



Bequests to Friends of the MST

A legacy of a 1000-mile trail across North Carolina. Could there be a more lasting way to make a difference? By including Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail in your will or estate plan, you will help to leave a legacy future generations can feel beneath their feet.

Through your will or revocable living trust, you can specify that some or all of your assets come to Friends of the MST after your lifetime and which Friends programs you would like to support.

After your lifetime, the asset(s) you specify will pass to us and your estate can take a charitable deduction for the amount of your bequest.

At Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, all unrestricted charitable gifts will be used strategically to support our top trail priorities. If you have a more specific purpose in mind, please contact Kate Dixon, Executive Director, at 919-825-0297 x 701 to ensure that we can meet your wishes. Whether you choose to restrict your gift or not, your support will help build and maintain the trail for future generations to enjoy.

How to Name Us in Your Will

Legal language for wills and estate plans: Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, a nonprofit corporation, organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina, and with principal business address of PO Box 10431, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Types of Bequests

There are several types of bequests that allow you to designate how your estate will be distributed.

1. **Specific Bequest**

You describe exactly what you want to leave to a specific individual or organization and the designated source. If you want to leave a specific dollar amount from a specific source or a particular item (such as an antique or collector's item), this is the type of bequest that you would use.

Example: Evelyn states in her will: "I leave my diamond earrings to my granddaughter, Jessica. I also leave my securities to Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail."

2. **General Bequest**

This type of bequest does not specify the source from which it should be paid. This gives your executor the flexibility to honor the bequest from any available source.

Example: Evelyn states in her will: "I leave \$50,000 to my son, William, and \$50,000 to Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail."

3. Residuary Bequest

This type of bequest is honored after all other bequests have been made, and all debts, expenses and taxes have been paid.

Example: Evelyn states in her will: "I give all the rest, residue and remainder of my real and personal estate to Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail."

4. Contingent Bequest

This type of bequest is fulfilled if certain conditions are met. For instance, if your primary beneficiary does not survive you, you can indicate your next choice through a contingent designation.

Example: Evelyn states in her will: "I give all the rest, residue and remainder of my real and personal estate to my husband, Robert, if he survives me; if not, then 50 percent in equal shares to my children who survive me and 50 percent to Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail."

Information provided here is advisory in nature and is not intended to be tax or legal advice. Please consult a qualified financial advisor before making a gift.

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