

2026



Michigan Fly Fishing Club's

Bourbon and Brown Outing - 2026 Updates

July 16-19, 2026 \$250 per person

Once again, it will be the kind of summer morning Hemingway would write about—cool air rising off the Holy Waters of the famed Au Sable, the river moving lazy and patient, as if in no particular hurry. The WaWa Sum Lodge stands stoic and timeless on the banks, a rugged sanctuary for the anglers who will gather there for Michigan Fly Fishing Club's **2nd Bourbon and Browns Summer Outing**: a celebration of trout, fellowship, and that sweet amber spirit.

July 16th through 19th, 2026, will mark four days of easy living, the sort of days that make you wish the clock would slow down and let the river speak. This year brings a few changes. They are small. They keep things simple. They keep the focus on fishing and the community.

- **Continental Breakfast** - will be available each morning: donuts, bagels, coffee, OJ, cereal and frozen microwavable breakfast sandwich - all set up the night before, readily available for the early risers.
- **Lunch** will be on your own - enjoy the opportunity to explore and support the local restaurants and community.
- **Dinner** - We will have three dinners. Each night a different group of anglers will cook a hearty meal and clean up after. It will be like a weekend fishing trip with old friends,

everyone ready to pitch in. On Saturday night, my group will cook the farewell dinner to send us on our way the following day.

Now, back to Mr. Hemingway . . . The rhythm of the river remains unchanged: a rod in hand, the soft whisper of line cutting the air, a perfect presentation, the hope of a rise, and the tug of a tight line. By evening, the lodge will glow with the amber light of bourbon, conversation and the camaraderie of shared meals with friends both old and new will be as satisfying as any catch of that day.

The secrets of the Holy Waters will be shared by those who know this stretch of Michigan better than their own backyards. Competitions remain friendly—Catch, Photo, Release (CPR) will still be the only contest that matters, with the largest fish measured in grins, not inches.

Bourbon and Browns isn't just an event; it's a reminder to slow down, listen to the river and laughter of friends, and savor the simple joys of life. The Au Sable River will be the stage, the lodge the backdrop, and the anglers the players in this timeless tale.

The cost will remain at \$250 per person for the 4 day / 3 night event. A \$50 deposit will reserve your spot. For more information, contact Tom Coleman at tjcole6@gmail.com.