



Planned Giving Naming FMST as a Beneficiary

Naming Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail as a beneficiary is simple and will have lasting effects on the trail. You can name us as a beneficiary of a retirement plan, insurance policy or financial account. After your lifetime the asset will come to us without going through probate, and your estate will be entitled to a charitable deduction for the amount of the gift.

At Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail, all unrestricted charitable gifts will be used by FMST's Board of Directors to help build and maintain the trail forever. If you have a more specific purpose in mind, please contact FMST to ensure that we can meet your wishes.

Please contact:

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Three Ways to Name FMST as a Beneficiary

1. Retirement Plans

Your retirement plan is designed to benefit you during your retirement. However, you may name beneficiaries for your plan in case you pass away with funds still in your account. In addition to family, relatives and friends, a charity may also be named as the beneficiary.

Example: Carl began participating in his company's retirement plan when he first started working. At the time, he named his sister as his beneficiary. Since then, he has named his sister as the beneficiary of other assets in his estate. Having been a big supporter of the MST for years, he makes FMST the beneficiary of his retirement plan instead. His gift will ultimately be used to help build and maintain the trail across North Carolina.

2. Insurance Policies

Beneficiary of a Policy

You can name FMST as primary beneficiary of your life insurance policy or as contingent beneficiary should your other beneficiaries not survive you. After your lifetime, the benefits from your policy pass to us free of federal estate tax.

Example: Years ago, Howard bought a life insurance policy to protect his family. His family no longer needs this protection, and he decides to name FMST as the

beneficiary of the policy. After Howard's lifetime, the policy benefits will come to FMST to further our mission of building and maintaining the trail.

Sole Owner and Sole Beneficiary

You can also donate your paid-up life insurance policy to FMST. This is sometimes described as making an outright gift of a paid-up insurance policy. If the policy has a cash value, FMST would have the option of holding the policy until the maturity date or surrendering the policy in order to receive the policy's current cash value.

Example: Judith bought a life insurance policy years ago that she now wants to donate to FMST. Since she gave the policy to us, Judith can claim an income tax charitable deduction. The total amount of the policy is removed from her estate, and we will use the gift to further our mission of building and maintaining the trail.

3. Bank, Brokerage and Other Accounts

Another way you can include FMST in your estate plan is by naming us as the beneficiary of an account, such as a bank or brokerage account, or an asset, such as a certificate of deposit (CD). All you need to do is fill out a beneficiary-designation form (often called a transfer-on-death or pay-on-death form) provided by the institution. After your lifetime, the asset passes directly to FMST enabling us to continue our work.

Example: John and Mary recently decided to purchase a certificate of deposit (CD) at their local bank. They already completed their estate plan, and have designated all of their other assets to family members. When they set up the CD, they decide to leave it to FMST. This way, their estate can claim a charitable deduction for the value of the CD and they ultimately help support our trail efforts.

How to Name FMST as a Beneficiary

Please use the following information to fill out your beneficiary form:

Name: Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail

Address: PO Box 10431, Raleigh, NC 27605

Tax ID Number: 52-2204330

Relationship: Non-profit organization

Legal Language: 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 address at PO Box 10431, Raleigh, NC 27605.

Information provided here is advisory in nature and is not intended to serve as tax or legal advice.

Please consult a qualified financial advisor before making a gift.

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