

In 2024, the Kentucky Sheep and Fiber organization has continued its mission to promote the wool and fiber industry throughout the state. With a strong focus on supporting local producers, the organization continues to spearhead several key initiatives, including the ever-popular Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival, the dynamic Kentucky Fiber Trail, and the annual Bluegrass Yarn and Fiber Crawl hosted by the Fiber Trail.

2024 Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival

This year's Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival was a resounding success, drawing over 3,500 fiber enthusiasts to Lexington, our largest crowd since 2020. The festival provided a unique opportunity for attendees to connect with artisans and vendors, showcasing some of the finest wool, yarn, and fiber products the state has to offer. Visitors not only shopped for high-quality materials but also engaged in workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on activities, deepening their appreciation for the fiber arts.

This year, the Fleece Competition and Sale had its very own tent, which helped to bolster sales and create a unique, dedicated space for those looking to buy local wool and fiber. We will look to continue this in years to come as it drew special attention to the fleeces and brought more sales for our local fiber producers.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated volunteers, whose time and efforts made this event possible, and to the countless supporters who helped spread the word online. Without your enthusiasm and participation, the festival wouldn't be the flourishing community event it has become.

Looking ahead, preparations for the 2025 festival are already well underway, and we will be celebrating our 15th festival. If you're interested in joining the organizing committee, we're always looking for fresh perspectives and passionate individuals to help us grow! Vendor applications for the 2025 festival are now open—if you or someone you know would like to showcase their fiber products, please visit our website for more details.

The Kentucky Fiber Trail's Continued Success

The Kentucky Fiber Trail has seen an exciting year of growth in 2024. New members from across the state have joined the trail, enriching our community and expanding the opportunities for fiber lovers to explore and experience Kentucky's diverse fiber offerings.

A highlight of the year was the 3rd annual Bluegrass Yarn and Fiber Crawl, held in late July through early August. The event saw a fantastic turnout, with participants traveling across the state to visit local yarn shops, farms, and fiber studios. Participants collected passport stamps, which were exchanged for prizes and exclusive offers, making it a fun and engaging way to support local businesses while immersing themselves in the world of fiber.

As we look toward 2025, the Kentucky Fiber Trail is opening its renewal process for current members and is actively seeking new members to join. Membership offers a range of benefits, from increased exposure to participation in collaborative events like the Fiber Crawl. For more

information on how to become a member, visit our website and learn how you can contribute to the growing fiber community.

Stay Connected

To stay informed about all things related to Kentucky fiber, be sure to visit our website at www.kentuckysheepandfiber.com. There, you'll find the latest news, event updates, and information on how to get involved with our vibrant fiber community. Whether you're a seasoned artisan or just beginning your fiber journey, we welcome you to join us in celebrating Kentucky's rich fiber heritage.