



# EASY WAYS TO CREATE YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL LEGACY

*For years, Earthjustice has worked in the courts to keep development and mining companies from destroying iconic public lands, including the Grand Canyon.*

## CREATING THE **CAPSTONE OF YOUR LIFE**

**Y**our commitment to Earthjustice reflects your values — values of justice symbolized by your belief that a healthy environment is the right of all life, including generations to come.

Since 1971, Earthjustice has defended the health of our planet and all its inhabitants as the legal backbone of the environmental movement. Your values for protecting the earth can be part of your enduring legacy so we can carry on this important work.

- Help Earthjustice enforce the laws that protect irreplaceable wildlife and wild places.
- Support our fight for clean air and water and help us take a stand against toxins and pesticides, so all communities are safer and healthier places.
- Help secure important legal victories for clean energy and a stable climate.

At stake is nothing less than our children's — and our planet's — future.

# 1. A GIFT FROM YOUR WILL OR TRUST

A gift from your will or trust is a time-honored way of ensuring that your support of Earthjustice continues for generations to come.

- To leave the majority of funds to your loved ones, name Earthjustice to receive a specific amount or percentage.
- To leave Earthjustice what's left after loved ones are provided for, use a residuary bequest.
- To leave your estate to family and friends, if they predecease you, use a contingent bequest. This is often used by spouses who stipulate that if the other spouse is not living, then the bequest specified for that spouse will go to Earthjustice.

To ensure that your gift reaches us, use the following language and legal designation:

**"I hereby give (percentage, residuary, share or specific amount or asset) to Earthjustice, 180 Steuart St., #194330, San Francisco, CA 94105."  
Earthjustice Tax ID: 94-1730465**



*Your contributions help Earthjustice defend Alaska's Tongass National Forest from logging. Protecting these old-growth trees is critical in the fight against climate change.*

## 2. RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS

Many of us have sacrificed to accumulate retirement savings in expectation of a long and comfortable retirement. Those same frugal habits often result in not using all the money we've saved.

Most retirement plans are subject to income and possibly estate taxes when transferred to loved ones other than your spouse. That's why, from a tax perspective, the best gift is often from a retirement plan.

If you designate Earthjustice as beneficiary of your retirement plan, you can:

- Leave other, less heavily taxed assets to your family;
- Change your beneficiaries at any time, retaining maximum flexibility; and
- Take action without the expense of an attorney. Simply request a change



*For decades, Earthjustice has kept gray wolves from the brink of extinction, fighting to prevent this iconic species from losing protection under the Endangered Species Act.*

of beneficiary form from your plan provider and include Earthjustice as a full or partial beneficiary.

- Because we are tax exempt, 100% of your gift will go to ensuring that future generations can always count on the earth having a good lawyer. Here's how it works:

<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Your Heirs</b>	<b>Earthjustice</b>
Gift Amount	\$100,000	\$100,000
Income Tax*	\$(37,000)	-0-
Net to Beneficiary	\$63,000	\$100,000

\*Based on the maximum 2022 income tax rate of 37%

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-provides-tax-inflation-adjustments-for-tax-year-2022>

### 3. LIFE INSURANCE

Most people use their life insurance policies to provide financial security for a spouse, child, or other loved one. But over time, the needs of your family may change. A life insurance policy that has outlived its purpose or needs updating may be the perfect vehicle for leaving a gift to Earthjustice. Just ask your insurance company for the appropriate forms to make Earthjustice the owner or beneficiary of the policy. You may also name us as a contingent beneficiary so the policy passes to us only if your family members predecease you.

### 4. DONOR-ADVISED FUND SUCCESSION PLAN

When determining what will happen to assets remaining in your donor-advised fund after your lifetime, you can name Earthjustice as one of the ultimate beneficiaries of your fund, ensuring your environmental legacy will continue into the future.

Also, you have the option to designate that Earthjustice receive a portion of the account value, leaving the remainder for your children or grandchildren to continue your legacy of philanthropy.

Ensure your wishes are fulfilled instead of allowing an advisor to make the decision for you. To learn more, visit [earthjustice.org/legacy/daf](https://earthjustice.org/legacy/daf).



*Earthjustice challenges any attempt to rollback the Endangered Species Act, a bedrock law which protects grizzlies, whales, wolves, and other imperiled wildlife.*



Evergreen Council member Julie Andrzejewski with her grandchildren.

***“There is no greater gift you can give your family and the people you care for than to help save an endangered species, a forest, a river, or the ocean.”***

— Julie Andrzejewski, Evergreen Council Member

## 5. CDs AND OTHER BANKING ACCOUNTS

One of the simplest ways you can help ensure Earthjustice’s future is by making Earthjustice the Pay on Death (POD) or Transfer on Death (TOD) beneficiary of a certificate of deposit (or any bank or brokerage account, for that matter). Your financial institution can assist you with this easy process.

### AT YOUR SERVICE

You are in no way obligated to do so, but we hope you will let us know if you have left a gift for Earthjustice. Providing us with documentation of your intention is the best way to ensure that we receive the gift you have planned for us. We are best able to honor your wishes when we know of them in advance. Another way of ensuring that your gift reaches us is to use the following language and legal designation:

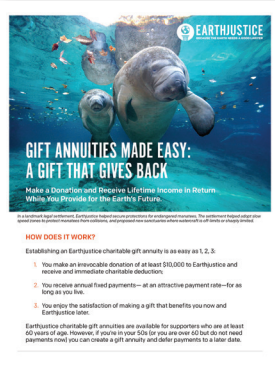
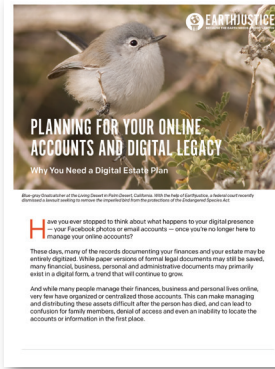
**“I give to Earthjustice, a nonprofit corporation currently located at 180 Steuart St., #194330, San Francisco, CA 94105, or its successor thereto, \_\_\_\_\_ [written amount or percentage of the estate or description of property] for its unrestricted use and purpose.”**

**Legal Name: Earthjustice**

**Tax ID Number: 94-1730465**

# Download our other complimentary planning publications at

[earthjustice.org/legacy/resources](http://earthjustice.org/legacy/resources)



## We are here to help.

For assistance in crafting your personal legacy, for more information, or to notify us that you have left a gift for Earthjustice in your will, please contact our team of gift planning experts:

**EMAIL:** [legacy@earthjustice.org](mailto:legacy@earthjustice.org)

**MAIL:** 180 Steuart St., #194330, San Francisco, CA 94105

**WEB:** [earthjustice.org/legacy](http://earthjustice.org/legacy)

**PHONE:** (800) 584-6460



*This publication is not intended as legal, accounting or other professional advice. For assistance in charitable planning, always engage the services of a qualified professional.*