

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a man fishing in a stream. The man is wearing a hat, a light-colored shirt, and dark waders. He is holding a fishing rod that is arched over the water and a net. The stream has several small waterfalls and rapids, with white water flowing over rocks. The background is a dense forest of green trees.

Shape Your Legacy and Our Future

A GUIDE TO PLANNED GIVING

“If you’ve enjoyed something your whole life, you should pass that on to the people you love.”

—Mike and Pat Peck,
stream champions and TU planned giving donors

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Trout Unlimited is a national organization with hundreds of thousands of conservation-minded anglers who are united behind a simple philosophy: Take care of the fish, and the fishing will take care of itself.

Since 1959, the financial support of TU members has enabled incredible feats of conservation from large dam removals to landscape-scale habitat protection to abandoned mine cleanups. **One of the greatest commitments one can make to TU is through a planned gift.**

Including TU in your estate plans not only helps to provide for future programmatic and organizational security, it can take many different forms to balance your financial and philanthropic goals. This informational pamphlet is designed to highlight many of the traditional methods and financial vehicles that individuals consider when making a planned gift.

We encourage you to contact us if you plan to make TU a beneficiary in your will so that we can help you obtain the greatest possible satisfaction from your gift and include you as a part of our Stream Guardian Society. Please contact us at (703) 284-9421 or legacy@tu.org for estate planning assistance or if you have any questions. For more information, visit tu.org/giftplanning.



Trout Unlimited’s responsible management has earned it the highest rating from Charity Navigator, an independent evaluator of nonprofits. For the most current score, visit charitynavigator.org.

ESTATE PLANNING ESSENTIALS

ALL YOU NEED TO MAKE A GIFT TO TU TODAY



Estate Planning Essentials

1. **Legal Name:** Trout Unlimited, Inc.
2. **Employer Identification Number (EIN):** 38-1612715
3. **National Address:**
Trout Unlimited
1777 N. Kent Street, Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22209

LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST BEQUESTS

A gift in your will or trust, also known as a bequest, is one of the simplest ways to support Trout Unlimited, helping to ensure that critical resources are healthy and protected for future generations of anglers. There are many types of bequests, but the following are the most commonly used:

- **General bequest:** This option is the most common and flexible, allowing your estate's executor the ability to honor the bequest from any source.

Example: *"I hereby give to Trout Unlimited, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, located in Arlington, Virginia, or its successor organization, the sum of \$_____ for its general purposes."*

- **Specific bequest:** This is a specific gift to an individual or organization with a designated source. If you want to leave a specific amount from a specific source or a particular item, this is the type of bequest that you would use.

Example: *"I give to Trout Unlimited, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, located in Arlington, Virginia, or its successor organization, 1000 shares of ABC stock to be used for its general purposes."*

- **Residuary bequest:** This type of bequest is designed to leave the remainder of an estate to a person or organization.

Example: *"I give to Trout Unlimited, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, located in Arlington, Virginia, or its successor organization, (all or a percentage of) the residue of the property owned by me at death, real and personal, and wherever situated to be used for its general purposes."*

- **Contingent bequest:** This bequest is designed to leave a person or organization a gift in the event that the primary beneficiary does not survive you.

Example: *"In the event that _____ (name of primary beneficiary) should not survive, I give (the desired sum property, or percentage of your estate) to Trout Unlimited, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, located in Arlington, Virginia, or its successor organization to be used for its general purposes."*

ESTATE PLANNING CHECKLIST

GET YOUR PLANS IN ORDER TODAY

- Review your will, checking for any changes that may need to be made because of a change in your life, tax law changes or because you want to add a gift to a charity in your plans.
- Check that the executor you've named is still the qualified individual you want to manage your estate, resolve claims, minimize taxes and distribute the designated portions of your estate to your chosen beneficiaries.
- Be sure you are comfortable with the guardian named in your will for those under your care.
- Update beneficiaries designated for your insurance and retirement plans. Name backup beneficiaries, too.
- Make sure the titles for your assets reflect your current circumstances and wishes, so they go to the people and organizations you intend.
- Include in your estate plan a health care power of attorney to guide your family and health care providers should you be unable to make decisions for yourself.

