

WILD



Memberships, Donations

&

Legacy Contributions

Guide

2024

Background

The Wentworth Investment in Legacy Development (WILD) is a conservation land trust that was established in 2021 with the intent of preserving the natural beauty of the Township of Wentworth for future generations. WILD relies on contributions of both land and money to achieve its three principal objectives: conservation, accessibility and education.

Conservation :

Our objective is to conserve a minimum of 30% of the municipality of Wentworth as green space or approximately 8,000 acres. This will include all types of ecosystems from forest to wetlands and the wildlife that inhabits it.

Accessibility :

Providing access to the natural wonders that surround us is a core principle. We are working long-term towards providing an interconnected network of multi-functional trails for hiking, biking, skiing and snowshoeing, across the municipality and linking to other networks in the region. The best way to appreciate nature is to explore it!

Education :

Our educational initiatives include events, presentations and outings with experts in the fields of biology and conservation. It also includes an objective of restoring and creating habitats for the fauna and flora at risk that make up the ecosystem of our territory.

Memberships

WILD relies on contributions from memberships to cover the administration costs of running the organization. While WILD is committed to limiting administration costs to 10% of its annual budget, in accordance with our charter, that money is needed to pay everything from taxes, insurance, professional contracts and daily operations. Your contribution as a membership helps show support for our organization and comes with some perks! We thank the municipality of Wentworth who have graciously contributed to WILD from 2022-2024 to cover the standard membership of every taxpayer in Wentworth.

Standard Membership: \$20 individual / annually
 \$50 family plan / annually

Includes: free access to our trails and parks, eligibility to become a trustee

Gold Membership: \$100 individual / annually

Includes: free access to our trails and parks, eligibility to become a trustee, 10% discount on all events & 24h priority access to tickets, one free piece of WILD merchandise

Corporate Membership: \$250 / annually

Includes: your company logo and name on our website, advertising at our annual fundraiser event

Sponsor Membership: \$1,000 / annually

Includes: your company logo and/or name on our website, prominent advertising at all our events, inclusion of your logo on our publications (newsletter, tickets)

Donations

As a non-profit, WILD relies on donations and grants to advance our programs and acquisitions. As of 2024, WILD officially received its status as a charitable organization, meaning we can issue tax receipts for all donations, including Ecological Donations.

While donations will typically contribute to the general funding of our annual budget, this is an approximate breakdown of our long-term spending intentions.

- 10% administration
- 40% investment for land purchase and stewardship
- 40% investment in infrastructure for parks and trails
- 10% investment in education and restoration projects

There are two options to process your donation depending on the amount you would like to give and the frequency.

For smaller one-time donations of less than \$500 or to set up a continuous monthly donation, you can use the **Canada Helps** website to pledge. They can set up your donation and provide you with your receipt directly. You can even donate securities on the site.

Visit: www.canadahelps.org Search: WILD Trust

For larger donations of over \$500, we will happily provide the tax receipt ourselves but would love to meet you to discuss our vision and know your intentions for where you'd like to see the money used.

Contact: info@wildfiducietrust.ca or (450) 562-0701 ext. 2917

Legacy Contribution Programs

The overarching theme of WILD is the concept of leaving the future generations of our community a place that we can be proud of, full of protected natural spaces. It doesn't happen overnight, and it doesn't happen without a good foundation. Your contribution to the Legacy program becomes the cornerstone of that foundation for our future. There are four options for how you can contribute to the Legacy program.

Stewardship

Property ownership comes with risks and expenses, especially when you are allowing public access to it. We need to financially plan for annual taxes and insurance, surveying and legal expenses, as well as property and forestry management. The general rule for conservation is to have 30% of the value of any property in reserve to cover these land stewardship expenses. Ideally, in addition to a land donation, a donor would be required to contribute towards stewardship. However, in cases where it's not possible, this alternate source of funding can ease the financial burden.

The Stewardship program would see donors giving the equivalent of the 30% value required for a specific WILD property. That money would be invested through ***Philanthropie Laurentides***, our partners for strategic investment, to satisfy our stewardship obligations. Of course, the annual growth of the fund also aids in our cause.

As the official Steward of one of our properties, your name or family name would appear on all publications associate with the site as well as on signage in place. Your contribution would be recognised in perpetuity. Please contact us for details on available land and the associated cost of Stewardship.

Security for the Future

Establishing financial independence will be key to the evolution of our organisation. Administration costs will require a constant influx of funds annually. Although it is not as exciting as other aspects of the organisation, the faster we can generate a self-financing portfolio, the quicker we can concentrate on our conservation efforts.

A standard cash donation can be made towards this fund, but another option is to contribute securities. A donation of securities or mutual fund shares is an efficient way to give, since the capital gains tax does not apply, and it means a larger charitable receipt for you.

Funds raised from dividends and interest from this program would be used to cover a portion of our administrative expenses.

Cornerstones

While our hope is always to receive land through donations, the reality is that we will be required to purchase most of the land we acquire. It will also be essential to have the capacity to make an offer when key pieces of land are on the market.

The Cornerstone program will be donations earmarked specifically for land acquisition. Donors can contribute the full amount to purchase specific properties or a portion of the purchase price for land WILD has an interest in. A general donation can also be made to contribute to the fund.

Donors having contributed at least 25% of the purchase price of a property will have their name attached to that property in perpetuity. Any donor that contributes the full purchase amount could also have the opportunity to participate in discussions concerning the usage of the land.

While funds in the Cornerstone program will be invested, the funds will remain accessible for ease of use. Any revenues from investment will be added to the fund.

Charitable Bequests

As part of your estate planning, you might consider a donation to WILD as part of your final requests. We can help you with a vision of how you would see a donation used and discuss an appropriate commemoration.

Land Donations

The greatest contribution to help us reach our conservation goals is the donation of land. For those willing to donate their land, WILD is open to discussing all options including servitudes, full or partial land donations or charitable bequests. As well, specific request about the usage of the land can also be integrated into the transfer agreement.

Land transfers qualify for a standard tax receipt or an Ecological donation receipt, equivalent to its ecological value, determined by a qualified evaluator. The procedure for an Ecological donation of land is a fairly long process, taking up to 2 years. It involves an environmental study of the property, an environmental evaluation to establish its fair market value and an approval process at the government level. WILD regards the process as a partnership and will work with you every step of the way to complete the transaction.

There are many financial benefits for an ecological gift in Canada. Advantages include no tax on capital gains, no limit on the total value eligible for deduction or credit in any one year and any unclaimed amount may be carried forward for up to 10 years as per the current standards.

As well, WILD would recognise this important contribution to the community. The donor would work with us to ensure the property carries the name of the owner or family in perpetuity, as an eternal remainder of their gift.

If you have an interest in donating your land, either now or in the future, the first step is to contact us. We have an internal evaluation committee that will evaluate whether the property is of interest to us for conservation or activity purposes based on criteria established by our professionals.

Contact us by info@wildfiducietrust.ca or (450) 562-0701 ext. 2917 to set up an appointment.



Thank you for considering contributing to WILD, your support is invaluable and greatly appreciated. Feel free to contact us for any information or on how to give.



www.wildfiducietrust.ca

