

For Immediate Release

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Shepherds Bring Untamed Creativity to City Dwellers

12th Annual Shepherds Harvest Festival Leaps Into View. *November 15, 2008*

Minnesota's largest sheep and wool festival attracts 7,000 plus families and fiber lovers to the Washington County Fairgrounds on Mother's Day weekend, May 9th & 10th, 2009.

Set in rural Lake Elmo the festival creates a pastoral scene, just minutes from downtown Minneapolis or St. Paul, inviting people of all ages to enjoy the many breeds of sheep, rabbit, goat, llama and alpaca on display.

In addition to the great setting, there are over 90 juried vendors selling every type of fiber as well as handspun yarns, spinning wheels, pottery, cheese, lanolin and even vet supplies. There are classes for fiber artists for those considering a small flock of their own.

Live music, local authors, sheep experts, knitting designers and local chefs are some of the highlights, with linen-making and dog herding demonstrations the favorites that bring people back each year. There's even a charity spin-in that raises funds for Heifer International.

Shepherds Harvest offers the only fleece competition in the state as well as hosting felting, skein and photo competitions. Pairing with Llama Magic it offers a unique opportunity for families and fiber lovers to shop, learn and enjoy themselves in one fun-filled trip.

Festival hours are Saturday 9:00 – 5:00 and Sunday 10:00 – 4:00. With free admission and free parking you've got nothing to lose and everything to experience. Mark your calendars now and enjoy a day of fun, fiber and cultural transformation.

More details about the festival will continue to unfold in the next few months. Visit <http://www.shepherdsharvestfestival.org> for more info.

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