

GREEN LEGACY

Spring 2013



GREENPEACE
FUND



Rolf Skar
Forest Campaign Director

Inside:

- New tax law brings opportunities
- Greenpeace supporter leaves legacy of love

You Made It Happen!

Imagine for a moment the forests of Indonesia, buzzing with the sounds not of bulldozers—but of birds and other wildlife that make them truly special. I'm happy to say we've just taken a significant step in the right direction to make this a reality.

After more than 10 years of campaigning against Asia Pulp & Paper (APP), one of the biggest companies responsible for rainforest destruction, the company has agreed to immediately halt any further deforestation and develop a comprehensive forest conservation policy.

If this policy is successfully implemented, it will be huge step towards reforming Indonesia's paper industry, protecting its rainforests and the remaining Sumatran tigers that call that place home. Remember our recent victories with Mattel, Hasbro and Lego? When big companies started ditching their contracts with APP, it helped persuade the company to make this new commitment.

While we celebrate the potential of this announcement, you should know that this is only the beginning. Having witnessed previous broken commitments before, the real work lies ahead of us as we make sure APP backs up its commitment with real on-the-ground action.

Here's a basic breakdown of what you helped to make happen. APP has:

- Created a moratorium on clearance of natural forests and peat lands.
- Agreed to protect all forest lands across its supply chain.
- Committed to begin a policy-making process to resolve and avoid social conflicts.
- Agreed to independent monitoring of its progress.

As of now, Greenpeace has suspended its active campaigning against the company. This will allow APP time to deliver on their commitments. But, trust me when I say, we will continue to push for real results, while continuing our campaigning to convince other paper companies to follow suit.

There's lots of work to be done, and my team and I are going to keep moving forward to ensure this agreement is honored and to stop other companies from destroying the forests. This is your achievement, and could well be a breakthrough for Indonesia's impacted communities, endangered wildlife like Sumatran tigers, our climate, and our planet.

Thanks again,
Rolf Skar, Forest Campaign Director
Greenpeace USA

New Tax Law Brings Opportunities

In January of this year Congress enacted the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA). While some had proposed limiting the amount or value of charitable deductions, Congress did not make any significant changes in the amount of gifts that can be deducted. In fact, new higher tax rates mean that, for some, the after-tax cost of giving can now be less than in the past.

As part of the new legislation, capital gains tax rates were increased for some. This means that gifts of securities and certain other assets will now be more attractive for many.

IRA GIFTS RETURN

Those over age 70½ will be pleased to learn that the ability to make tax-free gifts to charitable interests directly from IRAs has been restored. Through the end of 2013 it will be possible to make tax-free gifts in this manner.

- Applies to qualifying transfers up to \$100,000 from traditional or Roth IRAs for 2013.
- Couples with separate IRAs could double up and make transfers up to \$200,000.
- Gifts from IRAs can be used to fulfill pre-existing pledges.

Contact us or your IRA plan administrator for more information.

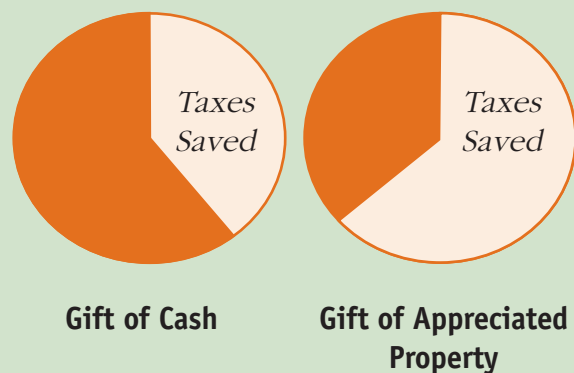
ESTATE AND GIFT TAX CHANGES

Congress also established new estate and gift tax rates and made permanent the level at which they would apply in the future.

As a result of these changes, many will find they will have more assets available in their estates, making it possible to provide more for both their heirs and charitable interests.

Extra Savings for Non-Cash Gifts

New, higher capital gains tax rates can actually mean greater savings for those who enjoy making charitable gifts. Gifts of securities (stocks, bonds or mutual funds) and certain other property are generally deductible at their full value if they have been owned for longer than a year. These gifts also result in bypassing capital gains tax that would be due on a sale. The cost of such gifts can be even less than a comparable gift of cash. As the new 3.8 percent Medicare contribution tax is not owed on assets given to charity, those subject to this tax will save even more. Gifts of appreciated assets can be used to offset tax on up to 30 percent of AGI. The chart below compares the maximum federal tax savings from giving cash versus appreciated assets in 2013.



