



Are you ready for a RARE experience?

Consider spending a year serving rural Oregon with the Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) program.



Here is just a sample of what you could be doing in the RARE program next year. You could:

- Work with a small city to develop its downtown businesses
- Work with a regional non-profit to strengthen local food systems through strengthening a local farmer's market and organizing a local foods campaign
- Work with a watershed council to develop education and outreach programs on water quality
- Work with a regional community development corporation to support entrepreneurs and provide direct services to clients
- Learn and use GIS skills to help a small city address issues of rapid development
- Work statewide to provide technical assistance and support to leaders in small rural towns and cities
- And much more....

The Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) Program at the University of Oregon is now accepting applications for 2009-2010 placements. For a mid-September placement the **application deadline is May 15, 2009.**

RARE's mission is to increase the capacity of Oregon's rural communities in order to improve their economic, social and environmental conditions. Participants assist rural Oregon in the development and implementation of projects relating to community and economic development, watershed and natural resource planning, policy coordination, and delivery of social services. RARE participants gain valuable professional experience while making a significant difference in Oregon's rural communities.

"I've gained a deeper respect for those committed to a lifetime of service and community assistance... [and] a better understanding of myself and what truly makes me happy." (RARE alumnus)

Gain experience in many of the following areas:

- Leadership
- Project management
- Facilitation
- Grant writing
- Time management
- Volunteer management
- Small government operations
- Non-profit organization operations
- Citizen involvement
- Land use planning methods
- Education and outreach
- Technical writing
- Working with the media
- Computer use

Benefits of RARE program include:

- Monthly living allowance of \$1,500
- Medical Insurance
- Educational award of \$4,725
- Nine graduate credits for the University of Oregon's Community and Regional Planning master's degree
- And RARE alums may be eligible for in-state tuition at any state-run Oregon university

RARE, in operation for 15 years, has placed more than 350 participants in rural communities throughout Oregon. RARE participants commit to completing 1,700 hours of service over 11 months, are required to be either U.S. citizens or permanent U.S. residents, and have an undergraduate degree. For more information and an application packet, visit our website at <http://rare.uoregon.edu>.