



RARE Resources Overview

As a RARE Participant you have access to many resources. We understand that when you are working in your individual communities, it can be difficult to determine what resources you need, much less where to find them. This overview will help you to establish a starting point to identify the variety of resources available to you. Please note this is not an exhaustive list – there's a lot more out there, this is just a start!

RARE Website-Program Resources Page

The RARE Website includes a number of webpages dedicated to providing you and your host community access to resources. <https://rare.uoregon.edu/program-resources/>

- Included are:
 - Access to handouts, forms, presentations, etc. utilized throughout the course of your service year.
 - Links to websites relevant to the work you are engaged in.
 - An online calendar with important dates to remember.

University of Oregon Libraries

Each of you has been assigned a UO ID number that you will use to retrieve resources from the UO Library system. <http://library.uoregon.edu/>

- Onsite and offsite access to books, journals, **databases**, movies, etc. (**VPN required for offsite access to online journals, databases, etc.**)
- Utilize Worldcat (Summit) to access books not found within the University of Oregon Library System.
 - *If you need an item that can't be supplied by the UO it may be available through Summit. Summit is a service used to request items from other libraries who are members of the Orbis Cascade Alliance Consortium. Summit libraries lend print items and some audio/visual materials to each other. Please use Summit for requesting materials before using Interlibrary Loan: staff will cancel ILL requests for items available at the UO or through Summit.* <http://library.uoregon.edu/borrowing/summit.html>
- Distance Education Borrowing Services to have books, journals, etc. sent to your local library. <http://library.uoregon.edu/distanceeducation/index.html>
- Find the best library databases for your research. Use the A-Z list on the UO Libraries homepage to see the full list of databases available to you. If you know the name of the database, use the Subjects dropdown menu to find databases in a specific subject area. <http://researchguides.uoregon.edu/az.php>
- Scholars' Bank is the open access repository for the intellectual work of faculty, students and staff at the University of Oregon and partner institution collections. **Visit the Local and Regional Documents Archive to find planning documents from over 200 Oregon cities.** This repository is a community dedicated to the digital planning documents of Oregon's municipalities: comprehensive plans, development codes, transportation system plans, park & recreation plans, natural hazard mitigation plans, etc. Documents added daily (although

Scholars' Bank is often behind in several areas). Browse by city or by category, or search the full texts of the full set of documents in pdf format.

<https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/>

University of Oregon Software

With your UO account you have access to an array of software that will be of use to many of you throughout the service year. <https://it.uoregon.edu/services/software>

- Access to most campus resources, such as the library's databases and electronic journals, require verification that you are a student, faculty or staff at the University of Oregon before you are allowed to search or read the full text of an article. **The easiest way to provide this verification is to use the campus VPN (virtual private network) service.** <https://it.uoregon.edu/vpn/anyconnect>
- A complete list of the software available to various groups at the university. Since each software title has its own licensing terms, you will need to click on a title to learn more. **VPN is required to access all software on your home or work computer.** <https://it.uoregon.edu/software/list>

Examples of software available to you:

- Microsoft Office 365
- ESRI GIS: ArcGIS Desktop
- AutoCAD for Students
- Qualtrics
- SAS
- SPSS

Websites to Bookmark

Oregon Explorer – A Natural Resources Digital Library

- <http://oregonexplorer.info/>
- Through a series of geographic, data and topic-based web portals, Oregon Explorer helps users:
 - Learn about natural resources issues in Oregon and the West
 - Quickly find, retrieve, integrate and synthesize well-organized information
 - Access maps, charts, tables, data collections, photos, videos, reports and publications in highly interactive and visually engaging formats
 - Develop customized data products and tools to support informed decision-making
 - Obtain place-based demographic data
 - Share their information with others, which will create shared understanding about Oregon's natural resource and environmental issues, problems and opportunities and build community networks

Oregon explorer is a stellar resource for your Treasure Hunt Assignment and other data gathering related tasks.

Rural Development Initiatives (RDI)

- <http://www.rdiinc.org/>
- RDI develops leaders, strengthens organizations and activates collaborative networks to enhance economic vitality in rural communities.

- Leadership Development
- Resources Page
- Announcements and Request

The Ford Family Foundation (TFFF)

