Join the Wild Nevada Legacy Circle

A legacy gift shows your thoughtfulness and forward-thinking generosity to help ensure Nevada’s public lands remain Forever Wild! When you make the important decision to leave a legacy gift to Friends of Nevada Wilderness in your will, you demonstrate your commitment to our work to protect and restore Nevada’s wild lands in perpetuity.

Initiated in 1974, with 501(c)(3) non-profit organization status since 1985, Friends of Nevada Wilderness founders and Board members have influenced every piece of federal legislation to designate wilderness in Nevada. One founding Board member was instrumental in the passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act, which included the 64,667 acre Jarbidge Wilderness. Collectively, we have achieved designation of over 3.6 million acres of federal wilderness in 73 wilderness areas — with more to come — across Nevada.

The Marge Sill Forever Wild Fund

Unless directed otherwise, all legacy gifts to Friends of Nevada Wilderness go to our Marge Sill Forever Wild Fund. Named in memory of founding member and “Mother of Nevada Wilderness” Marge Sill, this special Board-directed fund is an invested operating account fund used strategically and judiciously to launch new programs or to take advantage of time-sensitive wilderness protection opportunities.

Friends also has an established Endowment Fund with the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada in Reno, to which a legacy gift may be designated.

Common Ways to Leave Your Wild Legacy

The desire to support a Wild Legacy for Nevada with a gift to Friends of Nevada Wilderness can be the first important step in organizing your estate. A valid will allows you -- not state law -- to determine how your financial assets and personal property will be distributed. If you have a will, you can always add a “codicil” providing for a charitable bequest. The most common ways to make a legacy gift are with a simple bequest or by naming Friends of Nevada Wilderness as a beneficiary or partial beneficiary of your life insurance policy or retirement plan or IRA. You are encouraged to speak with an estate planner or your tax professional.
Unrestricted bequests provide maximum flexibility and are used strategically by the Board of Directors for our greatest needs. Of course, you may designate your bequest for a specific purpose as well. Your bequest can be a stated dollar amount, or you can bequeath specific property to Friends of Nevada Wilderness. Some of our friends prefer to bequeath a certain percentage of the remainder of their estate — the amount that remains after paying all debts, costs, and other prior legacies.

Legal Designation

For gifts to be made after your lifetime, remember to clearly identify the recipients, including your charitable causes. The following is general language to be included in your will, codicil or on all beneficiary forms:

“I give to Friends of Nevada Wilderness, a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Nevada and with the current business address of 1360 Greg Street, #111, Sparks, NV 89431, and Tax ID #88-0211763, the sum of $___________ (for a simple bequest) or ___________ (dollar amount or percentage) of my retirement plan or other asset account.”

Wild Nevada Legacy Circle Membership

Once you complete your estate plans, please let us know. We would like to thank you for your generosity by including you in the Wild Nevada Legacy Circle. Your membership involves no dues, obligations, or solicitations, but it allows us to recognize you for the plans that you have made.

Of course, you may remain anonymous, and still be part of the Legacy Circle. If you do allow us to list your name, it may inspire generosity in others to make a similar commitment to keeping Nevada’s public lands protected and healthy for future generations.