



NATURALIST'S LEGACY SOCIETY

Opening a Window to the Natural World



SQUAM LAKES NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER

23 Science Center Road, PO Box 173, Holderness, NH 03245
www.nhnature.org/support/planned_giving.php

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...wildlife, natural history, environmental education, lake tours, school field trips, children, Kirkwood Gardens, lifelong learning, trails, science, families...

What will your legacy be?



Since 1966, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center has provided enriching natural experiences that plant priceless seeds of wonder.

Most of us have memories of places and events in our childhood that created a lasting connection to the natural world. Perhaps it was finding a bird's nest in the backyard or playing in a leaf pile in the fall with a cherished friend. Perhaps it involved a fort in an old gnarled maple, a walk through a milkweed patch filled with Monarch Butterflies, or a visit to a local nature center.

For many of us those seminal moments planted a seed of wonder in our hearts and fostered a life-long connection to the natural world.

How has Squam Lakes Natural Science Center changed *your* life?

Do you have memories of enjoyable time well spent on the live animal trail with your family? Do you learn something new every time you visit that makes you think? Do you believe future generations need to love and understand the natural world in order to cherish and protect our heritage?

Your planned estate gift will help Squam Lakes Natural Science Center to continue to achieve its mission to teach about the natural world for generations to come. Estate gifts to Squam Lakes Natural Science Center will help to maintain the 3/4-mile live animal trail displaying native wildlife in woodland enclosures and hands-on interactive exhibits.





Retirement Funds

With a gift from your retirement funds, you can reduce the size of your taxable estate and sustain the future of Squam Lakes Natural Science Center. It's easy to do and you can make a significant gift that costs nothing during your lifetime.

Anyone Can Make an Estate Gift

When I first heard about planned giving I thought it would be something great to do for the Science Center. But I didn't want to run up legal fees for estate planning purposes that might change over time as our priorities did. (That's "estate" such as it is.)

Then I discovered it's possible to plan some giving in a cheap, easily changeable way: IRA or 401 (k) beneficiary designations. You go to the website of whoever manages your fund and plug in a lovely non-profit like Squam Lakes Natural Science Center as a beneficiary, along with a percentage of the assets you'd like them to get, and allocate the rest to your spouse or kids.

So that's what I did. It took less than a minute and cost nothing, but guarantees the Science Center the equivalent of several years' annual fund contributions from me....in the event I get run over by a moose.

Laurie Beeson



A Vision for the Future



Over the years Squam Lakes Natural Science Center has become a touchstone for us during our vacation at Squam Lake. We are drawn to the peace and beauty, enjoy walking the trails, and visiting favorite exhibits, but most of all have come to appreciate the vision the Science Center has. We see personal commitment by staff and volunteers alike when it

is their familiar faces greeting us year after year. We notice changes as we walk around, and know that the Center is dynamic, not static. It is always striving to improve.

It is in this spirit of appreciation for all that the Science Center has done and will continue to do in its mission, and our wish that future generations be able to experience what we enjoy today that we have included the Science Center in our estate plan as a beneficiary of our life insurance.

Nancy and Jim Ainsworth

Insurance

Life insurance is a low-cost way to provide a large gift. You can name the Science Center as primary or contingent beneficiary. Life insurance assets do not pass to your heirs through your will. They require separate beneficiary forms that can be easily modified throughout your lifetime to meet your changing financial and philanthropic goals.

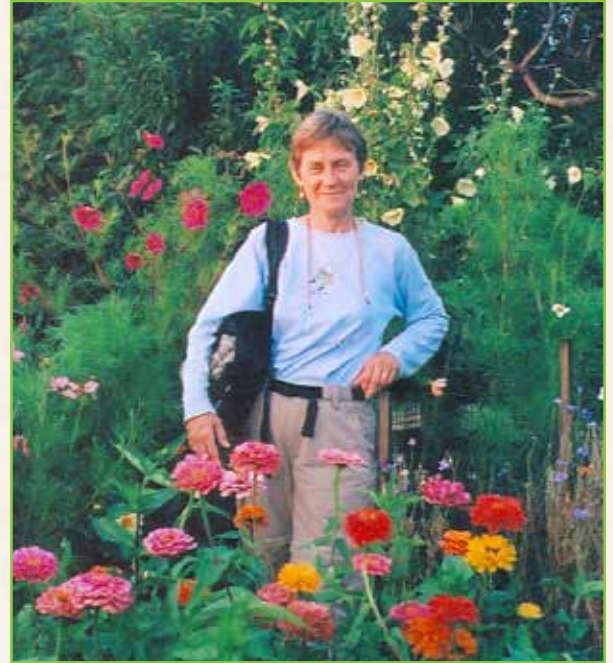


Make a Difference in the Lives that Follow

Have you ever noticed how a groundhog is adapted to winter? Have you ever heard children giggle as they crawl through a “sensory tunnel”? Do you know if red squirrels or grays hide their food in one place? These are just some of the experiences and knowledge that Squam Lakes Natural Science Center makes available to children, parents, and community members. Having served as a summer staff member and a sixth grade science teacher at Gilford Middle High School, I’ve been watching and participating in these programs for over 20 years. Repeatedly, I’ve been impressed by the Center’s knowledge, professionalism, enthusiasm and ethical approach to environmental education.

When it came time for me to consider writing my will and deciding where to allocate my money, there was no question that the Science Center be first on that list. Since I wanted to see these programs continue and expand beyond my lifetime, I set up a trust naming the Center as one of my beneficiaries.

Barbara Bald





Wills and Trusts

You can make a lasting contribution to environmental education by remembering Squam Lakes Natural Science Center in your will or trust. A simple charitable bequest is anything you leave from your estate to a nonprofit organization, such as the Science Center. Most people leave an estate when they die – property, money, personal belongings – even if they do not have a great deal of wealth.

To leave a charitable bequest in your will, use direct language naming Squam Lakes Natural Science Center and the assets you wish to give. For cash gifts, this may be a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your assets. A bequest may be added to an existing will through an amendment (codicil).

Sample wording: *I give to Squam Lakes Natural Science Center the sum of \$___ or ___ percentage of my estate for its unrestricted use.*



There are many other ways to make an estate gift. Giving personal property or other assets such as real estate, securities, or other tangible property, may be the best choice for you.

We advise you to seek counsel from your attorney or financial advisor who can help you consider tax consequences and create a plan that can be highly beneficial to you and also provide a significant and lasting charitable gift as your legacy.

What Will Your Legacy Be?

Take a moment to think about the role Squam Lakes Natural Science Center plays in your life and consider how you can provide financial assistance to help it carry on its mission *to advance understanding of ecology by exploring New Hampshire's natural world*. By making a planned estate gift, you can continue to help the Science Center into the future.

Have you already included Squam Lakes Natural Science Center in your estate plans? We'd love to know so we can follow your wishes, thank you, and welcome you into the Naturalist's Legacy Society.

Squam Lakes Natural Science Center Development Office
Janet Robertson, Development and Communications Director
Phone: 603-968-7194 x 12
Email: janet.robertson@nhnature.org
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