STREAM GUARDIAN SOCIETY



The Stream Guardian Society (SGS) is a group of Trout Unlimited supporters who have made one of the most sincere and lasting commitments to TU's conservation mission by naming the organization as a beneficiary of their estate or making a life income gift. This society is a way for these outstanding commitments to be celebrated and often inspires

peers to consider supporting TU's work through such a gift. In addition to members knowing that they are ensuring healthy rivers and streams, SGS members enjoy the benefits of program updates, special trip offers, event offers and more. Members of the Stream Guardian Society will have their names published with other lists of TU supporters who are recognized for their commitment to the organization. This legacy club is securing a better future for the values and sporting traditions we all cherish, and for that, we thank you.

A CURRENT WILL OR TRUST

VITAL DOCUMENTS

Have you put off making or updating your will or living trust? Maybe you think it costs too much to do. Perhaps you are having a hard time deciding how to leave your money, or you may simply feel like you do not need one at this time.

Drafting these documents may seem like a daunting task at first, until you realize all the good that comes from having them.

A gift in your will or living trust lets you make a meaningful gift to Trout Unlimited with ease and be flexible in your commitment. You can give cash, specific property or a percentage of your estate, with restrictions or without. Because your gift doesn't come to TU until after your lifetime, you can change your mind at any time.

To make sure your will accomplishes your goals according to your wishes, we recommend that you obtain the professional counsel of an attorney who specializes in estate planning.

Benefits

- Balance your commitment to family with a desire to support Trout Unlimited.
- Distribute your assets according to your wishes.
- Save on estate taxes with proper planning.
- Leave a legacy of conservation and generosity without giving up assets today.

DID YOU KNOW?

More than half of all Americans die without a will. When this happens, assets are distributed according to the state laws where the deceased lived at the time of his or her death.

PERSONAL PROPERTY AND SECURITIES

ASSETS WORTH DONATING

Any type of asset that you irrevocably donate to a charitable organization like Trout Unlimited results in a current income tax deduction, but there may be other tax benefits from your contribution.

If you contribute appreciated securities that you have held more than one year, you have the added benefit of eliminating the tax on the gain.

You can also give TU tangible personal property (like an art object, prized collection or antique) and take a deduction for its full fair market value if the gift is used for our exempt function.

These are but two of the types of assets you can donate outright to TU today. Using assets other than cash allows you more flexibility when planning your gift, and there are even more potential benefits if you plan your gift creatively.

Benefits

- Receive a current income tax deduction for gifts of securities.
- Provide relief from capital gains tax with gifts of securities.
- Make meaningful gifts with donations of personal property.
- Help preserve our rivers and wild fish with your contributions.

EXAMPLE

Dave has stocks currently valued at \$20,000 that he purchased for \$4,000 several years ago, which will result in a \$16,000 capital gain if he sells the securities. He is in a 28 percent marginal income tax bracket. Dave decides to donate the stock to Trout Unlimited instead of selling it. By doing this, Dave receives an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair market value of \$20,000 and eliminates any capital gains tax.

YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS

COSTLY TO INHERIT

Did you know that as much as 39.6 percent of your retirement plan assets can be consumed by taxes when given to your family? To eliminate taxation of these assets, many people use their retirement plan assets to make gifts to Trout Unlimited, a tax-exempt charitable organization, and leave assets that are less heavily taxed to family.

If you can make other provisions for your family, there is a better option for your retirement plan assets—a charitable gift after your lifetime.

To name TU as the beneficiary, first consult your advisor, then instruct the plan administrator of your decision and sign whatever form is required. For an IRA or 403(b) plan you administer personally, notify the custodian in writing and keep a copy with your valuable papers.

Benefits

- Eliminate all federal income and estate taxes when you name us as the primary beneficiary.
- Receive partial savings when you give us a specific amount before giving your family the remainder.
- Name us as the contingent beneficiary, which allows for greater flexibility.
- Make the most cost-effective gift you can make, saving other less-taxed assets for loved ones.

EXAMPLE

Bill wants to provide for his children, but he also wishes to leave a charitable gift to Trout Unlimited. Bill decides to pass on income tax-free inheritances such as real estate, cash and life insurance to his heirs and give his retirement plan assets in support of Trout Unlimited. The assets in his account will pass to Trout Unlimited free of any income tax obligation. In addition, Bill's gift qualifies for an estate tax charitable deduction. Most important, Bill can change his mind at any time about the gift.

“ I decided that preserving trout streams for future generations is a worthy goal, and the way I see it, no organization gets more bang for the buck than Trout Unlimited in these efforts. My wife and I have a small estate, mostly from retirement savings, and we wanted to leave something to Trout Unlimited.”

