**Information on Planned Giving**

An excellent way for you to support Montana Wilderness Association's mission is to make a planned gift or leave a bequest in your will, living trust or with a codicil. One significant benefit of making a gift by bequest is that, during your lifetime, it allows you to continue to use the investments or property that you will leave to charity. Another benefit is that you are able to leave a lasting legacy.

**General Information**
Montana Wilderness Association
80 South Warren
Helena, MT  59601
(406) 443-7350

Federal ID Number 51-0198932

Kassia Randzio
Interim Development Director
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(406) 830-6035

**Types of Bequests**
There are a number of ways you can make a bequest to Montana Wilderness Association.

**Specific Bequest.** A specific bequest involves making a gift of a specific asset such as real estate, a car, other property or a gift for a specific dollar amount. For example, you may wish to leave your home or $25,000 to Montana Wilderness Association.

**Percentage Bequest.** Another kind of specific bequest involves leaving a specific percentage of your overall estate to charity. For example, you may wish to leave 20% of your estate to Montana Wilderness Association.
**Residual Bequest.** A residual bequest is made from the balance of an estate after the will or trust has given away each of the specific bequests. A common residual bequest involves leaving a percentage of the residue of the estate to charity. For example, you may wish to leave 30% of the residue of your estate to Montana Wilderness Association.

**Contingent Bequest.** A contingent bequest is made to charity only if the purpose of the primary bequest cannot be met. For example, you could leave specific property, such as a vacation home, to a relative, but the bequest language could provide that if the relative is not alive at the time of your death, the vacation home will go to Montana Wilderness Association.

**Bequest Benefits**

A bequest is generally a revocable gift, which means it can be changed or modified at any time. You can choose to designate that a bequest be used for a general or specific purpose so you have the peace of mind knowing that your gift will be used as intended. Bequests are exempt from federal estate taxes. If you have a taxable estate, the estate tax charitable deduction may offset or eliminate estate taxes, resulting in a larger inheritance for your heirs.

**Bequest Language**

In order to make a bequest, you should speak with your attorney. Your attorney can help you include a bequest to Montana Wilderness Association in your estate plan. We have provided some basic bequest language to assist you and your attorney.

**1. Specific Bequest**

If you are considering making an outright bequest to Montana Wilderness Association, we recommend the following language:

**Bequest of a Specific Dollar Amount**

I hereby give, devise and bequeath _________ and No/100 dollars ($DOLLARS) to Montana Wilderness Association, a nonprofit organization located at 80 S. Warren Street, Helena, MT 59601, Federal Tax ID# 51-0198932, for Montana Wilderness Association's general use and purpose.

**Bequest of Specific Personal Property**

I hereby give, devise and bequeath DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY to Montana Wilderness Association, a nonprofit organization located at 80 S. Warren Street, Helena, MT 59601, Federal Tax ID# 51-0198932, for Montana Wilderness Association's general use and purpose.

**Bequest of Specific Real Estate**
I hereby give, devise and bequeath all of the right, title and interest in and to the real estate located at ADDRESS OR DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY to Montana Wilderness Association, a nonprofit organization located at 80 S. Warren Street, Helena, MT 59601, Federal Tax ID# 51-0198932, for Montana Wilderness Association's general use and purpose.

2. Percentage Bequest

If you are considering making a bequest of a percentage of your estate to Montana Wilderness Association, we recommend the following language:

I hereby give, devise and bequeath ____ percent (___%) of my total estate, determined as of the date of my death, to Montana Wilderness Association, a nonprofit organization located at 80 S. Warren Street, Helena, MT 59601, Federal Tax ID# 51-0198932, for Montana Wilderness Association's general use and purpose.

3. Residual Bequest

I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Montana Wilderness Association, a nonprofit organization located at 80 S. Warren Street, Helena, MT 59601, Federal Tax ID# 51-0198932, ALL OR A PERCENTAGE of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to be used for Montana Wilderness Association's general use and purpose.

