

Your Support Is Vital To AOK's Effectiveness

Ron Klataske, Executive Director, Audubon of Kansas



Upland Sandpiper – photo by Ron Klataske

Your annual membership and other gifts to Audubon of Kansas are vital to our ongoing conservation, education, sanctuary stewardship, and advocacy work. AOK cannot function without the support of members' annual or sustaining monthly contributions and gifts to fund special projects. We thank you for your continuing dedication and generosity. Donating online allows monthly giving. We use PayPal to ensure our donors a safe and secure transaction. Other ways to contribute include bequests, memorials/tributes, and gift memberships. Please consider contributing at this time. Contributions from required distributions of IRAs can be made without accruing any tax obligation from the distribution.

LEGACY GIFTS: PLANNED GIVING OPTIONS

By establishing a planned gift to Audubon of Kansas, you can ensure that AOK continues to be equally or even more effective into the future. We are committed in perpetuity to stewardship of our sanctuary system. We have outlined several ways to establish a planned gift below:

Create a Charitable Gift Annuity. By establishing a charitable gift annuity to benefit Audubon of Kansas, you will continue to receive fixed payments for the rest of your life and have a charitable deduction. Charitable gift annuities offer payment rates that are more attractive than many other investments, with the rate amount determined by your age. In addition, you have the satisfaction of knowing that the remainder of your gift will benefit Audubon of Kansas conservation and education initiatives well into the future.

Make a Gift of Stock or Bonds. Contributions of appreciated stock or bonds held for more than one year are most advantageous. Your gifts will provide a larger financial contribution to Audubon of Kansas, and you will avoid capital gains liability.

Include a Bequest in Your Will or Trust. You can designate specific property, a fixed dollar amount, or a percentage of your residual estate, for the benefit of Audubon of Kansas.

Persons wishing to make a bequest to Audubon of Kansas, Inc. may tailor it to their individual interests or use wording similar to the following.

I bequeath ___% of my residuary estate (or \$___) to Audubon of Kansas, Inc., a not-for-profit 501(C)3 conservation organization incorporated in the State of Kansas with its address at P.O. Box 256, Manhattan Kansas, 66505. AOK's Federal Identification Number is 48-0849282.

Make a Gift of Land, or other Real Estate. Gifts of real estate or other property are excellent ways to establish a major donation. Gifts

of real estate property that can be sold with the proceeds to be used to support general or specific Audubon of Kansas programs are often referred to as "Trade Lands." Some parcels may be protected with conservation easements prior to sale. Proceeds can be designated, for example, for specific conservation, education or even stewardship of an established AOK sanctuary.

Gifts of Land to be Maintained as a Wildlife Sanctuary (such as the Connie Achterberg Wildlife Friendly Demonstration Farm or the Hutton Niobrara Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary) or permanently preserved generally require establishment of an adequate endowment to fund future operations, pay annual property taxes, and provide for ongoing stewardship of the property. Gifts of land for this purpose must be consistent with the Audubon of Kansas mission, or generate funds that support stewardship and other conservation or educational activities. Protection of lands is best achieved with advanced planning. Land-owners can elect to make a gift of land while retaining a life estate. Thus, they obtain tax benefits and continue to retain normal use and management of the property. Conservation enhancement activities can become a partnership venture.

Cars for Conservation! Farm and Ranch Equipment can also be used at AOK Sanctuaries. Although AOK has not promoted this avenue of philanthropy, vehicles and similar property can be donated and then sold to generate funds for AOK operations. In addition, AOK is interested in receiving an energy-efficient vehicle to retain for business travel.

Audubon of Kansas, Inc. is administered by a Board of Trustees with interests in conservation and education in Kansas, Nebraska and generally the central Great Plains and prairie states. AOK is an independent, grassroots organization that is not administered or funded by the National Audubon Society. All funds received are devoted to conservation advocacy, nature appreciation initiatives, education and stewardship (including management of wildlife sanctuaries) in this region.

Please contact any of our Trustees or AOK professional staff at 785-537-4385 or email AOK@AudubonofKansas.org for additional information.



Photo by Ron Klataske