- <http://www.tfff.org/>
- The Ford Family Foundation serves the people and the communities of Oregon and Siskiyou County (California) through their successful citizens and programs.
- **Grant Programs – A great place to start when writing your first grant!**
 - Make grants to public charities that predominantly benefit small communities in rural Oregon and Siskiyou County, California. <http://www.tfff.org/how-we-work/grants/current-funding-opportunities>
 - Technical Assistance Grant Program - Technical assistance grants are provided to assist an organization or community in their efforts to develop leadership expertise, engage in planning efforts, or advance collaborations.
 - Good Neighbor Grants - Provide small grants to organizations in response to unexpected needs. These grants are highly competitive and limited.
 - Community Building Spaces Grant - Encourage civic participation, community collaboration and other ways of bringing residents together for the well-being of the community. Grants support the development of physical places that are open to the public and have multiple uses.
- **Institute for Community Building**
 - Helps rural citizens in Oregon and Siskiyou County, California, create vital communities through training, small grants, and resources. <http://www.tfff.org/what-we-do/vital-rural-communities/ford-institute-community-building>
- **Free Book Program**
 - Get the tools you need to help make a difference in your community with Select Books from the Ford Institute for Community Building. This inventory of carefully chosen books and resources provides practical approaches to community building and leadership. We provide these resources at NO CHARGE. Keep them, share them, give them away. The only requirement: Provide feedback. <http://www.tfff.org/select-books>
- **Oregon By Numbers – New for 2018**
 - A new report, *Oregon by the Numbers 2018*, pulls together a suite of community measures and displays them in an easy-to-digest format that includes charts and infographics. It features compact county portraits for all 36 Oregon counties as well as corresponding measure profiles, with rankings whenever possible. It targets decision makers including business and educational leaders, local and state government officials, nonprofit professionals, and engaged residents. Any interested citizen should find it useful. <http://www.tfff.org/sites/default/files/OregonByTheNumbers2018.pdf>

Oregon State Extension Services

- <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/>
- OSU Extension faculty work with business people, growers, foresters, youth, and community leaders. They see first-hand what's working, and what's not working, in Oregon communities. Extension educators consult with scientists at Oregon State University, where they focus their research on the real issues important to real people. Results from that research circle back to the community through Extension programs. Knowledge grows from this cycle of reaching out and engaging the people who use it.

- “How To” Communities:
 - Environment
 - Trees and Woodland
 - Gardening
 - Food Preservation
 - Food and Nutrition
 - Family and Youth
 - Health and Wellness
- Publications Catalogue
 - The Catalog is *the* source for current, peer-reviewed, research-based learning materials published by OSU Extension. It is an active and growing resource, with learning materials in a variety of media for use in a variety of outreach and engagement activities and programs. <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/>
- **Local Office = Local Resource**

AmeriCorps Alums

- <http://www.americorpsalums.org/>
- National network convening the alumni of all AmeriCorps national service programs. Mission to foster and grow the vibrant network of AmeriCorps alumni who represent the leadership pipeline for the 21st century. Registration is free and comes with many benefits.
- Member Services:
 - Connect with hundreds of thousands of alumni like you—on the ground and online. 80 chapters and an active community on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.
 - AmeriCorps Alums offers a monthly career newsletter, a Career Center and Coach, professional development webinars, virtual resume reviews, and more.
 - Virtual Grad School Fair attract schools that value your national service experience.
 - Take advantage of free tax returns and other member discounts and benefits from national partners. Professional Development
 - Monthly Webinars
 - Career Coaching
 - Networking
- **Resume Development**
- Career Center
- **Information on Education Award**

League of Oregon Cities (LOC)

- <http://www.orcities.org/>
- The League of Oregon Cities is the go-to place for and about cities as a dynamic resource hub for advocacy, education and best practices.
- Information and Research
 - City Handbook
 - **A-Z Index – Online repository including sample ordinances, policies, guides, reports, etc.**
 - Legal and Technical Assistance
 - Municipal research, reports and surveys
- Member Services
 - Small Cities Support Network

Emerging Local Government Leaders (ELGL)

- <https://elgl.org/>
- ELGL's mission is to engage the brightest minds in local government by:
 - Providing timely, relevant, real content
 - Fostering authentic, meaningful connections
 - Expecting equity and inclusion
 - Encouraging joy in public service
 - Welcoming new ideas and technology
- Throughout the year and across the country, ELGL hosts frequent events to benefit their members.
- Jobs Board
- Webinar Library

American Planning Association – Oregon Chapter (OAPA)

- <http://www.oregonapa.org/>
- OAPA works to carry out the objectives of the American Planning Association (APA) and promote the art and science of planning in Oregon.
- Conferences and Workshops
- AICP Exam Preparation
- Networking
- **Emerging Leaders Planners Group** is a sub-group of the OAPA membership committee and will be organizing events and activities intended to provide career growth and networking opportunities for OAPA members who are new to the planning field. There is no cost for membership in the EPG – participation in EPG events and activities is open to all members of OAPA. <http://www.oregonapa.org/committees/emerging-planners-group/>
 - **Mentorship Program** – Join new, experienced, and transitioning planners in sharing and receiving professional knowledge through informal, ongoing partnerships. <http://www.oregonapa.org/mentorship/>
- **Free One Year Student Membership to APA via affiliation with University of Oregon.**

Subscriptions

The RARE Program subscribes to several online subscriptions that may come in useful during your service year.

