



Mackinac Island State Park Commission
Policy

Special Events

Minutes: January 19, 1990, p. 2487
 March 23, 2012, p. 4007
 December 7, 2022, p.

Effective: January 1, 2023

Preamble

Mackinac State Historic Parks' historic sites and museums offer the opportunity to create a unique special event for your group which will be remembered for years.

The Mackinac Island State Park Commission, created in 1895, works to preserve and interpret the historic resources of the Straits of Mackinac region for the benefit, education, and enjoyment of the public. Mackinac Island State Park, Fort Mackinac, Biddle House, and The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, and Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park in Mackinaw City are operated by the Commission. The Commission permits use of these museums, consistent with our preservation mission, for limited special events.

Fort Mackinac and Colonial Michilimackinac are National Historic Landmarks. Each original or reconstructed historic building at Mackinac State Historic Parks (MSHP) is a special resource for Michigan and the nation. Special events must respect the integrity and purpose of the historic site and may not interfere with the interpretive programs offered to daily visitors. All equipment set up and event programming will normally take place after the site closes to the public. At select venues, a live historical program will be presented to participants at each special event.

Types of Events

All events are expected to harmonize with the character, mission and public purpose of the site, such as dinners and receptions for convention and travel groups visiting the Straits area. Any questions concerning the appropriateness of an event will be referred by the Group Travel and Special Events Coordinator to the Chief of Marketing or Director.

Specifications

MSHP will not make facilities available to unaffiliated organizations for the on premises sale of any commercial product. Such use would constitute grounds for cancellation of an event, and forfeiture of all fees and charges associated with the event.

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Invitations and Printed Materials

The content of all printed materials relating to an event, including invitation copy, programs and promotional materials is subject to advance MSHP approval. Materials must be submitted to the Group Travel and Special Events Coordinator for review and approval before printing.

Liability

In filing application for a special event, the host assumes responsibility for injury or damage of any kind to person or property (regardless of who may own the property) arising out of or suffered through any act of commission or omission of the host, its employees, agents, contractors or guests in connection with its use of MSHP facilities. The host agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Michigan and Mackinac Island State Park Commission for all damages, claims, expenses, or other liability due to personal injury or death, or damage to property of others, arising out of or suffered through any act or omission of the host, its employees, agents, contractors, or guests, in connection with its use of MSHP facilities.

[See Procedures, Special Events]