



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

REGISTRATION

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Absolutely everyone can take part in this family-friendly event. Families, individuals, children, students, corporate groups, and more!

HOW MUCH IS THE REGISTRATION FEE, AND WHAT DOES IT COVER?

The early bird registration fee is \$20 per participant if you register before August 1st, and \$25 per participant if you register later (including on event day). Children 12 and under are FREE. New this year – you can choose to register and have your registration fee waived, but you must commit to fundraising a minimum of \$50 to participant in this case. Your registration covers:

- Access to the 5K walk or run course
- **Free** food and drinks
- Chance to win exciting **prizes**
- Access to interpretive educational stations
- **Live music** and family fun activities
- **Free** shuttle bus from end of route back to the beginning
- Opportunity to help **Turn the Map Green** and support conservation in Waterloo Region and Wellington County

HOW MUCH DO I NEED TO RAISE IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE?

If you pay the registration fee, there is no minimum; however, this is a fundraiser to support our Turn the Map Green campaign. We do encourage our participants to set goals. If you choose to have your registration fee waived, you must raise a minimum of \$50. Remember the more money you raise, the better chance you have to win prizes!

WHO SHOULD REGISTER AND WHEN?

Everyone who is attending must register in advance through our online registration system, or register on the day of at one of the sign in desks. Registering provides you with an easy platform to manage your donations; it also gives your friends and family the opportunity to easily sponsor you.

SHOULD I START A TEAM OR JOIN AS AN INDIVIDUAL?

You can do either! It's a lot of fun to walk as a team, and typically, teams have greater fundraising success when they walk as a family, school, corporate team, or friends. Don't worry though, many people join as an individual.

IS THERE A MAX NUMBER OF WALKERS/RUNNERS WHO CAN JOIN A TEAM?

No. A team can be any size - the more the merrier and the more members participating, the greater the impact...and fun!

IS THIS A SANCTIONED 5K RACE?

This is a fun-run and as such is NOT sanctioned by Athletics Canada.

It is important to remember that the race isn't about the time you finish in - it is about having fun in nature, everyone participating and raising money towards a common goal: Turning the Map Green.

DONATIONS

HOW CAN DONORS SPONSOR ME OR MY TEAM?

There are a number of ways!

Donate online: every walker/runner/team creates a personal online fundraising page at the time of registration. Fundraising online is simple, secure and safe, and donations from your donors will appear immediately on your personal/team page so you can track your success. You can also customize this page with a photo and special message. Donations made online will receive a tax receipt via email.

Offline: You may also receive donations from family and friends in the form of cash or cheque. Please be sure to record these donations and the donor's complete address on your pledge form. These donations are to be turned in on event day at the sign-in area along with a hard copy of your pledge form.

Please note that in accordance with Canada Revenue Agency, tax receipts can only be issued if a full address is provided. If you are collecting donations offline, don't forget to jot down the donors full mailing address.

WHERE DO I GET DONATION PLEDGE FORMS?

Donation pledge forms can be downloaded from the **rare** website (raresites.org) under Things to Do, **Walk & Run for rare**. Alternatively, you can stop by our administrative building at Lamb's Inn to pick one up at the front desk. All offline donations must be filled out, regardless of the amount. This is the best way to ensure that each donation is applied correctly to your fundraising total and so donors who give \$20 or more can be issued their official tax receipt.

CAN I CONTINUE TO COLLECT DONATIONS AFTER THE EVENT?

Absolutely! The event site will remain open until the end of October, so your online fundraising can continue long after the event is over. Fundraising after the event is a great way to continue to build your team spirit and continue to raise awareness about **rare** and Turn the Map Green.

ARE DONATIONS TAX DEDUCTIBLE?

Yes. Donations of \$20 or more will be issued a charitable tax receipt, and donors should allow for 6-10 weeks after the event to receive it. Donations made online will receive an automatic email receipt immediately following the credit card transaction.

EVENT DAY

WHAT HAPPENS IN CASE OF RAIN?

The **Walk & Run for rare** will take place rain or shine – unless Environment Canada advises not to go outdoors - so don't forget to prepare for the weather!

HOW LONG IS THE WALK & RUN?

The route is 5k long – it takes the average walker an hour. It will take the average runner 30 minutes.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING ON EVENT DAY?

You should bring:

- Comfy shoes for walking or running
- Appropriate clothing for the weather – a hat, sunscreen, rain jacket
- A refillable water bottle
- Pledge forms with cash and cheque donations

WILL THERE BE REFRESHMENTS AT THE EVENT?

Light refreshments will be available before the **Walk & Run for rare** begins, and a complimentary lunch will be provided afterwards. There will also be a water station, so we encourage you to bring a refillable water bottle.

HOW DO I GET BACK TO RIVERBLUFFS PARK?

There will a shuttle service leaving periodically from our **rare** ECO Centre to Riverbluffs Park, starting at approximately 11:00 a.m. to approximately 1:00 p.m. Please note that if you are bringing your pet, they will not be allowed on the shuttle bus. Many of our walkers do choose to walk back to Riverbluffs Park along the Grand Trunk Trail.

ARE PETS ALLOWED?

We love our four-legged family members as much as you love yours, however, because of the fragile eco-system we work so hard to preserve **rare** prohibits dogs on certain trails and requires they remain on leash on others. If you are going to bring your pet please note that they must

stay on the main Grand Trunk trail path (they will not be allowed to take the side trails with the interpretive stops); they must stay on a leash at all times; you must clean up after them; they are not allowed inside the **rare** ECO centre buildings; and they will not be permitted to take the shuttle bus back to the starting point. We will have water bowls available at the end point for our furry friends to rehydrate!

ARE STROLLERS AND WHEELCHAIRS ALLOWED?

Of course they are! However, the side trails are not suited for strollers or wheelchairs and for safety reasons they will need to stick to the main Grand Trunk trail.

ARE BIKES, ROLLERBLADES, OR SKATEBOARDS ALLOWED?

With apologies, but for everyone's safety, we cannot allow any of these on the **Walk & Run for rare**.

ARE THERE WASHROOMS AVAILABLE?

Washrooms will be provided at the start and finish of the race.

WHERE DO I PARK?

There is parking available at Riverbluffs Park, however, it fills up quickly, and in the instance that this parking lot is full please refer to the [Public Parking in Galt City Center link](#).

FUNDING REWARDS

ARE THERE REWARDS FOR FUNDRAISING?

There will be fundraising door prizes! All registered participants will earn one chance to win just by registering. Every \$50 raised will earn you another chance to win. So, if you raise \$100 you will get three chances to win a fundraising door prize, \$150 is four chances, \$200 is five and so on.

Didn't answer your question? Still need more information? Get in touch with Laura at 519-650-9336 x 126, or laura.klein@raresites.org and she'll be happy to help.