

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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In an effort to make people aware and inform them Mayor Jim Reardon announced today that over the next two weekends there will be two major events taking place in the Village of Rhinebeck. On Sunday October 13th the third annual Fall Foliage half marathon and 5K will be held. Reardon states "this event has continued to grow and event promoter Running Away has done a fantastic job working with us to be sure this event runs as smoothly as possible. This year we are expecting up to 1,000 runners to participate which is about 30% higher than the first edition. The race will stage at the Dutchess County Fairgrounds and wind its' way through the Village, down to Rhinecliff, south on Morton Rd and South Mill Rd and then return to the Fairgrounds".

The following weekend October 19-20 the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival returns to the Dutchess County Fairgrounds. Reardon states this event has grown tremendously over the years and is recognized as one of the top festivals in the country. This event is geared toward families and has programs for children, cooking demonstrations, wool and knitting supplies and activities, as well as sheep competitions and sales. Attendance is expected to be in the forty to fifty thousand people range".

Reardon continues "it is our desire to inform people that due to these two events that they should expect traffic delays. The Half Marathon and 5 K will be crossing Route 9 and Route 308 and will travel along the sides of the roads on the course. Road closures and traffic delays should be anticipated and alternate routes considered and used. Also we urge people to exercise caution if it is necessary to travel the race route as safety is our number one concern. Regarding the Sheep and Wool Festival this event has become the second largest event held at the Fairgrounds exceeded only by the Dutchess County Fair. Due to the fact that the hours of operation are significantly shorter than the Fair those attending and leaving do so in a very small window which in turn leads to major traffic flow. The Fairgrounds is served by two lane roads. There will be traffic delays and that should be anticipated and planned for".

In closing Reardon states "We urge everyone to plan ahead if they need to be somewhere on a tight schedule. Allow extra time or avoid the Route 9 corridor as there will be congestion, delays and closures. We thank everyone in advance for their cooperation".