



Charitable Research Reserve

Spring 2017 Land Management Volunteer Opportunities

The **rare Charitable Research Reserve** is a 900+ acre nature reserve located in Cambridge Ontario. Proudly founded on the principles of Conservation, Research, and Education, **rare's** mission is to preserve its lands intact and in perpetuity.

Every year, **rare** takes on new ecological restoration initiatives in order to enhance and rehabilitate the unique native habitats of this urban land trust. Together with volunteer and community support, the **rare Charitable Research Reserve** is happy to provide meaningful opportunities for environmental education and stewardship through volunteer restoration activities.



Photo: Devon Crowell

If you are interested in taking part in the exciting restoration projects at **rare** or would like more information please contact:

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See reverse for details

Earth Day Riparian Planting

Bauman Creek is one of three cold water creeks at **rare**. Recently, **rare** restored the creek by removing a perched culvert and restoring approximately 80 m of meandering channel with a series of pools and riffles. The channel is now reconnected with the Grand River and once the banks have been planted will provide excellent cold water fish habitat and breeding areas.

Volunteer days will focus on planting several species of trees and shrubs along the cold water creek to help stabilize the banks and create shade which will maintain the cold water temperature and provide nutrients through the input of organic matter such as leaf litter. This is a great opportunity for those looking to gain experience in ecological restoration and tree planting.

Dates:

Saturday, April 22
10:00AM-2:00PM

Forest Plantation Naturalization

The Thompson Tract plantation was planted in the 1980s, mostly with Black Walnut and White Pine. Plantations are rows of even-aged habitats which can compromise habitat biodiversity and are more susceptible to disease. As part of a Managed Forest Plan, the plantations are being restored to a naturalized forest habitat which includes a mix of native tree species and understory plants.

Thinning the plantation has opened up gaps in the canopy to facilitate understory growth. As a follow-up to the thinning, volunteer days will focus on increasing biodiversity by transplanting native trees and shrubs from the adjacent Indian Woods where there is a surplus of healthy saplings. This is a great opportunity for those looking to gain experience in ecological restoration and tree planting.

Dates:

Thursday, April 27
Thursday, May 5
Wednesday, May 10
Thursday, May 18

Each volunteer day will have a morning (9:30AM-12:30PM) and afternoon (1:30PM-4:30PM) session. Volunteers are welcome to sign up for one or both sessions.

Hogsback Forest Buffer Enhancement

The forest buffer enhancement of this highly biodiverse old-growth forest began in 2014 with the removal of invasive species and planting of native species. Invasive species present in the area include Buckthorn, Honeysuckle, and Garden Escapes. As a follow-up treatment to the restoration work already conducted, volunteer days will be focused on pulling buckthorn seedlings and other invasive species.

Identification of invasive species training will be provided on site as well as instruction on proper removal techniques. This is a great opportunity for those looking to gain in field experience with ecological restoration and become more familiar with flora of southern Ontario.

Dates:

Friday, May 26
Wednesday, May 31
Thursday, June 8
Friday, June 16

Each volunteer day will have a morning (9:30AM-12:30PM) and afternoon (1:30PM-4:30PM) session. Volunteers are welcome to sign up for one or both sessions.