

Parks LEGACY

SPRING 2016



Protect, Connect, Inspire

Lifelong Love of Parks

Like so many other baby boomers, Carolyn Knoll decided that retirement was not going to keep her from living an active and adventurous life.

After 40 years working at a successful job in the corporate world, Carolyn decided to start the next chapter of her life by joining the Peace Corps and went to live and work in Ukraine. When she returned, she moved to Hawaii to be closer to family and ended up becoming a park ranger for the National Park Service. Carolyn explains, "I visited the USS Arizona Memorial in Hawaii many times before working there. My father was in the Navy during World War II, and the memorial meant a great deal to him."

Enjoying the national parks isn't new to Carolyn. In fact, you could say it's in her blood. She grew up in California spending time with her family in many of the surrounding parks such as Yosemite.

In fact, Carolyn's grandfather helped build the roads in Sequoia and Kings

Canyon. Visiting the parks had a profound effect on Carolyn. "I think it is important to understand the value of our national parks and preserving our wilderness and the wildlife that live there. Morally, we should be stewards and protect nature, not destroy it." She adds, "No advance in technology is going to be a substitute for nature."

Carolyn had been a monthly donor to the National Park Foundation for years when she decided to include the Foundation as a beneficiary of her will. She explains, "Contributing to the Foundation and adding them as a beneficiary in my will was one way I thought I could help. I think protecting the parks is of utmost importance, and the National Park Foundation does a great job in this area, contributing millions of dollars to different projects."

When asked what she would say to others who are considering a planned gift to the National Park Foundation, Carolyn shared, "Having done my own research and soul searching, I would ask, why are our parks and monuments important to you? If we believe them to be important for whatever reason, then we must do all we can to help protect them."

Like Carolyn, anyone can include a gift to the National Park Foundation in their plans, and there are a variety of ways to do it. A percentage of any amount can have a huge future impact. Contact the National Park Foundation to find out how a planned gift may work for you.



Carolyn Knoll
at Yellowstone
National Park

Easy Ways to Give

We often hear from our donors, like Carolyn Knoll, how the parks have left a profound impression on their lives. If you have ever wished you could do more to support the parks, but are concerned about making a commitment you might not be able to fulfill, or making a gift with assets you might need in the future, there are many ways you can create a legacy gift now that will also allow you peace of mind in the future should your circumstances change.

These gifts are often referred to as the “easiest ways to give” because they:

- **Are available for all ages** – people of any age can include the National Park Foundation as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy
- **Maintain flexibility** – you can change your mind at any time
- **Require nothing due now** – you can continue to enjoy your funds now, as your donation will transfer to the National Park Foundation only at the end of your life
- **Take care of loved ones and the parks** – decide which gifts you want to give to your family and friends first, then leave a percentage or the residue of your estate to the National Park Foundation
- **Welcome all amounts** – there is no minimum amount, and a gift of any size will provide much-needed support to our national parks and historical landmarks

Thomas Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C.



Most Popular Planned Gifts

Wills

A gift through your will or trust is a wonderful way of ensuring that support of the National Park Foundation continues for future generations. We can provide sample language to help get you started.

Retirement Plans

Gifts from retirement funds paid to your children or grandchildren at your passing may come with heavy income and estate taxes. These same assets are tax-free to charity and take only a few minutes to set up with a simple addition or change to your beneficiary form.

Life Insurance

Perhaps you have a policy that has outlasted its original intended purpose. You can make the National Park Foundation the beneficiary with just the change of a form. Or you can sign over a fully paid policy and qualify for a tax deduction. Call us to learn more.

Gift from Donor Advised Funds

Consider naming the National Park Foundation as a beneficiary of your account. You can even designate that we receive a portion of the account, keeping the remainder in your fund for your children or grandchildren to distribute after your lifetime as a way to continue your legacy of philanthropy.

Gifts from Certificates of Deposit and Other Bank Accounts

Don't forget about all of your other accounts for making legacy gifts. You can name the National Park Foundation as the “pay on death” beneficiary of a certificate of deposit, or any bank or brokerage account. Your financial institution can assist you with this easy designation process.

The wonderful fact of all of these gifts is how simple they are! We can assist you in creating a gift that will best personify your wishes for the national parks as well as take care of your future and your family's future.

A Life Income Plan in Support of the Parks

Did you know you can provide for your future and support the parks at the same time? That's exactly what you can do by making a charitable gift annuity.

Do you have some stocks that are paying low dividends but are afraid that the capital gains tax would be too high? Using those stocks to create a charitable gift annuity could potentially benefit you and the national parks. Advantages of a charitable gift annuity include lifetime payments at attractive rates, plus a significant tax benefit for your charitable contribution.

Contact the National Park Foundation to receive a free, personalized illustration of how a gift annuity might work for you. There is no obligation, and all conversations are confidential.

Sample Rates:

AGE	RATE
65	4.7%
75	5.8%
85	7.8%
90+	9.0%



Sequoia National Park, top, Lighthouse, Key Biscayne National Park, below

Support the Parks Through Your IRA

In December 2015, Congress permanently extended the IRA Charitable Rollover bill going forward. This means donors can use this new legislation to make new gifts in support of the national parks.

The IRA Charitable Rollover Bill allows individuals age 70½ or older to make tax-free gifts from a traditional IRA account directly to the National Park Foundation. And, if your spouse has IRA accounts, you may each make gifts from these accounts. While you cannot claim an income tax charitable deduction for an IRA rollover gift, this distribution from your IRA counts toward your minimum required distribution for the account and does not trigger income tax for you. It is a tax-free transfer from the IRA account directly to the National Park Foundation.

Some donors are taking advantage of this new legislation to make a gift to the

National Park Foundation in support of our new Campaign (see page 4 for details). Others are using this legislation to pay down their IRA because they find that they don't need the income. We have even heard some donors are making IRA gifts because the IRA paperwork is too cumbersome.

Whatever the reason, your gift in support of our country's national parks is sincerely appreciated.

How to make a gift

To make a gift to the National Park Foundation through your IRA, simply contact your IRA provider for exact instructions. IRA transactions usually take a few weeks. If you would like a sample letter to give to your IRA provider, just let us know and we can provide you with one.

Also, if you do plan to complete an IRA Charitable Rollover gift to the National Park Foundation, please let us know so that we can look for it and give you proper acknowledgment.

A New Era in Parks Support

The National Park Foundation recently announced a momentous new fundraising campaign entitled *The Centennial Campaign for America's National Parks*, and you can be a part of it.

As the National Park Service marks 100 years of excellence, we, as private citizens, must all do our part to safeguard these treasures for the next hundred years and inspire future generations to do the same. As the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, the National Park Foundation is commemorating this Centennial milestone by rallying Americans around three core principles:

- PROTECT** America's special places,
- CONNECT** new and diverse audiences to our heritage, and
- INSPIRE** the next generation of park stewards and advocates.

The National Park Foundation invites you to join us in this historic national fundraising campaign as we launch a new era of park philanthropy. Gifts through your will, or any part of your estate plans, will play an important part in the overall campaign goal and we would like your gift commitment to be counted in our efforts.

If you have already included the National Park Foundation in your plans but have not told us, let us know and your gift will be included in the Campaign. If you would like to know more about how you can make a gift to the Foundation in your will or other legacy plans, contact us today to have a confidential conversation.



Protect, Connect, Inspire



Nicole Engdahl

For More Information

If the national parks are important to you and you would like to include them as part of your estate plans please let us know.

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