



2024 PRESS RELEASE - FRYEBURG FAIR

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Fryeburg Fair, established in 1851, will host its 174th annual eight-day Fair from **Sunday, September 29 thru Sunday, October 6th, 2024**.

Tickets are \$15/day and include the Night Show. Children under 12 are always free. Tuesday, October 1st is Senior Citizen's Day and fairgoers 65 & over are free. Daily tickets can be pre-purchased online or at the gate. Weekly passes (all 8 days) are \$100 and must be purchased in person at the Fair. Gates are open daily at 7 am and close at 10 pm.

The 2024 Fryeburg Fair opens at 7 am on **Sunday, September 29** and highlights include the Firemen's Muster, Sheepdog Trials, the first of four Pig Scrambles, Ox and Draft Horse Pulling, the Open Youth Horse Show, Flower, Poultry, Dairy Goat, Fleece, Fiber and Sheep Shows, Wreathmaking, Baking Contests, and the very popular Tractor & Big Rig Pull!

Our **Livestock Shows** happen every day with multiple breeds of cows, horses, oxen, sheep, goats, swine, rabbits and poultry. Refer to our program for times & locations. Stacy McConkey, from the Fair's Pulling Ring says, "This year we'll host a very special **Horse Pull** (Saturday, October 4th). We'll have eight elite teams – Canada vs. USA! Four of the teams are from the Annapolis Valley Exhibition in Lawrencetown, Nova Scotia, vs. four from Fryeburg Fair's winners. They all will compete in an elimination contest. On Thursday, October 3rd we'll have a heavyweight horse and oxen combination class where the top four teams of horses and oxen compete together to see which paired duo can pull the load the furthest. And on the last Sunday we have two percentage classes - oxen Canadian style elimination and horse distance style! Don't forget our youth exhibitors on Friday morning and a spectacular variety of horse and ox pulling all week!"

Woodsmen's Field Day is on **Monday, September 30th** starts at 9 am and runs all day. It is the largest spectator woodsmen's event in North America. Contestants come from all over the U.S. and Canada to compete in 30 woods skills events such as crosscut, axe throwing, standing block chop, bow sawing, chainsawing events and tree felling.

Monday also features the **Women's Skillet Throw** starting at noon followed by the **Men's Anvil Toss**. Both events are open to members of the public with good throwing arms! Sign up on Monday by 10:30 a.m. at the Livestock Office!

We welcome everyone to be part of Fryeburg Fair by entering your best garden vegetables, baked goods, quilts, canned/jarred/preserved foods, photographs, artwork, oil paintings, plants, floral arrangements, crocheting, sewing (and so much more!) for judging at our **Agricultural Exhibition Center**. Ann Michele Ames, Head of the Center, says, "This year, in conjunction with the Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs, we will spotlight local farmers in our 'Meet the Farmer' demonstration area. Come enjoy our incredible Grange and Farm displays, and see who takes the ribbons in our hundreds of categories." Easy online entry by August 15th at www.fryeburgfair.org. Five competitive Baking Contests take place during the Fair – enter by 12:45 day of event. Find Baking Contest categories and rules at www.fryeburgfair.org.

Our **Farm Museum** is the best place to experience our Maine history of agriculture and farming. Much appreciation goes to the many donors over the years that have contributed to our enormous collection. Curator Erlon Jones says, "Our team

of demonstrators will be providing an exciting array of old-time demonstrations for all ages and interests. This year will feature some historic exhibits on lighting and electricity generation, which should prove illuminating.... Additionally, there will be popular food demonstrations, such as apple cider, woodstove cooking, and homemade ice cream.”

According to our online Survey 2024, everyone’s a **Foodie** at Fryeburg Fair. The options are amazing - making final eating decisions a competition in itself! The key to no weight gain – keep walking! When you want to rest we have seating everywhere. Try our two enormous Rustic Taps beer tents with excellent choices and wood-fired pizza.

2024 will be our second year selling **Fryeburg Fair Cheddar Cheese**. With thanks to the 2023 cows & farmers that provided the milk to Pineland Farms. It’s been aging all year at Pineland, and our sharp cheddar will be for sale for \$8 per 8-ounce block and can be purchased at the Agricultural Exhibition Center. All proceeds will benefit agricultural education at Fryeburg Fair. If you bought this cheddar last year, you know how great it is!

Harness Racing is back to six days! Tuesday thru Saturday at 1:30 pm and Sunday at noon.

Our **Mechanical Pulls** start Sunday, September 29 at 4 pm with the **Tractor & Big Rig Pull**. On Tuesday tractor pulls at the Swine & Goat Grandstand start at 9 am and include lawn and garden size up to full-size tractors. Tuesday is also **Antique Tractor Show Day** and they are displayed on the north side of the Swine & Goat Grandstand. The **4x4 Truck Pull** is on the last Sunday, October 7th starting at 3:30 pm.

Dreamland Amusements promises incredible rides again! Ride bracelets are \$35 on Friday & Saturday and \$30 on all other days. Follow our Facebook page for pre-Fair ride bracelet flash sales. Dreamland offers great savings on these if you buy in advance. Dreamland tickets can be purchased online and credit cards are always accepted on site. Go to their website www.dreamlandamusements.com for ride & ticket info.

Our 2024 Night Show roster brings you **Bad Habit** (Maine’s very own rock-Monday), **Josh Turner** (nationally known-Country), **Motown & More** (A Tribute to Soul Legends-Wednesday), **The Ultimate Garth Brooks Tribute** (with Shawn Gerhard-Thursday), **Tyler Reese Tritt** (yes, the daughter of Travis Tritt-Country-Friday, followed by our annual fireworks show) and **The Mallett Brothers Band** (Maine’s Rock & Country Legends-Saturday). All Night Shows start at 8 pm at the Grandstand and are included in our daily ticket price of \$15.

The Grand Parade on **Saturday, October 6th** begins at 10 am. Grab your coffee and breakfast and don’t miss this narrated showcase of the Fair’s best livestock, floats, bands, businesses and antique cars.

Camping at Fryeburg, Maine’s largest fair, provides the shortest commute! We have 3,000 campsites and one with your name on it. For reservations, call 207-935-2912 or email camping@fryeburgfair.org.

Getting here & traffic – Our rural roads require everyone’s compliant participation. Traffic leaving from the Swan’s Falls Gate (south of the Main Gate) must turn South when exiting. North of the Main Gate must turn North when leaving. Our employees will direct you. Always best to arrive early and stay late. Plenty of seating and resting spots at the Fair. Weekends and perfect fall weather days are busiest. Adjust your plans accordingly. The good news – our ticket lines move fast and even faster if you buy them online!

A couple of important safety notes for fairgoers. As always, **no weapons** are allowed on Fryeburg Fairgrounds. This year the fair will have metal detectors in use at entrance gates. And. **No dogs or pets** are allowed at Fryeburg Fair.

Our full program is available on our social pages, at www.fryeburgfair.org, and printed copies are on site.

Big news for 2025 – Fryeburg Fair moves to nine full days! Saturday, September 27 thru Sunday, October 5, 2025!

Fryeburg Fair. A family tradition. Love it as a child and come back with your own children and grandchildren. We’ll be waiting for you.