

HOW CAN YOUR GIFT PLANNING AFFECT FLORIDA'S CONSERVATION FUTURE?

By taking the initiative to consider a special gift to Florida Wildlife Federation you can...

- sustain the next generation of Florida's priceless wildlife
- create your own lasting wildlife legacy
- maximize the opportunity to "give back" to the Florida you love
- join dedicated conservation supporters to maintain FWF's conservation action leadership.

So-called "Planned Gifts" are typically gifts of assets that would be part of your estate. They are created when you create or change your estate, with proceeds generally transferred to the Florida Wildlife Federation when your estate is administered.

There are many ways of making a planned gift to FWF, customized to your situation, but all gratefully appreciated by FWF. Gifts can be designated for specific purposes, but of course unrestricted gifts give the FWF board maximum flexibility to meet critical needs.

The most familiar planned gift is the **bequest**. It is a simple transfer of funds or property directly through the administration of your estate. While surprisingly most people do not take time to create a will, the simplest of estate ingredients, creating a bequest is easy to do, simply by adding a codicil to your will (or perhaps use it as the occasion to create or update your will!).

The language FWF recommends for bequests is as follows:

"I bequeath to the Florida Wildlife Federation, a non-for-profit organization (EIN 59-1398265) located in Tallahassee, Florida the sum of \$_____ (alternatively: " _____% of my residuary estate) for the unrestricted purposes of the organization."

Other ways to give that many people do not think of is making FWF the beneficiary of your **retirement account, life insurance policy or appreciated investments**. Many people have no longer use of their insurance policies, and once again the process to turn them into a gift to FWF is simple. Simply contact your agent and change the beneficiary to FWF.

There are even more ways to customize your legacy gift to FWF. These require discussion and consultation with FWF, and with your financial advisor. The reason is that the **Charitable Gift Annuity** and **Charitable Trusts** carry significant tax benefits, both for income savings and, depending on tax law changes, other estate advantages.

The **Charitable Gift Annuity** (CGA) requires at least \$20,000 for which you receive many benefits. Among them...

- guaranteed income for your lifetime** and/or your partner's, or perhaps to beloved family members instead of yourself.
- this annuity differs from a commercial annuity in significant ways, particularly on the payout which depends on your age, and which is lower than most commercial annuities in return for substantial tax advantages.
- Instead because it is a charitable vehicle, you receive **an immediate tax deduction** somewhere in the range of 35-45% of your gift amount.
- additional tax advantages come with your payouts (quarterly, semi-annually, or annually) in which **65%-75% of those payouts are actually income tax free**. This is one of the many economic advantages to what is at core a charitable gift.
- Details and benefits depend on your age and the age(s) of the beneficiaries who will receive the payouts for lifetime.

There are additional details to the CGA which is why it is best to discuss it with your financial advisor and a representative of FWF (see below).

Charitable Trusts are more complex and high priced gifts, requiring a minimum gift investment of \$100,000. Similar to the Charitable Gift Annuity they are designed for payment of life incomes, but with the payout amount or percent determined by your planning of the trust details. Legal and investment counsel should be consulted as well as a FWF representative.

As simple or as specific as your gift intention to FWF may be, or the assets you are considering, know that a planned gift is a dedication to the future of FWF and of Florida's wildlife. Your legacy will leave its footprint on the pathways of Florida conservation.

For more information, contact FWF board member who is coordinating major gifts and planned giving, Tim Bachmeyer at 561-801-5752, timbachmeyer1@gmail.com; or contact FWF staff Manley Fuller, FWF President, Preston Robertson, FWF General Counsel, or Diane Hines, FWF VP of Administration at [850 656 7113](tel:8506567113); or visit www.fwfonline.org.

Note: the information contained herein is offered for general informational and educational purposes. The financial projections here are based on federal law as well as IRS discount rates that change monthly, and are cited as guidelines only. You should seek the advice of an attorney for applicability to your own situation.