

### Planned Giving Options:

Anyone can establish a permanent and meaningful legacy through estate planning to benefit The Thoreau Society (TTS). Here are three ways we recommend:

- Designate TTS as a beneficiary in your will, trust, or retirement plan/IRA by allocating a percentage, dollar amount, or specific assets to the Society.
- Establish a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust with the Society.
- Make a gift of your new or existing life insurance policy to the Society.

### Sample Bequest Language:

I give, devise, and bequeath to The Thoreau Society, Inc. (EIN 16-6035496), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization organized under Massachusetts law and currently having offices at 341 Virginia Road, Concord, MA, USA, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_, the following asset \_\_\_\_\_ and/or \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my adjusted gross estate (or the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate).

### Other Ways to Give:

#### *Employer Matching Gift Programs*

Many employers have matching gift programs. Some employers double or triple the gifts. We encourage you to contact your Human Resources Director.

#### *Stocks, Bonds, and Mutual Funds*

You can give stocks, bonds, and mutual funds to the Society. You may qualify for a charitable deduction and/or avoid paying capital gains tax on the sale or transfer of the asset. Check with your tax specialist.

In accumulating property for ourselves or our posterity, in founding a family or a state, or acquiring fame even, we are mortal; but in dealing with truth we are immortal....

The Thoreau Society, Inc.

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Donors will receive a Thoreau bust and certificate of recognition.

# The Thoreau Society

*Education Outreach Advocacy*

Only that day dawns to  
which we are awake. There is  
more day to dawn. The sun is  
but a morning star.



**Lasting Legacy**



If the Thoreau Society has helped keep Thoreau's legacy alive in you, will you provide a legacy gift to help it do the same for others yet to come? Your bequest is a tribute to Henry Thoreau, "paid forward" to future Thoreauvians. Think of it as seed money that provides planning advantages to you and wonderful benefits to the Society's mission starting now.

Bequest designations immediately demonstrate to grant agencies and other funders the organizational health and member involvement required to secure their support. "I have great faith in a seed," said Thoreau. "Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders."

Because of the transcendent vitality of his ideas and expression, Henry Thoreau is, arguably, a more vital presence in our world than the world in which he

walked, thought, and wrote. For 78 years the Thoreau Society has helped keep him alive by fulfilling its mission: to educate the public about Thoreau's ideas and their application to contemporary life, to encourage research on Thoreau's life and works, to act as a repository for Thoreau-related materials, and to preserve Thoreau's legacy and advocate for the preservation of Thoreau country.

Since its founding in 1941, the Thoreau Society has grown and flourished. Our 1,200-plus members come from all 50 US states, including Maine's Penobscot Nation, and more than 20 other countries. We have never, however, had enough funding to secure our present and ensure our future. In fact,

"I have great faith in a seed. Convince me that you have a seed there, and I am prepared to expect wonders."

we've often been fettered by annual deficits and today do little more than break even. We prudently manage to do more with less, but we could do much more—for our mission and for our members—with a little mattress money to provide for opportunities and protect against lean times.

As past president Michael Schleifer said, "A gift committed to while one is still very much alive and active is a wonderful gesture that helps secure the organization's future, allows it to plan ahead, and reduces financial anxiety." Following past

benefactors, and hoping to lead by example, Michael and I have already committed bequests to the Thoreau Society. Will you make a commitment either now or as soon as possible? Every dollar given directly supports the Society.

Your estate attorney and tax advisor can help arrange a bequest that best meets your needs. If you would like more information or preliminary guidance, please return the enclosed card. You may also contact Michael Schleifer at [grouchopa@aol.com](mailto:grouchopa@aol.com). Please notify the Society of whatever legacy gift you can provide. Doing so will help our planning and will allow us to thank you, properly and lastingly, in significant ways.

Please join us with your support of the Thoreau Society's Lasting Legacy program.

Ron Hoag, President

