

Thank you for considering a legacy gift to Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative



Including a gift in your will, living trust, or estate plan, can be an inspiring way to connect and protect the landscapes and wildlife you love into the future. Gifts of all sizes help to make a tangible difference, and maximize tax benefits for you and your family. When the time is right for you, please consider making a long-term impact through a legacy gift to Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative.

WHERE TO START? Creating a legacy gift is a thoughtful process that will benefit from professional advice. A financial advisor can help you to determine how best to look after you and your loved ones' needs and priorities, and approximately how much you may be able to pass on to a charity and how. A lawyer can help you to create or update your will or plans. We recommend that you discuss your intention to include a legacy gift with both your financial advisor and your lawyer.

WHAT TYPE OF GIFT IS RIGHT FOR YOU? One of the simplest ways that you can include a legacy gift is through a bequest. Bequests have no impact on your current lifestyle and can be updated at any time, providing you flexibility for unanticipated expenses or life events. There are two main types of bequest:

1. A Residual Bequest - leaving a percentage of the residue of your estate

You can name the residue of your estate as a whole, or as a proportion using percentages. The residue is what remains after taxes, administrative expenses and your heirs have received their specific gifts or proportion. An advantage is that as your circumstances change, your will does not have to be altered, as the proportion remains the same.

Sample wording: "I bequeath _____% of the residue of my estate to Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative* (US tax identification number 81-0535303; principal address P.O. Box 157, Bozeman, MT 59771-0157, or Canada charitable registration number 86430 1841 RR0001, principal address 200-1350 Railway Ave, Canmore, AB, T1W 1P6) to support its ongoing conservation work."

2. A Specific Bequest - leaving a specific dollar amount, percentage of your overall estate, or piece of property such as real estate or artwork

Sample wording: "I give the sum of \$_____ (or % of my overall estate, or description of property) to Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative*, (US tax identification number 81-0535303; principal address P.O. Box 157, Bozeman, MT 59771-0157, or Canada charitable registration number 86430 1841 RR0001, principal address 200-1350 Railway Ave, Canmore, AB, T1W 1P6) to support its ongoing conservation work."

You can also include "contingent" provisions in your will that any gift will only take effect if a primary beneficiary does not survive you. A lawyer will be able to help with this wording.

**any legal document should include our full name and tax identification number*

OTHER GIFT OPTIONS: There are other options beyond gifts of cash, including those that provide you with an income in your lifetime. A few of these are outlined below. To understand which may be best for your own needs and wishes, we recommend that you speak to a lawyer or financial advisor.

Life Insurance Policy

You can name Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative as the beneficiary of a policy (including a policy from your workplace). In many instances, you can also make an outright gift of a new or existing policy, which may provide you with tax benefits. Bear in mind that regulations on this can be location-specific.

Retirement Plans – including IRAs (U.S.) and RRSPs/RRIFs (Canada)

By naming a charity such as Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative as a sole or joint beneficiary of your retirement plan, you can pass on the remaining balance of these investments after your passing. This can offset any tax payable on these by your estate. You can change your designations at any time simply by contacting your retirement plan administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form. You can also make us the contingent beneficiary, so that we will only receive the balance of your policy if your primary beneficiary does not survive you.

Charitable Remainder Trusts

This can be a great way to support a cause you are passionate about, while securing an income for yourself and/or family members during your lifetime(s). Charitable remainder trusts can be funded with cash, securities or real estate, and can offer substantial tax benefits. Assets are placed with a trustee (individual or entity) capable of managing them expertly, providing a reliable income while keeping the capital intact for a future gift.

IN THE U.S. ONLY

Charitable Lead Trusts

This is often referred to as the opposite of a charitable remainder trust. A charity like Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative receives the payments for each year the trust is in existence, and at the end of the trust term, what is left is returned to you or to your heirs - a great way to transfer substantial assets while minimizing gift and estate taxes.

IRA Charitable Rollover (also known as a qualified charitable distribution or QCD)

If you are 70½ years old or older, you can give any amount up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity like Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, without having to pay income taxes on the money, so you benefit even if you do not itemize your deductions. By reducing your income level, there can also be other income-related benefits.



For any general questions on legacies or the impact your gift will have on one of the world's last intact mountain ecosystems, please contact us (toll-free) on 1-800-966-7920 and speak to Renee (extn. 105) or Claire (extn. 102), or email us at legacies@y2y.net