# Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc. Wills and Trusts Giving Program

Preserving and protecting those things you hold dear—the integrity of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve's natural wonders, the park's unique opportunities to connect with nature, the care of the Reserve trail system, education and events program offerings—is a wise investment. The easiest way to leave a lasting legacy for the benefit of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve is through the Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc. Wills and Trusts Giving Program

The Wills & Trusts Giving Program provides individuals, families, and organizations a way to make a tax-deductible donation to Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc. The Friends' mission is to support, assist, and promote the Kickapoo Valley Reserve with interpretive, scientific, historical, educational, and related visitor services.

Through your contributions, we are able to continue and enhance our work.

## Called a charitable bequest, this type of gift offers these benefits:

**Simplicity.** Just a few sentences in your will or trust are all that is needed. An example of the language could include:

"I give (state the amount) to Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc., a Wisconsin charitable corporation, for its charitable purposes."

If you would like to use the percentage approach, suggested language could include:

"I give (state the number) percent of my residuary estate (which is the amount left after specific bequests have been made) to Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc., a Wisconsin charitable corporation, for its charitable purposes."

If you would like to give specific property, an example of the language could include:

"I give (describe the property) to Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc., a Wisconsin charitable corporation, for its charitable purposes."

**Flexibility.** Because you are not actually making a gift until after your lifetime, you can change your mind at any time.

**Tax Relief.** If your estate is subject to estate tax, your gift is entitled to an estate tax charitable deduction for the gift's full value.

### How it Works:

To make a charitable bequest, you need a current will or living trust. Your gift can be made as a percentage of your estate or you can make a specific bequest by giving a certain amount of cash, securities, or property.

Donors can also make a gift of retirement assets such as IRAs, 401(k), 403(b) or Keogh Plan accounts by designating Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc. as the beneficiary of these assets. Gifts can also be made by using a charitable remainder trust, gifting an annuity, making a gift reserving a life estate, or designating Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc. as the beneficiary of life insurance policies.

## **Putting Your Family First:**

When planning a future gift, it's sometimes difficult to determine what size donation to make. Emergencies happen and you want to make sure your family is financially taken care of first. Including a bequest of a percentage of your estate ensures that your gift will remain proportionate no matter how your estate's value fluctuates over the years.

You are strongly urged to discuss your gift intentions with your attorney or financial advisor and Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc. at an early stage in your planning. Please call us at 608-625-2960 if you have any questions or require additional information.

#### Thank You.

Thank you for considering making a contribution to Friends of Kickapoo Valley Reserve, Inc. Your support enables us to further our mission by providing the tools and resources we need.