

## About Sycamore Land Trust

Sycamore Land Trust is a nonprofit conservation organization founded in 1990 whose mission is to protect land and connect people to nature in southern Indiana. Sycamore works closely with individuals, landowners, and other organizations in a collaborative, non-political approach.

All of our work is made possible through the generous support of individuals, foundations, and business donors. Together, we are making a significant impact by protecting and restoring thousands of acres of forests, wetlands, farms, and formerly mined properties throughout our region. We utilize 100% of donations right here at home in southern Indiana, and you can see the difference it makes.

Thousands of people visit Sycamore's free public nature preserves each year. Children and adults connect with nature through our hands-on environmental education programs at schools and for groups including Head Start, Boys & Girls Clubs, Girls Inc., and scouting troops. This community engagement encourages a conservation mindset that is vital to the lasting success of our work.

## Fast Facts

- ✦ At least 20 at-risk species have been protected on our properties, including the Indiana bat, barn owl, bobcat, and bald eagle.
- ✦ The trees we plant and protect contribute to cleaner air, offsetting carbon emissions, and preventing harmful erosion.
- ✦ Wetlands clean water for habitats, drinking water, and agriculture.
- ✦ Our public nature preserves provide access to nature, which improves physical and mental health, and quality of life.



[www.sycamorelandtrust.org](http://www.sycamorelandtrust.org)  
[info@sycamorelandtrust.org](mailto:info@sycamorelandtrust.org)  
812-336-5382  
P.O. Box 7801  
Bloomington, IN 47407

All gifts to Sycamore Land Trust, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

*Barred owl cover photo: Steve Gifford*



## Legacy Circle



**Sycamore Land Trust**

Protecting land & connecting people to nature since 1990





Thank you for your interest in helping Sycamore Land Trust protect southern Indiana's natural heritage and connect people to nature for generations to come.

## A Living Legacy

You can make a positive difference in protecting the beautiful landscapes of southern Indiana and connecting people to nature by including Sycamore Land Trust in your estate planning. Through a gift of cash, security, or land in your will or trust, or by naming Sycamore as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, annuity, or insurance policy, you create a lasting conservation legacy for you and your family, while joining a group of like-minded conservation supporters in our Legacy Circle.

When we think about how to make a positive impact for the future, we often think of our children, grandchildren, or community. Others would like to honor a loved one who has passed away.



This is what Melinda Swenson did for her late husband, Dan Willard. Dan was a former Board President for Sycamore Land Trust, just one of the many ways he demonstrated his commitment to conservation.

"Dan was devoted to land and water conservation, and I got involved as well," Melinda recalls fondly. "I also met other wonderful people who valued preservation."

"I love being among people who are working together for something in common that they support and love. We can do good work together, work that is meaningful and compelling and important, work we would love to do individually but can't do on our own."

"The legacy gift is my way to say I'm still in," Melinda explains. "I thought, why did I put this off? I have married again, and Carol and I support Sycamore together. We have really demonstrated our commitment: our legacy gift honors Daniel and the critically important work of Sycamore."

## Creating a Conservation Legacy for Southern Indiana

Your planned gift will nurture life in all its forms – supporting healthy forests, clean rivers and streams, family farms, and native prairies. By helping conserve land, your gift will provide a safe haven for native wildlife and plants, connect people to nature, and protect and restore clean air, pure water, and rich soil.

Since 1990, Sycamore has been protecting land through successful projects like the Beanblossom Creek area and Columbia Mine at the Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge, and thousands additional of acres throughout our region. We focus on creative and strategic land acquisition, effective land stewardship, efficient financial management, and meaningful environmental education.

## Planned Giving Options

Sycamore Land Trust offers options that allow you to help preserve the beautiful landscape of southern Indiana, while also securing a range of tax and other benefits for you and your family.

### Gifts that will be made in the future:

Including Sycamore as a beneficiary in your will, trust, life insurance or retirement plan enables you to control your assets during your lifetime and reduce taxes to your heirs.

Life estates enable you to retain control of your land during your lifetime and receive tax benefits while naming Sycamore as the remainder beneficiary.

### Gifts that pay you income:

Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts enable you to transfer assets to Sycamore and receive tax benefits and income during your lifetime.

---

We look forward to discussing your goals and answering your questions about the benefits of planned giving with Sycamore.

Please contact us at **812-336-5382 ext. 104** or [ann@sycamorelandtrust.org](mailto:ann@sycamorelandtrust.org).