



Friends of the Blue Hills

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Page 4: Erica Mattison, Dorchester

Frequently Asked Questions The Skyline Society

**Adding a gift to your Will is a simple act
with impressive results.**



**You can help protect and preserve the
Blue Hills Reservation for years to come.**

What is the Skyline Society?

The Skyline Society is the Friends of the Blue Hills' program for honoring and thanking members and friends of FBH. Each year we're grateful to welcome our Skyline Society members to a special reception with our Board to recognize your generous commitment to the future of the Blue Hills.

How do I become a member of the Skyline Society?

Anyone who notifies Friends of the Blue Hills that FBH is named as the beneficiary of a gift through his or her Will (often called a bequest), or through an estate gift during his or her lifetime is automatically enrolled as a member of the Skyline Society.

What is a bequest?

To make a charitable bequest, you need a current Will. Then, in your Will, you stipulate that FBH will receive either a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or a contingent bequest. It is the simplest way to make a

significant gift to FBH without affecting your assets during your lifetime.

Is there a minimum donation to be part of the Skyline Society?

Absolutely not. We welcome your gift of any size ... and deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness and willingness. You do not have to be wealthy to make a charitable bequest that will have a noticeable impact.

Why would I consider a gift to the Friends of the Blue Hills in my Will?

A gift in your Will is the simplest way for you to make a significant, lasting contribution to the Blue Hills Reservation. After the needs of a spouse, children, and other loved ones have been addressed, many individuals find it deeply satisfying to know that a portion of their resources will go toward the common good. A gift to the Friends of the Blue Hills creates a permanent legacy—in the donor's name or the name of a loved one—that will serve the community for generations to come.

What if I've already written my Will?

You can amend a Will to include FBH without rewriting the entire document. Your attorney or other advisor can prepare the simple statement, called a codicil, which adds the provision to include the Friends of the Blue Hills while reaffirming the other terms of your Will.

Can you give me sample language for a bequest to FBH?

Through a bequest, you may leave FBH a specific dollar amount, or all or a percentage of your estate. You may stipulate whether your bequest is unrestricted support, or for a specific purpose.

Here is sample language that you can show your lawyer: "after fulfilling all other specific provisions, I give, bequeath and devise % of the remainder of my estate (or \$ if a specific amount) to Friends of the Blue Hills Charitable Trust. (Tax ID 04-2627412) at the current address of P.O. Box 416, Milton, MA 02186."

What type of gifts can I make to become a Skyline Society member?

There are a number of gifts you can make that will allow us to include you as a Skyline Society member. Some of the most common ones are: (1) a bequest; (2) life insurance; (3) your retirement plan such as your IRA (individual retirement account) or 401(k) plan (a company sponsored retirement account); (4) charitable gift annuities; and (5) real estate.

Can I change my mind about my gift to the Skyline Society?

Yes. You can cancel or change the amount of a bequest at any time.

Do I have to tell you about my Skyline Society intentions?

No, you are not required to tell us. We will respect and honor your wish to remain anonymous. We do hope you're willing to tell us of your decision, as we would love to say thank you, and with your permission, acknowledge it to others. You will also inspire others to consider the Skyline Society in their own plans.