Constant Contact

- www.constantcontact.com/
- Email Marketing
- Event Planning

Survey Monkey

- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/>
- Online Survey Platform

Zoom

- <https://www.zoom.us/>
- Video Conference, Collaboration, Training, etc. Platform

RARE, OPN, OMS, and Other Listservs

The RARE Listserv offers a venue for resources sharing, event planning, announcements, general communication, etc. You can mail announcements to the listserv at rare-list@uoregon.edu. All RARE AmeriCorps members are of the list. We are transitioning to using Slack as the hub for member resource-sharing, questions, and community-building, but you can still use the RARE Listserv if you have announcements/questions you feel are better addressed via email. Other than this, the RARE Listserv is primarily used by RARE staff to send you important administrative communications.

There are several other topically focused listservs that exist in Oregon. If you are a planner, you should consider signing up for the Oregon Planner Network Listserv; if you are involved with a Main Street Program, you should consider signing up for the Oregon Main Street Managers Listserv; for our Food Systems Placements, you should consider signing up for the Food for Oregon Listserv. Let us know if you are interested in getting signed up for any of the aforementioned listservs and we will send you the appropriate forms.

Topically Focused Monthly Calls

We have broken the group down by focus area and will be holding monthly conference calls (typically via Zoom). Each member is required to attend monthly calls specific to their focus area. Please let us know if there are other calls outside of your focus area that you would like to attend. We currently have the group broken down into the following focus areas:

- Community & Economic Development
- Housing
- Energy/Sustainability
- Food Systems/Public Health
- Main Street/Downtown Development
- Natural Resources Planning
- Regional Tourism/Destination Development

Dates for all of our Monthly Calls will be provided early in the service year with the first monthly call taking place late in October.

During Monthly Calls we will focus on brief project updates, resource sharing and open discussion. All calls will last between 1 – 1.5 hours. We will alternate facilitators giving each member a chance to take the lead role. In some cases, our project partners will participate in these Monthly Calls.

Slack, Facebook, LinkedIn... Additional Venues for Communication!

We stress the importance of open and regular communication between those participating in the RARE Program. In years past, participants have utilized an array of different venues.

- Slack – our primary hub for resource-sharing and discussion amongst the cohort
- RARE Alumni Facebook Site
- RARE Year 25 Facebook Group
- RARE LinkedIn Group

- Skype for Business
- Zoom

Monday Mailing

Each Monday, you will receive a Monday Mailing via the RARE Listserv. This mailing is intended to pass along information on upcoming events, grant opportunities and resources. If you have something (events, webinars, resources, etc.) that you would like to share with others via the Monday Mailing, please forward it to Titus.

Trainings

The RARE Program provides a number of trainings throughout the course of your service year. The RARE Program provides reimbursements to RARE members for costs associated with required RARE training sessions and meetings. These expenses include mileage expenses for travel, meals, and lodging.

In addition, the RARE Program is often able to provide reduced cost or free access to a number of trainings specific to your focus area. If you are interested in attending an additional training, please let us know.

And don't ever hesitate to ask your host site about attending trainings that are directly relevant to your line of work. For those working with Main Street Programs, the Annual Oregon Main Street Conference is a great one to ask about. For those in Food Systems Positions, you will most likely be attending Oregon State University's Small Farms Conference. The list goes on and on, and really, it never hurts to ask.

IPRE/RARE Staff

Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE) staff and faculty offer RARE members a number of position-related support services. The IPRE/RARE staff have considerable experience in designing and implementing projects and conducting research, and are available to provide assistance to RARE members and their host communities. To find an overview of the IPRE Staff and their focus areas:

<https://csc.uoregon.edu/faculty-staff/>

Statewide and Regional Partners

The RARE Program works closely with an array of statewide and regional partners in order to best support our members and the communities we serve. Statewide and regional partners provide topically focused expertise, resources and trainings throughout the service year, starting with breakout sessions at RARE Orientation. Currently, the RARE Program works with the following statewide and regional partners:

- Oregon Main Street
- Travel Oregon
- Willamette Valley Visitors Association
- Energy Trust of Oregon
- Sustainable Northwest
- Oregon Food Bank

RARE Family!

Nearly 500 individuals have successfully completed a year of service with RARE. As you will soon find out, the RARE Program consists of some amazing individuals. While serving with the RARE Program make sure to reach out to those who have come before you. Just let Titus, Aniko or Megan know what kind of assistance you need and we will put you in touch with the right individual(s). They have a wealth of knowledge regarding their focus area and about rural Oregon in general.

YOU Are Your Own Best Resource

You, as a group, bring a variety of skills and knowledge to the RARE Program. Developing a network of support is something I push on a regular basis. I mean really, why pass up the opportunity to collaborate on a project, learn how to can applesauce, try out mountain biking for your first time, etc. Don't forget, there are currently 31 amazing individuals in this group, all of whom are here to help make Oregon a better place. Lean on each other, create a network, because this is what RARE Family is all about. To kick this process off we will run through a simple activity, so you can start to identify those who may be able to help you achieve success during the course of this next service year.