4. Contingent Bequest

If (primary beneficiary) does not survive me, then I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Montana Wilderness Association, a nonprofit organization located at 80 S. Warren Street, Helena, MT 59601, Federal Tax ID# 51-0198932, DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY to be used for Montana Wilderness Association's general use and purpose.

Restricted Bequests

If you are considering a bequest but would like to ensure that your bequest will be used for a specific purpose, please let us know. We would be happy to work with you and your attorney to help you identify ways to meet your charitable objectives. We will also work with you and your attorney to craft language to accomplish your goals.

If you are making a restricted bequest, we recommend that your attorney include the following provision to give Montana Wilderness Association flexibility should it no longer be possible for Montana Wilderness Association to use your gift as you originally intended:

If, in the judgment of the Board of Directors of Montana Wilderness Association, it shall become impossible for Montana Wilderness Association to use this bequest to accomplish the specific...
purposes of this bequest, Montana Wilderness Association may use the income and principal of this gift for such purpose or purposes as the Board determines is most closely related to the restricted purpose of my bequest.

Contact Us

Please contact us if you have any questions about how to make a bequest to Montana Wilderness Association or to request any additional information that might be helpful to you and your attorney as you consider making a bequest to us. If you have included a bequest for Montana Wilderness Association in your estate plan, please contact us to let us know. We would like to thank you and recognize you for your gift.

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Info on Qualified Charitable Distribution

With recent tax reform, many philanthropic-minded people who once itemized their taxes will now be taking the expanded standard deduction in 2019 for the 2018 tax year. Those who are married and filing jointly will have an increased standard deduction amount of $24,000 (up from $13,000). Single taxpayers and those who are married and file separately now have a $12,000 standard deduction (up from $6,500). These same generous folks may be wondering if there are still ways to give that offer tax benefits.

- Donate appreciated stock: With the stock market at or near all-time highs, gift your appreciated stocks/mutual funds to a nonprofit like Montana Community Foundation and eliminate capital gains tax. These assets can also fund gift annuities that qualify for the Montana Endowment Tax Credit.
- Name your favorite charity as a beneficiary of retirement plan assets: These assets remain taxable when distributed to a loved one, but are tax-free when given to a nonprofit. This is a wonderful way to include charity in your estate planning.
- Gifts of real estate: Many real estate markets are enjoying gains. Appreciated real estate may be subject to capital gains tax unless donated to charity or transferred to a charitable trust.
- Give from your IRA (if age 70½ or older): Regardless of whether you itemize your taxes, this gift helps you fulfill your required minimum distribution and is not considered taxable income. This one deserves particular attention.

You can give up to $100,000 from your IRA directly to a qualified charity like MCF without having to pay income tax on the money you gift from your IRA. Your spouse can also give up to $100,000 from his or her IRA as well. This law no longer has an expiration date so you are free to make annual gifts to our organization this year and well into the future.
Some additional benefits? Your gift can be put to use today or help fund a permanent endowment, allowing you the flexibility of achieving your charitable goals for the near and long terms. If you have not yet taken your required minimum distribution for the year, your IRA charitable rollover gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement. **“Bunching” Strategy:** Donors can "bunch" their charitable contributions by giving larger amounts (oftentimes to a Donor Advised Fund) in one calendar year to exceed the newly increased standard deduction amount. Donors can then direct their charitable contributions over time, thus maintaining their charitable giving levels, schedules and increasing the tax benefit.

**Information on giving through one’s IRA**
Individuals 70½ and over, with a traditional IRA, must take a yearly distribution, a “Required Minimum Distribution” (RMD). For those who may not need the distribution to supplement their income, the RMD and its associated taxes can sometimes have a negative influence on finances. To avoid paying any taxes whatsoever on required distributions, individuals can have the distribution paid directly to a charity of choice. This "qualified charitable distribution" is easy to setup. Donors simply contact their finance management company and request an IRA distribution form. It is the same form that people use to collect their distributions. On the form, the donor will request that the RMD be paid to MWA. The following year, when doing taxes, the donor will report this on his/her tax form or to his/her CPA.