



2026 Great Lakes Islands Summit
Mackinac Island, Michigan
October 4-7, 2026

Sunday, October 4

Time	Session	Location
Afternoon	Arrivals & Hotel Check-in (confirm check-in time with your lodging)	Your hotel (variable)
4:00 – 5:00 pm	Participant sign-in and packet pickup	Conference Center Main Entrance - Mission Point Resort (MPR)
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Mackinac Island Welcome & Event Overview - GLIA Steering Committee and 2026 Mackinac Island Summit Host Team <i>Invited:</i> Q&A panel with Mackinac residents (meet the locals) - Breakout session sign-up confirmations	Conference Center Atrium (MPR)
6:00 – 8:00 pm	Group Dinner “Meet the Locals” continues	Cypress Room (MPR)

Monday, October 5

Time	Session	Location
8:00 – 9:00 am	Rolling Breakfast Networking time	Sound Stage (MPR)
9:00 – 9:45 am	Parade of Islands	Sound Stage (MPR)
9:45 – 10:00 am	<i>Break and move to Breakouts</i>	
10:00 – 11:30 pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions (pick one, repeat in afternoon)	
	1. Tourism & Marketing Leads: Stephanie Castelein, Brad Barnett, Suze Oostendorp Conference Center - Fort Holmes Room (MPR)	2. Island Economics & Advocacy Leads: Mark Ware, Anneke Myers Conference Center - Harrisonville Room (MPR)
		3. Historic District Commission Leads: Rick Linn, Pete Olson, Nancy Porter Conference Center - Robinsons Folly Room (MPR)
11:30 – 12:00 pm	<i>Break/Walk to Lunch</i>	
12:00 – 12:45 pm	Group Lunch	Sound Stage (MPR)

12:45 – 1:00 pm	<i>Walk to Breakouts</i>		
1:00 – 2:30 pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions		
	4. Tourism & Marketing Leads: Leads: Stephanie Castelein, Brad Barnett, Suze Oostendorp Conference Center - Fort Holmes Room (MPR)	5. Island Economics & Advocacy Leads: Mark Ware, Anneke Myers Conference Center - Harrisonville Room (MPR)	6. Mackinac Island Recreation Leads: Mary Patay, Adrian Skazalski, Gretchen Johnson Conference Center - Robinsons Folly Room (MPR)
2:30 – 3:00 pm	<i>Free time</i>		
3:00 – 3:30 pm	<i>Shuttle to boat tour</i>		
4:00* – 5:30 pm *boarding begins at 3:30	Educational Boat Tour Preserving Our Environment w/ Phil Porter, former director of Mackinac State Historic Parks		Coal Dock (downtown)
5:30 – 6:00 pm	Shuttle back to Mission Point Resort		
6:00– 7:00 pm	Group Dinner		Cypress Room (MPR)
7:00 pm –	Explore downtown on your own		Downtown Mackinac Island

Tuesday, October 6

Time	Session	Location
8:00 – 9:00 am	Rolling Breakfast	Sound Stage (MPR)
9:00 – 10:15 am	GLIA Business - State of GLIA: Matt Preisser, GLIA Coordinator - Resource Directory & Navigator projects: Philip Rice, GLIA Communications Specialist	Sound Stage (MPR)
10:15 – 10:30 am	<i>Break</i>	
10:30 – 3:00 pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions (pick one)	
10:30 – 12:00	7. Field Trip – shuttle departs from Mission Point Resort Circle Drive Housing: tour & overview of Forest Way & Edgewood Developments. Leads: Emma Chambers, Anne Ste. Onge, Philip Rice	8. Field Trip (in Mission district) Conservation & environment: insects, local wildlife, and preservation of the lilac tree. Leads: Trish Martin and Ruth St. Onge Conference Center Atrium (MPR)
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch	

1:00 – 3:00	(Breakout 7 continued) Environment & Philanthropy: The Inn at Stonecliffe - pollinator gardens, sustainable horticulture, nonprofit business model, and historic preservation	(Breakout 8 continued) - Fleis & Vandenbrink: Fudging the Logistics (MPR Atrium) - Tour of Water Treatment Plant. Leads: Alan Burt and/or Eric Cowell - Running a year-round business at a historic property: Small Point B&B. Leads: Brian, Christina, and Liz Findley. Walk to locations
3:00 – 3:15 pm	<i>Break/Return to Conference Center</i>	
3:15 – 4:00 pm	Reconvene for Group Discussion - What did you learn? - What solutions or ideas can you provide from your island? - What could GLIA do to support islands in this space?	Conference Center Atrium (MPR)
4:00 – 6:00 pm	Networking/free time. Optional walking tour to Arch Rock Milliken Nature Center & Botanical Trail w/ Laura Eiseler	
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Group Dinner	Cypress Room (MPR)
7:30 pm -	Evening gathering - Island trivia - Live music	Round Island Kitchen (MPR)

Wednesday, October 7

Time	Session	Location
8:00 – 9:00 am	Rolling Breakfast	Sound Stage (MPR)
9:00 – 11:00 am	Summit Wrap Up (Matt, Angel, Christine, Philip, others) - Group reflections, questions, discussion - GLIA Looking Forward - Participant survey - Next steps - Group photo	Sound Stage (MPR)
11:00 am	Summit Adjourns - Check-out hotels - Explore on your own!	

Thank you for joining us! Safe travels home!