The purpose of this publication is to provide general gift, estate, and financial planning information. It is not intended as legal, accounting or other professional advice. For assistance in planning charitable gifts with tax and other implications, the services of appropriate advisors should be obtained. Consult an attorney for advice if your plans require revision of a will or other legal document. Tax deductions vary based on applicable federal discount rates, which can change on a monthly basis. Some opportunities may not be available in all states. ©MMXIII RFSCO, Inc. All Rights Reserved. TXNLPDF-13

Estate and Gift Tax Changes

For the last decade, constantly changing federal estate and gift tax threshold amounts and rates have led to uncertainty for those considering their long-range estate and financial plans.

HAS CONGRESS CHANGED YOUR WILL?

As part of recently enacted legislation, Congress has restored greater certainty in the area of estate and gift taxes. Changes made in 2011 that set a \$5 million limit on the total amount that can be given to others during lifetime or at death have now been made permanent.

For a married couple, the combined total was \$10 million with proper planning. This amount, indexed for inflation beginning in 2012, is \$5.25 million per individual for 2013.

Estate and gift taxes may also be due at the state level and those taxable thresholds and rates may be different from the federal tax rules.

MORE ASSETS TO GIVE TO OTHERS

For charitably minded individuals lower estate taxes can be good news indeed, as it now means that most will be able to make their estate plans with less concern for federal taxes on amounts left to loved ones.

In light of that fact, it is possible for one to increase amounts left to heirs while making the same or larger gifts for charitable purposes through

their estates. In many cases this can be achieved without the use of complex plans required to reduce taxes under prior law.

MINIMIZE TAXES FOR HEIRS

Because amounts left to heirs through an IRA, 401(k) or certain other retirement plans will be subject to both estate and income tax when received by them, some may wish to devote all or a portion of these funds to charitable purposes and leave to heirs other assets that will be received free of income taxes.

Insurance policies that were purchased to provide funds for payment of estate taxes may also be a source of funds that could now be redirected either partially or fully for charitable use.

If, like many, you will be revisiting your estate plans in light of the new tax law, we will be pleased to assist you and your advisors as you consider the charitable dimension of your plans.

Please Remember Greenpeace in Your Will

If you are ready to name Greenpeace in your will or other plans, here are a few simple facts to note. Our full legal name is:

Greenpeace Fund, Inc.

and our federal tax ID number is:

95-3313195.





Long-time Greenpeace Supporter Leaves Legacy of Love



Leslie Ann Cyril

When Leslie Ann Cyril passed away at age 60, she left a legacy of love and caring for people and animals and for the future of our planet.

Her commitment to the well-being of the planet and all living creatures inspired Leslie's generosity to Greenpeace, which she actively supported for 20 years. Leslie also left a portion of her retirement plan to Greenpeace as well as a residual gift from her estate. "It was Leslie's wish that her gifts help the work of Greenpeace continue in a meaningful way," said a close friend and executor of her will.

Leslie's battle with ovarian cancer inspired her to become a community and patient educator at Hoag Hospital and University of California Irvine Medical Center. There Leslie worked with hundreds of cancer patients over the years, helping them locate public sources of information about nutrition, clinical trials, treatment options and spiritual sustenance.

She was later appointed a patient advocate to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network (NCCN), an alliance of 21 of the world's leading cancer centers.

As a classically trained vocalist, Leslie performed professionally at various venues, including Universal Studios, the Troubadour Club (a well-known Hollywood musical center) and as a warm-up performer for the Smothers Brothers. She earned a bachelor's degree from Pacific Western University.

"Leslie was a die-hard Dodgers fan, a deeply spiritual soul, loving 'mommy' to her beloved cats, up-front and honest friend, lover of red velvet cupcakes, serious shopper and movie and mystery program fan," said her friend. Added Leslie's parents, "She was a Greenpeace supporter to the end."

To Greenpeace, Leslie represents a legacy of caring and support for the future of our planet.

For More Information...

For more information on how your plans can balance your own personal and financial goals with a desire to help Greenpeace in a substantial way, please contact, without obligation:



GREENPEACE FUND

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*Greenpeace Fund is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization set up to continue the vital work of Greenpeace by increasing public awareness and understanding of environmental issues through research, the media, and other educational programs. Greenpeace Fund also provides grants to support Greenpeace's work around the world for activities that are consistent with its mission.



Recognized by Charity Navigator as having demonstrated excellent financial efficiency.

Awarded "Best in America Seal" by Independent Charities of America. Of the one million charities operating in the USA, less than two thousand have been awarded this prestigious seal.



Proud to meet all of the Better Business Bureau's "Wise Giving Alliance Standards for Charity Accountability."

Top-rated environmental charity by the American Institute of Philanthropy. Grade A-.

