Tourism Summit for Michigan’s Thumb and Surrounding Counties

- **September 18, 2013** from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm
- Thumb Octagon Barn Agricultural Museum, 4948 Richie Road, Gagetown, MI 48735
- Registration $20, includes lunch & tour
- Register online by September 11, 2013 at [http://events.anr.msu.edu/ThumbTourismSeptember](http://events.anr.msu.edu/ThumbTourismSeptember)
  *After September 11th there will be a cancellation charge of $10

Summit is open to those interested in increasing tourism in their communities; Michigan’s Strategic Tourism Plan, community & economic development strategies via regional tourism initiatives and placemaking, as well as interested parties in the results from 2012 Lake Huron Integrated Assessment.

**Panel Discussions:**

- WELCOME and introductory remarks regarding L.H.I.A., Mary Bohling, Extension Educator
- Michigan’s Strategic Tourism Plan 2012-2017: Opportunities for Implementation in the Thumb, Dr. Sarah Nicholls, Ph.D, MSU Associate Professor
- Understanding Tourism for Michigan Communities, Andy Northrop, Extension Educator
- Regional County Collaboration for Museum Tourism, Rose Putnam, Chair-Tuscola County Historical Consortium

**Breakout Sessions**

- Trail Town Initiatives-Connecting the dots between trails and community economic development, Harry Burkholder, AICP Community Planner 2, Land Information Access Association (LIAA)
- Heritage Tourism-Identifying, Preserving and Sharing what is unique to your community, Dr. Julie Avery, Ph.D, MSU Extension Specialist and Museum Curator
- Placemaking Opportunities in the Thumb, Glenn Pape, Extension Educator

**Agenda**

1. Check in 8:30 am
2. Welcome & Panel discussions 9-10:30 am
3. Morning break 10:30-10:40 am
4. Breakout Sessions 10:40-11:30 am
5. “Report out” 11:30-12:15 pm
6. Lunch 12:15-12:45 pm
7. Octagon Barn Tour (Optional) 12:45-2:00 pm

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