

# TIGHT LINES FOR TROOPS Sponsorship Commitment Form

## A few facts about Tight Lines for Troops.

- Helped over 3500 Veterans from more than 145 different Michigan communities enjoy a day of fishing.
- Donated over \$215,000 back to Michigan Veterans organizations.
- Continue to put 100% of funds raised back into the event.
- Federally recognized as a 501c(3) nonprofit organization .
- Over 50 Boat Captains donate their time and boats each year totaling over 580 boats to date. (Most come back every year.)
- Huge Manistee area community support with approximately 300 volunteers helping annually; totaling almost 3,900 volunteers to date, with approximately 13,000 volunteer hours to date.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Sponsorship Level:

- |  |                |   |          |
|--|----------------|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Veteran Sponsor   | \$250          | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Sponsor   | \$2,500  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Copper Sponsor    | \$500          | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Sponsor     | \$5,000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Sponsor    | \$1000         | <input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Sponsor | \$10,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Receipt Requested | Other \$ _____ |   |          |

Please make checks payable to: **Tight Lines for Troops** 501(c)(3) #45-4492599

Mail to: Tight Lines Sponsorship • P.O. Box 274 • Manistee, MI 49660

For more information about the Tight Lines for Troops Sponsorship Program or to participate in other opportunities to help, please contact:  
Bob Guenthardt at (231) 723-3282 • [renegade22@att.net](mailto:renegade22@att.net)

**FREE  
FOR VETS**



**May 15-16, 2026**

**Manistee, Michigan**

**ANNUAL**

# TIGHT LINES FOR TROOPS

## Fishing Tournament for Michigan Veterans

### TIGHT LINES FOR TROOPS MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to unite organizations, businesses, sponsors and communities to help provide a free fishing tournament open to all Michigan Veterans from all eras, wartime and peacetime. By bringing our Heroes together we endeavor to build and foster new relationships, share their experiences and enjoy fishing in the great outdoors of Michigan.

Our all-volunteer, not-for-profit efforts will improve the quality of life for many Veterans, reinforce patriotism, educate and bring awareness that we must continue to support and honor those who have defended our country and our freedoms.

## 2026 SPONSORSHIP FORM

Hosted by:



**Manistee Area  
Fishing Boats**

**Manistee Iron Works**

**CMS ENERGY**



## ABOUT TIGHT LINES FOR TROOPS

We are pleased to announce the 2026 Tight Lines for Troops Annual Fishing Tournament for Michigan Veterans! This year's event will be held on Friday, May 15th for Veteran registration and May 16th for the Fishing Tournament Veteran celebration. The event will again be located at the Iron Works Building in Manistee, MI. All activities will be held at this location including the registration and Friday mandatory meeting, as well as those which take place after a day of fishing on Saturday. The 2026 boat fleet consists of approximately 50 big lake fishing boats, several Manistee River boats, and several Lake Manistee fishing boats. We will also again offer the pier/shore fishing, Tippy Dam, Lake Manistee and River Boat fishing experiences for those that are interested.

This year, we are offering a "dinners only" selection for those Veterans that do not prefer to fish but would like to come join the 2-day event to enjoy the fellowship and comradery with other Veterans. In all, the Tight Lines Fishing Tournament will deliver a memorable experience for approximately 350 Michigan Veterans, most of whom have not had an opportunity to attend and participate in this outstanding event. Those who receive boarding priority are WWII and Korean War Veterans, POWs, Purple Heart recipients, then any Veteran of any branch of service and select active-duty service people.

Though the fishing tournament itself is limited to registered participants, the public is invited to join the Saturday "Welcome Back Celebration" as the boats return to Seng's Marina. The Riverwalk along the river channel will be lined with patriotic and appreciative fans, waving their flags to cheer and welcome the fishermen/fisherwomen back "home". Be a part of the celebration and join us on the Riverwalk for the Flag Welcome!

The success of this program is a result of the collective efforts and ongoing support of over 50 Boat Captains, a Multitude of sponsors and financial donors, and over 300 volunteers. Veterans pay no charter fees or entry fees. It is with great pleasure and honor that we all look forward to hosting the 2026 Tight Lines for Troops Fishing Tournament for Michigan Veterans on May 15th and 16th, 2026.

### Quotes from participants:

*"This is the Welcome Home I never received. After all these years, I cried because I didn't realize how much it meant to me. I was proud to take part."*

*"My heart almost burst when we came up the harbor seeing all those people waving flags and saluting the Veterans. Tears streamed down my face uncontrollably."*

*"My father has always wanted to fish the big lake but we could never afford to charter a boat. This was a great day for him and all the veterans...thank you from the bottom of my heart."*

## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Donations cover the expenses of the tournament participants based on need, including transportation and lodging, and event expenses. All donations are tax deductible.

*If you have a banner, contact us and we will gladly display it during the event.*

**VETERAN SPONSOR \$250**

**COPPER SPONSOR \$500**

**BRONZE SPONSOR \$1,000**

**SILVER SPONSOR \$2,500**

**GOLD SPONSOR \$5,000**

**PLATINUM SPONSOR \$10,000**

In kind donations are always welcome and appreciated.

### 2026 Beneficiaries

**MANISTEE COUNTY VETERANS ENDOWMENT FUND** - In honor of his father, who served in the Dutch Army during World War II, and in appreciation of American and Allied soldiers who liberated the Netherlands when he was a boy, Ted Arens and his wife, Pam, established the Manistee County Veterans Endowment Fund. The Fund supports the unmet needs of veterans and their families who reside in Manistee County, including Canadian and Allied soldiers with wartime service. It is administered through the Manistee County Foundation. [www.manisteefoundation.org](http://www.manisteefoundation.org)



**FISHER HOUSE, MICHIGAN** - Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military and veterans families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital. Fisher House in Michigan has 16 suites, with private mobility accessible bedrooms and baths. Families share common kitchen, laundry facilities, a warm dining room and an inviting living room. For information regarding a consult or reservation, please contact the staff at [VHAANNFisherHouse@va.gov](mailto:VHAANNFisherHouse@va.gov) or call 734.845.3000.



**OUTDOOR DRIVEN**

**OUTDOOR DRIVEN** - Our Mission: Outdoor Driven is dedicated to assisting our nation's Heroes by providing them an adventure that is aimed at lessening the impact of their everyday challenges. We are focused on being a support system as we strive to battle PTSD, one mind at a time.