—Rob Morris





Compare *Your* Options

	Pays You Income	Impact on Trout Unlimited	
		Immediate Impact	Impact After Your Lifetime
Outright Gift of Securities Page 7		✓	
Outright Gift of Personal Property Page 7		✓	
Gift of Life Insurance Page 12		✓	
Gift of Real Estate Page 14		✓	
Charitable Lead Trust Page 18		✓	
Gift in a Will or Trust Page 6			✓
Gift of Retirement Plan Assets Page 8			✓
Retained Life Estate Page 13			✓
Charitable Remainder Trust Pages 16-17	✓		✓



USE THIS CHART to identify the gift that best fits your financial and charitable goals.

Tax Benefits			Additional Benefits
Immediate Income Tax Benefits	Future Income Tax Benefits	Capital Gains Tax Benefits ¹	
✓		✓	Provide an immediate benefit to our organization.
✓		✓	Make a significant gift today without adversely affecting your cash flow.
✓	✓		Make a larger gift than you thought possible.
✓		✓	Improve your cash flow by not having to pay real estate taxes, maintenance and insurance.
			Support us now and provide for your loved ones in the future.
			Make a flexible gift.
			Allow less heavily taxed assets to be passed to loved ones.
✓			Have lifetime use of residence.
✓		✓	Use appreciated assets to maximize your tax benefits.

¹Assuming long-term appreciated assets

LIFE INSURANCE

A VERSATILE TOOL FOR MANY PURPOSES

When you first obtained your life insurance policies, you obviously felt a need for them. Perhaps you do not need all that coverage today, yet you still have those policies.

If you are thinking about a contribution to Trout Unlimited, a gift of your life insurance could be a sensible, as well as generous, course of action. If you make TU owner of the policy, you will normally receive an income tax deduction for the policy's fair market value or cost basis, if lower, on the date of the gift. If you name TU beneficiary of the policy (and retain ownership), you won't be eligible for current tax benefits because the gift is revocable at any time.

Whether you name TU as owner of the policy or name us as the beneficiary while you retain ownership, your estate will not pay estate taxes on the policy proceeds we receive.

Benefits

Name TU as owner

- Receive a charitable income tax deduction when you name Trout Unlimited as beneficiary and assign us ownership.
- Receive future income tax deductions when you name TU as owner and continue to pay premiums.

Name TU as beneficiary

- Obtain flexibility by naming TU as primary beneficiary but keeping ownership.
- Name TU as contingent beneficiary and secure your family's needs first.

3 OPTIONS: Life Insurance Policies You Can Give

1. A recently issued policy
2. An existing policy in premium-paying mode
3. A paid-up life insurance policy

REAL ESTATE

A TAX-WISE GIFT

If you are thinking of selling land or a building, consider making a gift to Trout Unlimited and eliminating costly capital gains tax.

If you sell your primary residence, you can exclude up to \$250,000 (\$500,000 if you are married) of the gain. This tax break does not apply to other types of real estate, however, so you may have a better alternative.

A charitable contribution of real estate—whether it is your personal residence, a vacation home, a farm, commercial real estate or vacant land—will give you numerous advantages.

When you give your home or other real estate to TU, you create an enduring testimonial of your interest in protecting our nation's wild rivers and fish. Your personal satisfaction is also complemented by valuable tax benefits.

Benefits

- Receive an income tax charitable deduction for the full fair market value.
- Eliminate tax on the property's appreciation.
- Avoid the hassle of trying to sell the property.
- Make a gift to support conservation efforts, and reduce your taxable estate.

DID YOU KNOW?

Even if your property has lost value in recent years, for tax purposes it is still appreciated if its current value is more than what you originally paid for it.

“Years ago a friend introduced me to Trout Unlimited, and I have been following the team ever since. The work that Trout Unlimited does to support our fisheries has since amazed and inspired me. My wife and I both have careers and no children, so including Trout Unlimited in our estate plans is a great way of giving back to a hobby we love.”

—Joe Schlueter



CHARITABLE REMAINDER ANNUITY TRUST

A GIFT TO YOU WITH PREDICTABLE BENEFITS TO YOU

If you are disappointed in the yield from your current investments in the stock and bond markets, yet you want to eliminate the capital gains tax should you sell, consider a charitable remainder annuity trust.

With this type of gift, you, or another beneficiary if you choose, receive a fixed dollar amount each year for life or for a period of up to 20 years from assets you place in a trust. At the end of the trust term, the balance in the trust goes to the charities of your choice, enabling countless others to reap future benefits from your generous gift.

