

# The Youth Conservationist Program

## 2026 Application



### Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age : \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Breed Preference

Please list up to five breeds you would like to be considered for or if you would like to be considered for all available breeds.

---

---

---

### Program Requirements

If you are selected as a recipient, you must agree to the following conditions:

- You must exhibit your ewe a minimum of two times in 2026, preferably one event being your state fair.
- You must breed your ewe to a registered ram of the same breed in the fall of 2026.
- You must utilize your ewe's fleece, either by processing it yourself or selling it to another crafter.
- You must prepare a report with pictures for the donor, to be displayed at the 2027 Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival.

- You must promote the Youth Conservationist Program and your breed at least once, whether through an article in your local paper or through a breed association newsletter.
- You must be present at the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival on Sunday, May 3rd 2026 to receive your ewe.

### **Applicant Questions**

Do you already own other sheep? If not, do you understand that sheep are flock animals and you must make arrangements for a companion for your ewe?

---

Where will you house your sheep?

---

What events do you plan to exhibit your ewe at?

---

Are you enrolled in 4-H, FFA, or another agricultural youth program?

---

What experience do you have with owning sheep and/or livestock?

---

---

---

---

---

Why are heritage breeds important?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

What are the goals of your flock?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

What does responsible shepherding look like to you?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

What do you hope to learn from raising sheep?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

What else should we know about you?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Please send completed application with a letter of recommendation to [ycpsheep@gmail.com](mailto:ycpsheep@gmail.com) by April 1st, 2026.

---

Applicant Signature

---

Parent/Guardian Signature