



# Protect the Wild for Generations to Come

**WildEarth Guardians has worked for over 30 years to protect and restore the wildlife, wild places, wild rivers, and health of the American West. A legacy gift is one of the most impactful ways you can support our critical conservation work.**

Through a commitment in your will, living trust, or other estate plans, you are leaving a legacy of protecting the wild for future generations. **A legacy gift of any amount can make a lasting difference.**

As a legacy donor to WildEarth Guardians, you become a member of our Aldo Leopold Society and join other thoughtful and generous Guardians who have made this incredible commitment to our work. Aldo Leopold Society members are our most loyal champions and enjoy exclusive perks throughout the year.

## **Estate planning and legacy gifts made simple**

**Legacy or bequest giving is done by leaving a gift in your will or estate plans.**

A legacy or bequest gift is a gift that is planned for but given after the donor's lifetime. Giving through your will allows you to make a generous gift that you may not be able to give during your lifetime. Such a gift can have a huge impact on conservation and our ability to continue fighting for nature's right to exist and thrive for generations to come.

## **Everyone can make a bequest or legacy gift.**

Legacy gifts are gifts that anyone, of any means, can offer. You do not need to be wealthy; it does not cost a thing, and you can change your mind at any time just by changing your will. You can leave a specific dollar amount, a % of your total estate, or another item of value. **A gift of just 1% of your estate can make a lasting difference in protecting the environment.**





**If you already have a will, giving a legacy gift is easy.**

You can prepare a short document known as a “codicil” to your will, to be signed and dated in the presence of two witnesses who will not benefit from the change, and attach it to your will. Sample codicil language can be found online. Bequest gifts are easy to set up and can be changed at any time.

**Leave a retirement plan or part of an IRA.**

This type of gift is also easy to make and can maximize benefits to you and to our work. Simply notify your plan’s administrator of your wish to change the beneficiary and list WildEarth Guardians as a full or partial beneficiary of your plan.

**A gift through your life insurance policy is also possible.**

You can name WildEarth Guardians as the primary, partial, or alternate beneficiary of your life insurance policy by filling out a change of beneficiary form with your insurance company. Furthermore, you can transfer ownership of the policy to WildEarth Guardians.

**Leave the gift of real estate.**

You can give your personal residence to WildEarth Guardians and still maintain lifetime use of the property while benefiting from income and capital gains tax advantages. Please contact WildEarth Guardians for more information on how this works.

**Be sure to consult an estate planning professional or tax attorney.**

It is important to receive independent advice from professionals whom you know and trust.

**Your will is your legacy for a better world.**

If you choose to include WildEarth Guardians in your estate plans, please let us know so that we can offer you our gratitude for your generous gift. We also respect if you prefer not to let us know, and offer you our deepest thanks.

*“It makes us happy to know we can help Guardians continue their work in the future.”*

*—Mimsi & Tom Milton (Legacy Donors)*



**Sample Bequest Language**

I hereby give WildEarth Guardians, a New Mexico charitable corporation with Tax Identification number 85-0406306, the following: the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_percent (\_\_\_%) of my estate OR \_\_\_\_\_ percent (\_\_\_%) of the residue of my estate. WildEarth Guardians shall use this gift for the work of their mission.

*Information provided here is meant for general information only.*

*WildEarth Guardians strongly advises you to seek legal and financial counsel when planning a legacy gift.*

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