

## Gift Acceptance Guidelines

Last update: Tuesday, March 2, 2021

The following guidelines govern acceptance of gifts made to Washington's National Park Fund (WNPF) for the benefit of any of its operations, programs or services.

**MISSION:** WNPF solicits and accepts gifts that are consistent with its mission to raise private support to deepen everyone's love for, understanding of, and experiences in Mount Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks.

**GUIDELINES:** The Fund's Chief Executive Officer and Executive Committee have full authority to accept gifts made to Washington's National Park Fund in consultation with park leadership and/or in accordance with the provisions of these guidelines. Donations and other forms of support will generally be accepted from individuals/couples/families, partnerships, corporations, foundations, government agencies or other entities.

Washington's National Park Fund shall:

- accept gifts that align with its mission
- decline gifts with restrictions that go against its mission, the mission of the national parks, or that involve unlawful discrimination based on race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or any other basis prohibited by federal, state and local laws and regulations
- refrain from accepting gifts that the parks aren't ready to accept/implement in the foreseeable future unless advised by the donors that such action is acceptable (in other words, the funds will be held in reserves noting the restriction, park and donor).

When considering whether to solicit and/or accept gifts, Washington's National Park Fund keeps the following factors in mind:

- **Values** – Does acceptance of the gift compromise any of the core values of Washington's National Park Fund?
- **Compatibility** – Is there true compatibility between the intent of the donor and the Fund's use of the gift?
- **Public Relationships** – Will acceptance of the gift damage the reputation of Washington's National Park Fund and/or Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks in anyway?
- **Primary Benefit** – Is the primary benefit to Washington's National Park Fund and/or Mount Rainier, North Cascades, and Olympic National Parks versus the donor?
- **Consistency** – Is acceptance of the gift consistent with park priorities?
- **Form of Gift** – Is the gift offered in a form that Washington's National Park Fund can use without incurring a distinctive level of expense or difficulty?
- **Effect on Future Giving** – Will the gift encourage or discourage future gifts?

**PROPERTY:** Gifts of real property and personal property may only be accepted upon approval of the CEO and Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

**OBTAINING AN APPRAISAL:** When the value of a donated item requires an appraisal (i.e., art, jewelry, homes, vehicles, etc.), the appraisal is to be obtained and paid for by the donor(s).

**STOCK GIFTS:** Stock gifts are acceptable forms of giving to Washington's National Park Fund. The stock is transferred to Laird Norton Wealth Management (Washington's National Park Fund's official endowment managers), sold within 48 hours, and deposited directly into Washington's National Park Fund's checking account.

**BYPASSING GIFTS:** WNPF will refrain from accepting gifts that:

- a. are too difficult, too cumbersome, or too expensive to administer in relation to their value
- b. are for purposes outside of Washington's National Park Fund's mission
- c. could result in the organization violating its mission
- d. could result in the organization losing its status as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization
- e. could result in any unacceptable consequences for Washington's National Park Fund

Decisions on the restrictive nature of a gift and its acceptance or refusal shall be made by the Executive Committee in consultation with the CEO.

**LEGAL COUNSEL:** Washington's National Park Fund will seek the advice of legal counsel in matters relating to acceptance of gifts when appropriate. Washington's National Park Fund urges all prospective donors to seek the assistance of personal legal and financial advisors in matters relating to their gifts, including the resulting tax and estate planning consequence.