



Historic Deerfield
Opening Doorways To The Past.



Woolly Wonders

Meet and Learn About
HERITAGE BREED SHEEP
Wool & Textiles too!

Saturday & Sunday, May 2-3, 2026
10 a.m. – 4 p.m. both days

A celebration of rare, historic, and *adorable* heritage breed sheep, textiles, and wool-processing in New England.

This weekend in Historic Deerfield, you can meet heritage breeds of sheep and lambs and watch sheepdog herding, shearing, spinning, weaving, and other demonstrations. You can also try your hand at washing, carding, dyeing, and weaving wool and enjoy games, a scavenger hunt, and craft activities for all ages.

Woolly Wonders is included with General Admission: \$20 adults, \$5 youth (13-17), free for youth 12 and under (sponsored by Greenfield Savings Bank), Historic Deerfield members, and Deerfield/South Deerfield residents.





Daily schedule for Saturday & Sunday, May 3-4

Heritage Breed Sheep

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. / Big Tent

Meet shepherd Peter Cook and see 5 breeds of heritage sheep.

Sheepdog Herding

10:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. / Behind Flynt Center

Watch a sheepdog herd sheep with Barbara Eriksson.



Shearing

11:00 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. / Flynt Center Oval

Watch sheep being blade-sheared with Kathleen Markiewicz.



New This Year!

Face-painting and temporary tattoos at the Museum Store Pop-Up Tent.

Most activities below are from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on the Dwight House South Lawn

Washing Wool - Try it!

Wash dirty wool and learn how to pick bits of grass and sticks out of clean wool. Blow some bubbles!

Carding - Try it!

Learn how to card wool (untangling the fibers) to prepare it for spinning.

Spinning

Meet Nancy Bell and see her spin on a great wheel.



Yarn Dyeing - Try it!

Meet Michelle Parrish of Local Color Dyes and watch her dye yarns made with dyes made from natural materials like madder root. Try dyeing your own small piece of wool cloth with marigold dye!

Knitting

Meet Nancy Cook and see items that she knitted from heritage breed wool!

Knitting - Try it!

Learn to knit with an experienced guide to add a row or two to the community scarves we are knitting this weekend. All scarves will be donated to the Greenfield Family Center.

Crewel Embroidery

Meet Emily Stringham, owner of "At the Sign of the Golden Scissors" and see how she uses dyed woolen thread to embroider a special garment.

Thread-Covered Buttons

Meet Greg Morin who will show you how to cover buttons with wool thread and cloth.

Weaving - See it and Try it!

Hands-on for visitors! Meet Jen Roy and watch a tape loom demo. See a weaving demonstration. Try weaving on a four-shaft loom.

Drop Spindle Spinning - Try it!

Hands-on for visitors! Try your hand at spinning wool into yarn with a drop spindle.

Make & Take Crafts

Hands-on for visitors! Make a wooly sheep, a felted wool ball, or a "baa baa" sachet bag.

Finished Fabrics

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. / Flynt Center Tent

Hands-on for visitors! Handle and look at wool fabric.

Mystery Objects

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. / Flynt Center Tent

Hands-on for visitors! Play a fun guessing game. Do you know a niddy noddy from a teasel?

Sheep in the Study Gallery

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. / Flynt Center Second Floor

Scavenger hunt! Find sheep-related objects in our collections.



Guided House Tours

Wells-Thorn House: Tours at 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, 4

Barnard Tavern: Tours at 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, 4

Frary House: Tours at 10, 11, 12, 2, 3, 4 (Sunday only)

Williams House: Tours at 10, 11, 12, 2, 3, 4 (Sunday 10, 11 only)

Ashley House: Tours at 10, 11, 1, 2, 3, 4



Tour at Your Own Pace

The Flynt Center of Early New England Life: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

See three new exhibitions related to the conflict, clothing, art, and propaganda of the American Revolution!

Open-Hearth Cooking Demonstration: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Visitor Center at Hall Tavern

Visit with our hearth cook who is making an "election cake" from Amelia Simmons' *American Cookery*, 1796.

Sheldon House: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Visit the home of a farming family.

Wright House: 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1 - 4:30 p.m. (Sunday only)

View four centuries of American furniture.

Stebbins House: 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4:30 p.m. Saturday and 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. Sunday

See the restoration in progress!

Wilson Printing Office: 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. & 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Watch letterpress printing and take home a printed page featuring a special sheep!

At the Event Site: Enjoy delicious paninis at the **Caravan Kitchens Food Truck**.

The **Museum Store Pop Up Shop** will have popcorn, snacks, and cold drinks.

Food and Drink

Champney's Restaurant and Tavern

The Deerfield Inn will be offering their full spring lunch and dinner menu featuring local farm products. To-Go, Dine-In, Dine Outside options available.

Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dinner 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.

For reservations and to-go, call 413-774-5587



Museum Gift Shop & Bookstore features books, gifts, jewelry, snacks, and cold drinks. (10:30 a.m. - 5:00pm)

Wooly Wonders Seek and Find

1. Fill in the blanks as you visit the sheep and demonstrations!
2. Write your answers in the blank boxes.
3. When you have filled in all the blanks, visit the Museum Store pop-up tent and get a sticker!

Heritage Breed Sheep	How many breeds of sheep are in the Big Tent?	
Sheep Dog Herding	What is the name of the sheep dog?	
Shearing	What tool did Kathleen use to shear the sheep?	
Washing Wool	What did the wool feel like before you washed it?	
Carding Wool	On a scale of 1-10, how fun was it to card wool?	
Spinning Yarn	What is Nancy's spinning wheel called?	
Yarn Dyeing	What natural materials were used to make the dye bath?	
Knitting	What surprised you about the Nancy's demonstration?	
Crewel Embroidery	What is crewel embroidery? What did you like about it?	
Tape Weaving	Ask Jen what people used woven tape for long ago!	
Covered Buttons	What surprised you about this demo?	
4-Shaft Loom Weaving	How fun was it to weave on the loom?	
Make & Take Crafts	What craft did you make?	
Finished Fabrics	What fabric did you like the best?	
Mystery Objects	How many did you guess correctly?	
Sheep in the Study Gallery	Did the sheep in the gallery make any noise?	