# Projects Overview Page

## Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve

### A University of Minnesota biological field station set aside for research, conservation, education and community engagement.

# About Page

## Overview material

### [can we change Audience to ‘K-12 teachers and students; general public’?]

## Intro

### Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve is a University of Minnesota biological field station with many ecosystems and species found throughout the forests and grasslands of North America. Faculty, staff and students who work at Cedar Creek are dedicated to finding sustainable solutions to the world’s environmental challenges, using the tools of research, conservation, education and community engagement.

### Although Cedar Creek is best known for its academic research, there are many opportunities for community members to participate in activities onsite, including data collection and exploration. Volunteers on citizen science projects like our wildlife tracking survey have used iNaturalist for data collection and recording since 2016. These observations, along with incidental observations submitted by hikers, birdwatchers, staff, students and scientists, form the basis of this data exploration tool. We hope you enjoy exploring some of the animals and plants of the reserve, along with some basic environmental and climate data!

### *Disclaimer: the data displayed here is updated periodically throughout the year but it is not live. Observations you submit may not be available on this interface for several months.*

## Project Questions

### What species of plants, animals and fungi are observed at Cedar Creek?

### Are different species present in different seasons?

### Which habitat types have the most or the fewest species?

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# Species Page

## Why are there so many pictures of sand and snow, and so few pictures of animals or plants?

### Much of our iNaturalist data comes from volunteers on our wildlife tracking project, the Cedar Creek Wildlife Survey. On this project, community members and trained wildlife trackers walk the reserve’s internal roads in small groups and identify the species that they see through footprints, trails, scat and other things animals leave behind. These things are much easier to see and study than the live wild animals, which are often skittish and afraid of humans!

### As we grow our iNaturalist user community, we will continue to supplement these track and sign photos with additional photos of live animals, live plants and other living organisms. You can help with this effort by documenting what *you* see on your next visit to Cedar Creek!52