

CONTACT: Dominick Miller
906.847.3328
millerd44@michigan.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 2, 2020

Opening of Mackinac State Historic Parks' Sites Delayed For 2020 Season

MACKINAW CITY, MICH. — Out of overwhelming safety concern for our visitors and staff, as well as in following state and federal guidelines, Mackinac State Historic Parks (MSHP) has made the decision to delay the opening of its historic sites on Mackinac Island and in Mackinaw City.

MSHP is now looking at the following **tentative** opening dates:

These sites on Mackinac Island will tentatively open **Friday, May 22:**

- Fort Mackinac
- The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum
- Mackinac Island State Park Visitor's Center
- Fort Holmes Blockhouse
- Mission Church
- Bark Chapel
- Restrooms at Arch Rock and British Landing

The Biddle House, featuring the Mackinac Island Native American Museum, will open at a date to be determined, due to construction delays. The British Landing Nature Center will still open May 23, and Historic Downtown Mackinac will open June 6.

The following Mackinaw City sites are scheduled to open on **Saturday, May 23:**

- Colonial Michilimackinac
- Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse
- Restrooms adjacent to the Colonial Michilimackinac Visitor's Center and within Michilimackinac State Park

Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park is now scheduled to open on Saturday, June 6.

The COVID-19 pandemic is an ever-changing and fluid situation, and the staff of Mackinac State Historic Parks will continue to follow all federal and state guidelines set forth. **These opening dates are subject to change.**

“We thank the public for their understanding,” said Phil Porter, Mackinac State Historic Parks Director. “We look forward to welcoming guests to our sites on Mackinac Island and in Mackinaw City and celebrating our 125th anniversary season.”

Photos of the Mackinac State Historic Parks’ sites are available upon request. [A downloadable version of this release can be found here.](#) For further information call 231.436.4100 or email millerd44@michigan.gov.

Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern Michigan’s Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort Mackinac, the Biddle House, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, Historic Downtown Mackinac, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park and Michilimackinac State Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks’ rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or on the web at www.mackinacparks.com.

###