



Climate Solutions™

Leave an Environmental Legacy

There are several different ways to make a lasting contribution toward a better world and ensure the environment is protected for generations to come. Below is a summary of how you can make a financial commitment to Climate Solutions through your will, living trust, or other investments.

Because of the complexity of estate planning, it is important that your attorney and/or financial advisor help structure your estate plans and advise you on how charitable gifts will meet your personal and financial goals. The following will help guide you when working with your attorney.

Giving Through Your Will or Trust

You can remember Climate Solutions in your will or living trust through three different kinds of bequests:

Specific Bequest: this type of bequest allows you to leave a stated sum of money or percentage of your estate, usually in the form of a cash distribution. To make a specific bequest have your attorney include the following wording in your will:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to Climate Solutions, located at 219 Legion Way SW, Ste 201, Olympia WA 98501, the sum of \$ (insert amount or percentage here) to be used for its general purposes."

Residuary Bequest: this type of bequest allows you to leave a remainder or a percentage of the remainder of your estate once all specific bequests have been satisfied. Use this wording to leave a residuary bequest:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to Climate Solutions, located at 219 Legion Way SW, Ste 201, Olympia WA 98501, all (or insert percentage here) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to be used for its general purposes."

Contingency Bequest: this type of bequest allows you to make your gift contingent on other circumstances. It is important to name a contingent beneficiary to receive assets in case your named beneficiaries do not survive you. To leave a contingency bequest, include this paragraph:

"If any of the above-named beneficiaries should predecease me, I hereby bequeath his or her share to Climate Solutions, located at 219 Legion Way SW, Ste 201, Olympia WA 98501, to be used for its general purposes."

If you would like your bequest added to our endowment fund rather than used for general purposes, alter the last sentence in any of the above samples to read, "to be contributed to the Climate Solutions Endowment Fund."

Be sure to use this language in you Will to avoid estate or inheritance taxes on your gift:

"I direct that no estate or inheritance tax be paid from the share of any property devised or bequeathed to Climate Solutions."

If you already have a Will, you can use the suggested wording to make a codicil (short legal note) that names Climate Solutions as a beneficiary of your estate. Your attorney can help you do this.

Gifts of Life Insurance:

You can name Climate Solutions as a direct beneficiary of all or part of your life insurance policy, or as a contingent beneficiary; you would still own the policy.

- You can donate your paid-up life insurance policy directly to Climate Solutions.
- If you have a new or non-paid-up policy, you can name Climate Solutions as both the owner and beneficiary of this policy. You would still be responsible for paying the premiums.

You should discuss the tax benefits of a life insurance donation with your attorney or other financial advisor. Different estate tax savings apply depending on whether Climate Solutions is the beneficiary of a policy, owner, or named as a new owner of a policy.

Gifts through Your Retirement Plan:

Retirement plans (including 401(k), 403 (b), SEP or other retirement plans with tax sheltered investments) may incur considerable taxation to your estate and your heirs, so a gift of some or all of these assets may be the most tax-wise way of leaving a legacy. You can name Climate Solutions as a direct or contingent beneficiary of a stated percentage or the entire amount of your retirement plan.

For legal purposes, Climate Solutions is an IRS-approved 501(c)3, non-profit charitable organization; our tax-exempt identification number is 91-1123302.

We welcome the opportunity to show you the potential benefits of making a gift to support our work. Personal discussions, visits, or written presentations incur no obligation on your part, and of course, all information discussed is confidential. Contact Teresa Myers, teresa@climatesolutions.org, 360-352-1763, x106.