

Welcome to the
2024 Outlook Conference

Mackinac Island, MI | September 6-8, 2024



Friday, September 6

6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Opening Reception, Terrace Room at the Grand Hotel

Presented by MABA 2024 Sustaining Sponsors

Saturday, September 7

Moderator: Jon Rush, BASF, MABA 2024 Chairman

Breakfast On Your Own – Main Dining Room (opens at 7:30

8:00)A.M. Registration – Grand Hotel Theatre

8:30 A.M. Welcome

**8:35 A.M. Opening Keynote Remarks
Courtney White, Head of Human Resources,
BASF North America**

**9:20 A.M. State of Michigan Priorities for Agriculture
Dr. Tim Boring, Director, Michigan Department
of Agriculture & Rural Development**

**9:40 A.M. Global Grain & Oilseed Outlook
Mark Feight, Managing Director, International
Agribusiness Group**

**10:00 A.M. Michigan Economic Outlook
Dr. Paul Isely, Associate Dean and Professor of
Economics, Grand Valley State University**

**10:30 A.M. Update from Eastern Market
Dan Carmody, CEO, Eastern Market
Partnership**

**10:50 A.M. Change and Opportunity for Thumb Agriculture
Scott Gordon, CEO, Cooperative Elevator Co.**

**11:20 A.M. 2024 Election Outlook
Stephanie Szymas, Lobbyist, McAlvey Merchant
& Associates**

11:40 A.M. Break – Guests Invited to Join

12:00 P.M. Lunch Session

Keynote Speaker:
**Col. Michael Edward Fossum, USAFR (Ret.)
Vice President, Texas A&M University**

Message from the Critter Barn
**Tony McCaul, Executive Director,
Critter Barn**

1:30 P.M. Adjourn

6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Reception, Grand Hotel Porch

Presented by Warner Norcross + Judd LLP

Sunday, September 8

Moderator: John Tilt, Vita Plus Corporation, MABA 1st Vice Chair

Breakfast On Your Own – Main Dining Room (opens at 7:30 a.m.)

**7:30 A.M. MABA PAC Coffee
Pontiac Room, The Grand Hotel**

8:00 A.M. Registration - Grand Pavilion

8:15 A.M. Welcome

**8:20 A.M. Farmland Values and Economics
Matt Gunderson, Senior Vice President, Business
Growth & Strategic Relations, Farmers National
Company**

**8:45 A.M. Michigan Supreme Court Ruling on the Earned Sick
Time Act
Anne Steen, Attorney, Warner Norcross
+ Judd LLP**

**9:10 A.M. Emerging Industry Trends
Jim Byrum, Executive Director, Riveron**

**9:35 A.M. MSU Update
Dr. Matthew Daum, Interim Dean, MSU College
of Agriculture & Natural Resources**

**Dr. George Smith, Director, MSU
AgBioResearch**

Dr. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension

10:15 A.M. Adjourn



Dress Code: Prior to 6:30 p.m. resort casual or business attire is appropriate for all functions. After 6:30 p.m. The Grand Hotel Dress Code applies to all guests 13 years and older - dresses, skirts, blouses, dress sweaters and dress slacks for ladies, while gentlemen are required to wear a suit coat, necktie and dress pants. No denim or shorts.