Benefits

- Receive a fixed dollar income paid annually, semiannually, quarterly or monthly.
- Obtain a partial charitable deduction.
- Increase income from a low-yield asset.
- Gain freedom from investment management.
- Eliminate up-front capital gains tax on long-term appreciated assets used to fund the trust.

EXAMPLE

Joan, 80, depends on income from her portfolio of securities. Lately, the current yield of her holdings has averaged only 2 percent (about \$3,000). Joan decides to establish a charitable remainder annuity trust, funding it with appreciated stocks worth \$150,000 that had originally cost her \$100,000. The trust pays Joan 6 percent, or \$9,000, each year. She is also entitled to a charitable deduction of \$84,851 (based on annual payments and 2.4 percent charitable midterm federal rate) that she can carry over for up to five additional years. What's more, the trust can sell the stock without incurring any capital gains tax. After her lifetime, the trust's balance will go to Trout Unlimited.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUST

A GIFT WITH BUILT-IN FLEXIBILITY

A charitable remainder unitrust is a gift to Trout Unlimited, but it's so much more. This unique gift option also allows you to enjoy supplemental income and immediate tax benefits—and reduce the taxable value of your future estate.

Your unitrust can be tailored to fit your circumstances, but the concept of this gift is simple. You fund a unitrust with assets (appreciated property or stocks generate the greatest net savings for you). The amount you receive as a life income varies each year and is a set percentage (you choose it at the start) of the current value of the unitrust, re-determined annually.

After your lifetime (and, if you wish, that of a survivor) or a period of up to 20 years, the balance of your trust supports TU's conservation efforts.

Benefits

- Receive lifetime variable income (often greater than the yield on contributed assets).
- Obtain a sizable income tax charitable deduction.
- Eliminate up-front capital gains tax if you donate long-term appreciated securities.
- Make a significant gift to TU and other charitable organizations, if you choose.

EXAMPLE

Helen, 65, owns \$100,000 in stocks that she no longer wants. The stocks, purchased many years ago for \$50,000, pay her a dividend of only 1.1 percent. Helen decides to give her stock to a charitable remainder unitrust she creates. Each year it will pay her 6 percent of the fair market value of the trust assets. Helen receives an immediate charitable income tax deduction of \$39,299.* With a marginal income tax rate of 28 percent, she saves \$11,004 in income taxes and increases her income this year from \$1,100 to \$6,000.

*Based on a 2.4 percent charitable midterm federal rate.

CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST

PRESERVE AN INHERITANCE

Are you concerned about the possibility of the government taking a huge part of the assets you were planning to leave your heirs?

There is a strategy to pass assets to your family with significant estate tax savings while making a gift to Trout Unlimited. It is called a charitable lead trust.

After we receive income from assets in the trust for a period of years, the principal goes to your selected loved ones, with estate or gift taxes usually reduced or even eliminated.

The lead trust is an exceptional way to transfer property to your children or other heirs at minimal tax cost. It is ideal if you are willing to forgo investment income on an asset but do not want to have estate taxes reduce the principal passed to heirs.

With a lead trust, you carry out your philanthropic plans over the coming years and save on taxes.

Benefits

- Fund the trust during your lifetime or through your will.
- Support TU's mission through annual income payouts.
- Reduce your taxable estate and potential gift taxes.
- Keep assets in the family.

BUILDING TROUT UNLIMITED'S ENDOWMENTS

Many donors choose to restrict their planned gift to the most permanent and powerful area of the organization, Trout Unlimited's endowment. Building a strong endowment is one of the most important ways to create an enduring foundation, enabling Trout Unlimited to be on the forefront of research and nimble enough to tackle priority conservation issues as they surface. Organizations that are able to draw on one or more endowments are better equipped to meet their financial obligations and enjoy more diversified and reliable funding. Ideally, the principal of an endowment is never exhausted, and the annual interest earned is used to support the most important components of the organization.

If you would like to learn more about TU's endowments or creating a named endowment, contact us at (703) 284-9421 or legacy@tu.org.

“ Trout Unlimited has proven that it can initiate and sustain science-based conservation programs, which are critical to achieving the goals we all want for trout survival. If one wants to make a significant personal contribution to Trout Unlimited, but cannot do so during his or her lifetime, then including Trout Unlimited in their estate plan is an ideal solution.”

—Ed Opler





**TROUT
UNLIMITED**

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tu.org/giftplanning

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