



2026 REC Net National Conference Research Symposium [Call for Research Submissions](#)

Conference: November 14–17, 2026 | Research Symposium: November 15, 2026
Location: Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa, Galena, Illinois

Join colleagues from across the recreation, hospitality, tourism, and event planning fields to share applied and scholarly research that informs practice, policy, and community well-being.

Submission Details

- Abstract length: 1–2 pages
- Abstract deadline: August 1, 2026
- Final paper deadline: November 1, 2026
- Proposals are currently accepted on a rolling basis and are peer-reviewed upon receipt

Topic Areas

Submissions are invited on, but not limited to:

- Tourism, hospitality, events, sport, and leisure behavior
- Youth and family programs, community recreation, and inclusive programming
- Recreation and park management, administration, and finance
- Outdoor recreation, natural resources, and conservation
- Program evaluation, assessment, and evidence-informed practice
- Theoretical, conceptual, and exploratory studies that advance understanding in the recreation field

Presentation Format

- Oral presentations: 20-minute scholarship presentation with brief question and answer
- At least one author must be present (no virtual option)

Submission Instructions

- Submit abstracts as a Word or PDF attachment to the Conference Editor:
roodsc@gvsu.edu A. Scott Rood, Associate Professor, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, MI
- Include: title, author(s) and affiliation(s), contact information, and 3–5 keywords.

Conference Proceedings

Full papers from accepted proposals will be published in the annual [Proceedings of the Recreation Experience Community Network Research Symposium](#).

Conference Registration Options

All symposium presenters must register for the REC Net National Conference and be current REC Net members at the time of registration. Presenters may choose to attend the full conference or register for the Research Symposium day only.

A special one-day Symposium Rate of \$249 is available for Sunday, November 15, and includes access to the keynote session and lunch.

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