

# Leave a legacy with Earth Trust

## Your guide to gifts & wills

**We all want future generations to enjoy a world where people and nature thrive in harmony. Will you make that your lasting legacy by pledging a gift to Earth Trust in your will?**



For over 40 years Earth Trust has been providing and championing accessible natural green space and running inspiring, award-winning programmes to help people connect with nature and the environment.

Support from our community makes this possible – and gifts in wills are a simple but powerful way to make a lasting difference.



I trust Earth Trust to use my money wisely – to help them grow and create more worthwhile and imaginative projects like the River of Life – and to help to preserve the environment so that wildlife can thrive in the places they manage.

**Trevor, Earth Trust Supporter**

## The impact of gifts in wills

A legacy gift from the Lucas family enabled us to create an inspirational rainwater feature at Earth Trust Centre, at the foot of the Wittenham Clumps. The Clumps have been a much loved green space for them, evoking fond memories from growing up.

The rainwater garden has established an entirely new habitat to support a diverse range of wildlife and also plays an important role of providing wellbeing and learning benefits to those who visit Earth Trust Centre.

Inspiring visitors, from far and wide, and demonstrating the creative ways we can harvest rainwater and support biodiversity in our own spaces, the benefits of this generous gift will be felt for many years to come.

The natural world has always been something I valued – growing up in Canada and enjoying many natural pursuits – it’s part of who I am. Supporting Earth Trust is a natural extension of my own beliefs and values.

I decided to leave a gift in my will to Earth Trust because I want to make the world a better place.

**Lee Ann, Earth Trust Supporter**



## Your legacy, your choice

If you do decide to leave a gift to Earth Trust, we suggest you include the following sample wording in your will to ensure your gift is valid.  
(You may wish to discuss the following wording with your solicitor).

I give ..... to Earth Trust (Charity Registration No. 1095057), Little Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QZ for its general charitable purposes.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## How and why should I make a will?

If you don't have a will, your estate will be divided according to the law when you die. This could mean that your wishes are not carried out as you would want them to be. Having a will, especially one written by a solicitor, is the only way of ensuring that your loved ones and chosen charities will be remembered as you wish.

## What kind of gift could I make?

There are three main types of gift that you can leave in your will:

1. A percentage of your estate can make a big difference. You can leave a percentage of your estate after your family and friends are provided for. This is called a residuary gift.
2. You can leave a pecuniary gift – which is a fixed sum of money.
3. Or you could leave a specific gift such as a piece of jewellery or art etc.

## How will my gift be used?

It has never been more critical to provide access to green space and to engage people deeply with nature – both for their own wellbeing and to inspire action to protect the natural world for the future.

Your legacy can live on for generations and will help us continue our vital work to help champion accessible green spaces for everyone. A gift in your will can help build a world where people and nature thrive in harmony.

## Can I reduce inheritance tax by leaving a gift to charity?

By leaving a gift to a charity, you may also be able to reduce the amount of inheritance tax due, enabling more of your assets to go to your beneficiaries. If you leave 10% or more of your estate to charity in your will then the overall amount of inheritance tax you have to pay will reduce from 40% to 36%.

## I've already made a will. Do I need to make a new one?

If you already have a will and you want to add the Earth Trust as a beneficiary, you simply need to ask your solicitor to help you complete a basic form called a codicil – we have a template that you can use. If you don't yet have a will, you shouldn't fill in this form. Your solicitor will be able to advise you on how to include your gift to the Earth Trust in your new will.

## I don't have a will. How do I find a solicitor?

We would encourage you to discuss your will with your solicitor to ensure that all legal requirements are met and that your will is valid. A properly drafted will can help reduce the amount of tax payable on your estate and increase the value of the assets that you pass on to the people you care about.

Visit Remember a Charity's helpful site to find a solicitor near you:  
[rememberacharity.org.uk/find-a-solicitor-or-will-writer](https://rememberacharity.org.uk/find-a-solicitor-or-will-writer)

# Here to support you

If you have questions or want to discuss your legacy with Earth Trust, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at [supportus@earthtrust.org.uk](mailto:supportus@earthtrust.org.uk) or by calling 01865 407792.

**We are a small charity with a big job to do, so you can be sure your legacy will make a real, significant difference to the people and places you love.**

## Our promise to you...

- Your family and loved ones come first. Once you have provided for them, any gift – big or small - will be hugely appreciated by Earth Trust.
- We won't pressure you – deciding whether to leave a gift in your will is a personal decision to make in your own time. We're here to help if you need us.
- We respect your privacy – we'd love to know if you've decided to remember Earth Trust in your will and will keep any details you share with us confidential.
- We will use your gift with the greatest of care, and make sure your gift is used as you intended to make a difference.



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