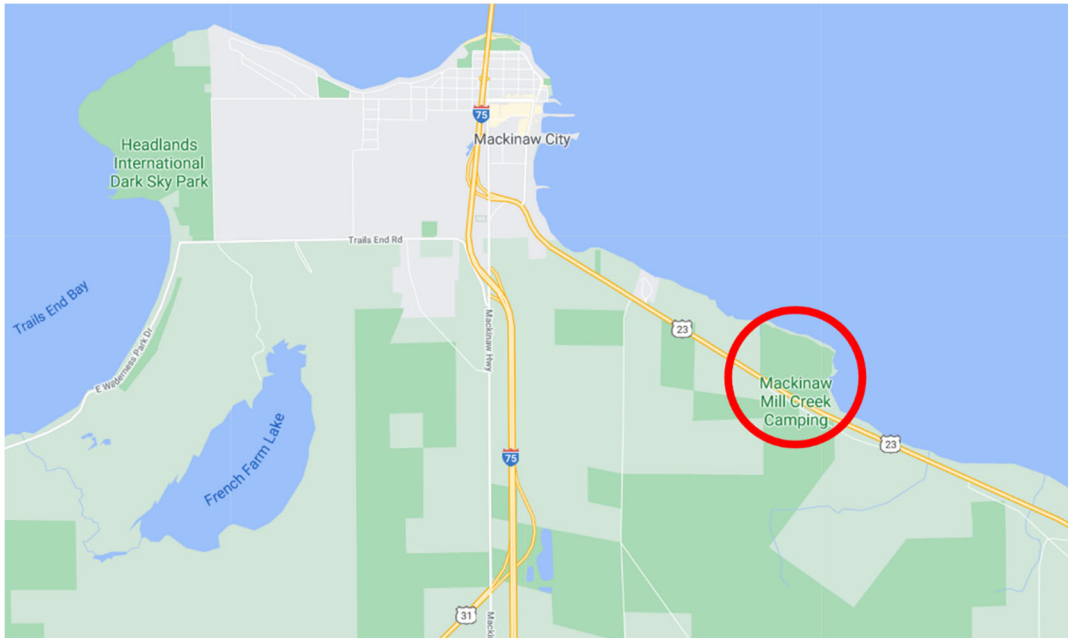
Have Fun!



APPENDIX

I. Directions to Campground

Coming north or south on I-75? Just follow the signs to US 23 South and go 2 1/2 miles south of Mackinaw City on US Hwy 23. Don't worry, there are plenty of campground signs along the way!



II. A Scout is Clean!

Help Prevent Illness

- WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY
- AVOID TOUCHING YOUR EYES AND FACE
- PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING
- USE HAND SANITIZER
- FACE COVERINGS

III. Friendly, Courteous, Kind....

Our goal is to make Mackinac Rendezvous accessible to all participants! If you anticipate any accessibility issues or need assistance, please contact macrenteam@gmail.com with the subject line "Accessibility Assistance."



General Disability Etiquette:

- Don't make assumptions about what an individual with a disability may or may not need
- Always ask before offering assistance and wait for your offer to be accepted before trying to help
- Don't touch an individual with a disability without permission
- Be considerate of the extra time a person with a disability may require
- Communicate naturally with your language and expressions

SERVICE DOG MANNERS

Do

- **Treat the dog as if it were invisible**
- **Speak to the handler first**
- **Ask permission before interacting with the dog**
- **Give the dog and handler the right of way**
- **Know that service dogs are medical devices and well-loved family members who enjoy their jobs**

Don't

- **Touch the dog**
- **Talk to or try to get the dog's attention**
- **Stare at the dog or handler**
- **Offer food to the dog**
- **Ask personal questions about the handler's disability**
- **Be offended if the handler doesn't wish to chat about their dog**

Under the ADA, a service animal is defined as a dog that has been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for an individual with a disability. The task(s) performed by the dog must be directly related to the person's disability.

IV. Scout Uniforms

Mackinac Rendezvous participants are encouraged to wear a complete Class-A Scout Uniform. A full Scout uniform makes us all look like a part of the same team and creates a good first impression in the community. As a symbol of the values Scouting upholds, the uniform also serves to remind scouts to live up to those values – *A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.*

Essential Class - A Uniform Components:

1. Official Scout Shirt
2. Official Scout Pants or Shorts
3. Belt
4. Scout Socks (*when wearing shorts*)



V. Suggested Packing List

SUGGESTED PACKING LIST:

- Class-A Scout Uniform
- At least two changes of clothes – consider shorts & long pants and short & long sleeves
- Coat / jacket
- Rain gear
- Undergarments, socks, pajamas
- Comfortable shoes / hiking boots
- Gloves & hat
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle
- Daypack
- Toiletries
- Tent & ground cloth
- Sleeping bag & pad
- Medicine
- Flashlight / headlamp
- Camera
- Spending money

*It may be summer
but it's also
northern Michigan,
mornings and
evenings can be
cold!*

