

# Leaving a gift in your Will

## Frequently asked questions



### Why should I make a will?

Making your will is the only way to be absolutely certain that your money and your belongings go to the people and causes you care about. It is also the only way that you can make a legally enforceable gift to charity on your death.

### How do I make my will?

The Wildlife Trusts are members of Remember a Charity, an organisation dedicated to raising awareness of remembering charities in wills and making the process as simple as possible. They have created an easy to follow guide for getting started on your will.

Alternatively, contact a qualified legal professional. The Law Society can provide you with a directory of solicitors near you.

### I don't have very much to leave, is it worth including a gift in my will to Shropshire Wildlife Trust?

Absolutely. We are so grateful for any amount you feel able to leave in your will for wildlife and all gifts make a difference.

### What kind of gift could I leave to Shropshire Wildlife Trust?

There are two types of gift you can leave in your will:

- A specific sum - This is a gift of a set amount of money. If you choose to leave a fixed sum of money to the Trust, do bear in mind that inflation may decrease its value over time.
- A share of your estate - This is a percentage of your estate after all other gifts and expenses have been paid. These gifts are very important to us as they usually maintain their value or increase over time. This also means you're less likely to need to amend it in the future.

### What should I include in my will?

It's worth thinking about what you want to include in your will before seeing a solicitor. You should consider:

- Who you would like to be your executor, the person who will carry out the wishes in your will.
- What money and belongings do you have? For example, property, savings, pensions, insurance policies and bank accounts.
- Who do you want to remember in your will? List all your family members, friends and the causes you care about.



### **Can you give legal advice about making my will?**

While we're unable to provide specific legal advice, we are happy to talk to you about how your gift could be used to protect wildlife.

### **What effect will my gift have on my inheritance tax status?**

Any gift you give to charity in your will is deducted before your estate is valued for tax purposes. This means that a gift to the Trust will reduce the amount of inheritance tax your beneficiaries will need to pay. Some people even choose to donate the value of their estate above the inheritance tax threshold to charity – meaning that no inheritance tax at all is payable.

### **I've already made my will. How can I change it to include a gift to the Trust?**

You won't need to rewrite your will unless you want to. A qualified solicitor can draft an amendment (called a codicil). It is a simple and inexpensive to make change to benefit wildlife. Do ask your solicitor about this.

### **How do I include Shropshire Wildlife trust in my will?**

If you decide to include a gift to Shropshire Wildlife Trust, it's easy.

All you have to do is give your solicitor the following registered address and registered charity number and your solicitor will do the rest.

Full name: Shropshire Wildlife Trust

Registered Charity No: 212744

Our address: 193 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6AH

### **Should I let you know that I have included or plan to include a gift in my will to Shropshire Wildlife Trust?**

We really appreciate hearing that you have thought of Shropshire Wildlife Trust when making your will. It allows us to say a big thank you for your generosity and if you'd like to hear from us, keep you up to date with the work that our supporters make possible. You can make changes to your will whenever you want to and letting us know that you've thought of us in your will is not legally binding in any way.

If you are happy to let us know then contact Gary de Saram, Individual Giving Manager, in confidence on 01743 284280 or email [garyds@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:garyds@shropshirewildlifetrust.org.uk)

