Suggested Bequest Language for a Will or Trust

Gifts to the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin through a bequest may be general in nature or for restricted purposes. To make a gift by will or trust to the Foundation, please use the following suggested wording:

1. “I give __________________ [describe the gift'] to the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin (the "Foundation") [federal tax id # 39-1572034], a nonprofit corporation organized and existing under the laws of Wisconsin and with a principal mailing address of PO Box 2317, Madison, WI 53701, for its charitable purposes as defined in and subject to the provisions of the Foundation's Articles of Incorporation as they exist on this date or as they may hereafter be amended (the "Articles"). All assets of the irrevocable gift shall be assets of the Foundation and not a separate trust. The gift shall be received, held and administered subject to the provisions of the Foundation’s Gift and Investment Policies, including those provisions which may permit the Board to amend, modify or vary any of the purposes, directions, restrictions or conditions set forth herein.”

If no additional restrictions are to be placed on the gift, only the language in section 1. is required. For placing restrictions on gifts, include both the language in section 1. plus additional language provided in the samples below under section 2.

2. To indicate a purpose of the gift and/or to create a named or advised fund, choose from the following options:
   a) Conservation Use Restriction. “This gift shall be designated to ___________.“
      (name an NRF program, a specific conservation purpose of gift, the Natural Resources Fund [NRF’s general endowment] or another existing named fund within the Wisconsin Conservation Endowment)

   A gift of $20,000 or more may be used to create a named fund (see 2b, below). A gift of $40,000 or more may be used to create an advised fund (see 2c, below).

   b) Named Funds. For gifts of $20,000 or more, a named fund can be created. “This gift shall be used to create a named fund to be known as the ________ Fund. The purpose of the Fund shall be: ____________________.” (describe general or specific purpose, restrictions, etc.).

   c) Advised Fund. ($40,000 or more) "This gift shall be used to create a named fund to be known as the ________ Fund with a purpose of ____________. Distributions may be made from the Fund as the Board of Directors may determine after taking into consideration any suggestions from time to time made to the Foundation by ____________ [insert name and contact information of particular person who will advise the fund]. It is understood that no successor advisors shall be named by the designated advisor listed above.”

'A gift may be a specific dollar amount, a percentage of an asset or the estate, its remainder or a specified asset. 'Unrestricted gifts will be added to the Natural Resources Fund, NRF’s general endowment.