

PLANNED GIVING

GRAND TRAVERSE REGIONAL LAND CONSERVANCY

Protecting Significant Natural, Scenic and Farm Lands, and Advancing Stewardship, Now and For All Future Generations

The term “planned giving” refers to future charitable gifts that require some planning now. These gifts are popular because they ensure that your vision can live on forever.

You support the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy because of your strong interest in our land, our water, our wildlife, and our future. A planned gift can help you achieve even more of your philanthropic goals, helping to secure the future of the Conservancy’s work, while providing valuable tax benefits and/or income for yourself or others.

You don’t have to be wealthy to make a meaningful planned gift to the Conservancy, but you can gain potential benefits:



BENEFITS

- Reduce your income tax
- Avoid capital gains tax
- Increase current income for yourself or others
- Pass assets on to your family at reduced tax cost
- Make significant donations to the Conservancy

PLANNED GIVING OPTIONS

Planned gifts offer the satisfaction of supporting an important cause, the excitement of seeing your gift lead to positive change, and—in many cases—tangible financial benefit to you and/or another beneficiary through tax advantages and life income. Each gift contributes to the Conservancy’s financial strength and our ability to protect and steward precious places forever.

BEQUESTS

One of the most popular and easiest ways to make a planned gift to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy is by including GTRLC in your will or revocable trust. Bequests are a major source of endowment support at the Conservancy and can be structured in a number of ways. You can give almost any kind of asset through a bequest, including cash, securities, an interest in real estate, tangible personal property, or retirement assets. A charitable bequest is deductible for federal estate tax purposes, and there is no limit on the amount of the estate-tax charitable deduction your estate can take.

- Simple to establish
- Provides for family, friends and other interests
- Flexible if circumstances change

BENEFITS



CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

CRTs involve the irrevocable transfer of property—including cash, stock, and bonds—to a trust. In return, an income is paid, at least annually, to you and/or one or more beneficiaries, for life or for a term of years. The income payment is based either on a fixed percentage of fair market value of the property held in the trust each year, or on a fixed sum. The percentage will be set by the Donor and cannot be less than 5%. At the end of the designated time, the remainder passes to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. In addition to estate tax benefits, a CRT established during your lifetime provides an immediate income-tax charitable deduction based on the beneficiary's age and the percentage paid to the beneficiary.

BENEFITS

- Flexible payout rates
- Donor selects trustee
- Charitable income tax deduction
- Additional deposits may be allowed
- Avoid capital gains tax on appreciated assets

CHARITABLE LEAD TRUSTS

Lead trusts require the transfer of assets to a trust specifying the income to be paid to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy for a term of years. At the end of the term, the remaining principal passes to an individual beneficiary, such as a child or grandchild. A lead trust is ideal if you wish to benefit the Conservancy, can temporarily relinquish access to assets now, but want your beneficiary to receive the assets later on.

BENEFITS

- Charitable deduction
- Removes taxable income from your estate during the term of the trust
- Preserves assets for your heirs



LIFE INSURANCE

Gifts of life insurance allow you to establish a planned gift by transferring ownership of a new or existing policy to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. The gift is valued at the cash surrender value of the policy. The amount of your annual premium is paid to the Conservancy for payment on the policy and is tax deductible.

BENEFITS

- Lower financial commitment for a large gift
- Simple, low-cost set-up process

BENEFITS

- **Avoid both income tax and estate tax on applicable assets**
- **Flexibility and control during lifetime**

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

A gift annuity is an arrangement involving your gift of cash or securities in exchange for a guaranteed fixed income for the life of either one or two beneficiaries. At the death of the beneficiaries, the remainder is paid to the Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Gift annuities are ideal for individuals who wish to benefit the Conservancy but aren't in a position to part with assets that generate a needed income.

BENEFITS

- **Guaranteed life-income stream**
- **Charitable tax deduction**
- **Simple set-up process**
- **Ideal for gifts starting at \$10,000**

BENEFITS

- **Charitable tax deduction**
- **Retains use and enjoyment of property for life**
- **Future estate tax exclusion of property**

RETIREMENT PLANS AND IRAs

Individuals can leave all or a portion of their retirement plan to benefit the Conservancy. You can continue to benefit from these plans during your lifetime as well as change beneficiaries. The designation can be accomplished by indicating the beneficiary designation attached to the plan or through your will or revocable trust.



REAL ESTATE

Almost any kind of real estate can be used to make a valuable gift to the Conservancy. You can also contribute your residence now and reside in it for the rest of your life. As with most gifts, no capital gains tax is due when the real estate is donated. You are entitled to an income tax deduction in the amount of the appreciated value and you avoid estate taxes on the appreciated asset. (The Conservancy will discuss your wishes and reserves the right to decline assets based on environmental concerns, marketability, and other donor conditions.)





BEGIN A PLANNED-GIFT CONVERSATION TODAY

We will work closely with your financial advisor to design a Gift Planning Option that will meet your personal, financial, and charitable goals. Let us assist you in sharing your legacy to protect northwest lower Michigan long into the future.



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