The ***rare* Charitable Research Reserve** is a community-based urban land trust and environmental institute that protects over 1,200 acres of highly sensitive lands across eight properties in Waterloo Region and Wellington County. The organization manages over 14 kilometres of trails free and open for the public. We seek to make the world a more sustainable place. We believe we can achieve this by acknowledging that people are a part of the environment. By working together, we can protect our natural spaces for our enjoyment and well-being, today and into the future. Visit us at [www.raresites.org](http://www.raresites.org) for more information.

Research tour: The lands at ***rare*** and their proximity to urban development make them important sites for conducting ecological monitoring. Learn about our long-term monitoring programs at ***rare*** which include: salamander, bird, butterfly, lichen, forest health, soil decay, and benthic invertebrate monitoring.

Springbank Farm tour: With 110 community garden plots, dedicated space for an education and demonstration garden and a food bank garden, **rare’s** Springbank Community Gardens is one of the largest in Waterloo Region. Since inception, **rare** has worked to provide a space for those who like being outdoors, are interested in growing their own fresh organic produce and who enjoy helping to create a sense of belonging in a bustling, diverse, multi-generational community that shares knowledge!

A collage of people working in a field

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