

**Hardin County OSU Extension**

Agriculture and Natural Resources  
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August 20, 2019

Dear Sheep Producers and Friends,

We are planning to hold the 2019 Sheep Management Tour on the weekend of September 14-15, traveling to Ashland and Wayne Counties. During last year's tour, our group decided to take this year's trip a month earlier as some of us will be gone in October with the International Sheep and Agriculture tour of Argentina. Originally, we thought we might visit a sheep show during the Wayne County Fair, but it is held the previous weekend. The Ashland County Fair starts on Sunday of the chosen weekend, but the first sheep show isn't until Monday. Therefore, we decided to make our plans to the area without a visit to a county fair. Instead, we plan to visit Duane & Donna Scheibe at their new home in Ashland County.

We will gather at the Southend Family Restaurant in Findlay for breakfast at 7:30 am on Saturday, September 14 at 3050 South Main Street, Findlay. We will be meeting in their back room and ordering off the menu. The restaurant is located on the south edge of Findlay on State Route 68. After our group breakfast and short meeting, we will begin our trip to northeastern Ohio. The plan is to leave cars parked in the University of Findlay Animal Sciences parking lot south of the restaurant and then travel the rest of the tour by rental van and other vehicles.

The cost of the rental van will be approximately \$30.00 per person to cover the cost of the van and fuel. We will collect the \$30.00 at our breakfast meeting to cover this expense. This, of course is dependent on the number of people riding and sharing the cost of the van. Using a van will hopefully eliminate the need for driving and parking concerns. As in the past, participants will be responsible for their own hotel room and meals. We will have disposable plastic shoe covers for bio-security on the farms that we visit.

Overnight lodging will be at the Comfort Suites in Wooster. The address of the hotel is 965 Dover Road, Wooster, OH 44691. The hotel reservation phone number is (330) 439-0190. Refer to the Hardin County Sheep Improvement Association group rate or you can also access our block of rooms at <https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/GE45P2>. The room rate is \$92.00 plus tax for our block of 10 rooms. Enjoy great amenities like complimentary WiFi access, the indoor heated pool, fitness center, and hot breakfast included. The hotel is providing us with free use of their meeting room for our optional Sunday morning devotional and group meeting.

Hopefully most of you have already marked the date on your calendar. Make sure you call the hotel and let them know you are with the Hardin County Sheep Improvement Association when you book your reservation if you did not use the online link. They are holding a block of rooms for our group until September 1. Those interested in going on this Hardin County OSU Extension Sheep Tour also need to call Madelyn Lowery at (419) 673-3291 so that we know how many vehicles we will need. I will be sending out a complete itinerary with our sheep farm stops and schedule after you contact Madelyn. We are still organizing some of the stops but wanted to get the letter in the mail. So far we have farm stops at Mike Stitzlein Club Lambs, Cheryl Gordon Jacob sheep farm, and hopefully the OARDC sheep research farm. We are also considering the Buckeye Agricultural Museum in Wooster along with a couple other sheep farms.

Sincerely,

*Mark A. Badertscher*

Extension Educator  
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