# HELP US PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

If you've already included the Finger Lakes Land Trust in your will or estate plans, or if you're considering it, we'd love to hear from you. Knowing about your gift helps us to plan for future conservation efforts.

I have already included FLLT in my estate plan.

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please let us know the type of planned gift.

☐ Bequest (Will or Trust)

☐ Bank or Investment Account

☐ Retirement Account

☐ Life Insurance Policy

□ Property

□ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

### **Connect and Learn More**

☐ Please contact me about including the Land Trust in my estate plan.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ZIP \_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Visit **fllt.org/plannedgiving** to learn more about your options.

Please return this card in the envelope provided to:

Finger Lakes Land Trust 202 E. Court St. Ithaca, NY 14850





Your planned gift supports the conservation of land and water for future generations. We're here to help you explore your options. Please fill out and return the attached form or reach out directly.

#### Contact Us:

info@fllt.org

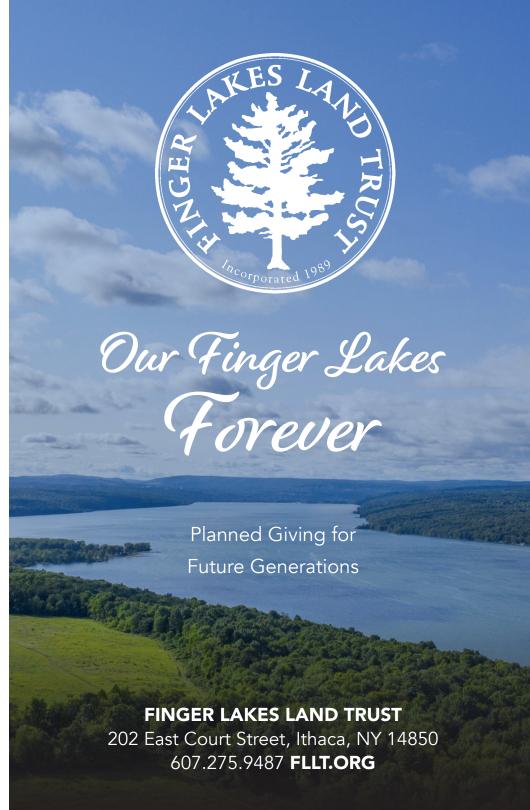
607.275.9487

fllt.org/plannedgiving

Use the QR code to share your estate plans with us.



Our Tax ID (EIN) Number is 22-2983688.





## PROTECTING OUR FINGER LAKES FOREVER

The Finger Lakes region has given us all so much—quiet walks along rugged gorges, clean water, scenic views, abundant farms, and memories that last a lifetime. As a member, you know that these resources need our help to remain resilient for future generations. Your generous support helps us face our region's ongoing conservation challenges. With a planned gift, you can deepen your commitment to the Finger Lakes, ensuring that the places you cherish are protected forever.

A planned gift allows you to give your assets to the Finger Lakes Land Trust through your will or long-term plans. With a planned gift, your values will live on, ensuring that the natural beauty of the Finger Lakes endures.

By making a planned gift, you will join a community of forward-thinking members who are planning today to secure a lasting future for conservation. Like you, they know that protecting the environment is about securing a healthy future for your children, grandchildren, and beyond. We invite you today to join them in planning for tomorrow.

Your thoughtful planning will make a lasting impact that protects *Our Finger Lakes Forever.* 



Fred and Susan Van Sickle Ithaca, NY

"We were inspired to protect the natural beauty of the Finger Lakes after moving to Ithaca a decade ago. When we were considering our gift for the recent capital campaign, we decided to add a bequest to increase our impact. A planned gift is a tangible way to invest in solutions to the climate crisis and keep the Finger Lakes iconic. It also allows us to continue our support beyond our lifetimes and sets a strong example for our children.

We are committed to supporting local organizations that preserve land and enrich our region, and we're proud to support the Land Trust's vision and outstanding work."

#### PLANNED GIFTS: MAKE A LASTING IMPACT

#### **Bequests: A Gift through Your Will**

You can include a gift through your will or trust to help protect the land and waters of the Finger Lakes region. Choose a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or what's left after you've provided for others. This gift costs you nothing now and can be adjusted if your circumstances change.

To include the Finger Lakes Land Trust in your estate plan, you may use the following sample language. However, we encourage you to consult with your attorney to ensure your bequest aligns with your wishes and estate plans. "I give and bequeath \$XXX [% of my estate] to the Finger Lakes Land Trust, Inc., 202 East Court Street, Ithaca, NY 14850 or its successors." Please let us know so we can thank you now.

## Beneficiary Designations: Retirement Accounts & Life Insurance

Naming the Finger Lakes Land Trust as a primary or contingent beneficiary of your retirement account or life insurance policy is a simple way to support conservation. Retirement assets left to individuals may be subject to income tax, while those given to a nonprofit organization like the Land Trust can be transferred tax-free. To name the Land Trust as a beneficiary of your retirement account or life insurance, simply fill out a Change of Beneficiary form with your provider. Our Tax ID (EIN) number is 22-2983688.

## **Beneficiary Designations: Bank & Investment Accounts**

Another easy way to support conservation is by designating the Finger Lakes Land Trust as a beneficiary of your bank or investment account. Many financial institutions allow you to name beneficiaries through a simple form, ensuring your gift goes directly to protecting the lands and waters you love.

You can choose to designate the Land Trust for a specific amount or percentage of your account, while still providing for family and friends. These gifts bypass probate, making the process seamless for your beneficiaries.

If you're interested in this option, your financial institution can provide the necessary forms.

## **Gifts of Property**

For many of our members, a home, cottage, or land is their most significant asset. Donating real estate to the Finger Lakes Land Trust is a powerful way to support conservation and may offer tax advantages.

You can give property outright or retain the right to use it during your lifetime through a *Retained Life Estate*. When included in your will or trust, a gift of real estate may reduce the size of your taxable estate and, in some cases, lower the tax burden for your heirs. Because the Land Trust is a nonprofit, your gift can pass tax-free and be put directly to work for conservation.

Before accepting property, the Land Trust conducts a careful review to ensure that each project aligns with our conservation strategies. This includes reviewing local planning documents, environmental assessments, title verification, financial feasibility, and long-term conservation value. We then work with each donor to determine the best path forward.

Talk to your advisor or attorney about how a gift of real estate can help protect *Our Finger Lakes Forever*—and leave a meaningful impact.