The mission of Adkins Arboretum is to promote the appreciation and conservation of the native plants of the Delmarva Peninsula.

"The Arboretum has offered me the opportunity to build something that will be here much longer than any of us. It’s a place for reflection, peace and enjoyment for countless people whom we’ll never know."

—DAVID BRYAN, EASTON, MARYLAND

Illustration by Marion Price.
Adkins Arboretum

Adkins Arboretum is a 400-acre native garden and preserve on Maryland’s Eastern Shore dedicated to promoting the appreciation and conservation of the region’s native plants. More than four miles of paths along streams, through meadows and native plant gardens and under the shade of a rich bottomland forest attract nature lovers, gardeners, students and birders. The Arboretum features over 600 species of native shrubs, trees wildflowers and grasses. Programs in ecology, horticulture and natural history are offered year-round for people of all ages. We invite you to learn about the Arboretum through a planned or deferred gift, such as a bequest in your will or trust or you can designate the Arboretum as the beneficiary of an IRA or a 401K account. Another common way to support organizations such as ours is to designate the Arboretum as beneficiary on a life insurance policy. Real estate or other real assets may also be accepted. And a number of options are available through the arrangement of charitable trusts. Your tax advisor will be helpful to you in understanding the tax advantages of each of these options.

We encourage you to consult with your attorney to prepare appropriate wording in the case that you choose to make a bequest through your will. If your will is already in place, there is no need to have it rewritten. A simple codicil, prepared by your attorney along the following lines, is all that is required:

“I bequeath to Adkins Arboretum, a not-for-profit organization, the sum of $_% or $) of my residual estate for Adkins Arboretum. If, at the time of my death, the Arboretum should no longer exist, the Arboretum’s Board of Trustees may use these funds as they deem appropriate.”

Investing In the Future Through Planned Giving

Establish a Legacy

Adkins Arboretum invites you to establish a legacy on the Eastern Shore by investing in the future of the Arboretum through our program of planned giving. A bequest provided to the Arboretum is a meaningful way to ensure that the Arboretum’s many educational programs will grow and thrive, and that the Arboretum site will continue to be a place where, for generations to come, young and old can enjoy a tranquil walk in a natural Eastern Shore environment.

The William Adkins Legacy Society

The William Adkins Legacy Society of the Adkins Arboretum is established to honor those persons who have chosen to support the endowment of the Arboretum through a planned or deferred gift, such as a bequest, Charitable Gift Annuity, Charitable Lead Trust, Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust, Charitable Remainder Unitrust, and many more. Individuals automatically become members of the Society once the Arboretum receives notification of their planned gift, unless they specifically decline membership. Members of the Society are mentioned in the Arboretum’s annual report and are invited to attend the annual William Adkins Legacy Society reception.

William H. Adkins, II, the Arboretum’s namesake, was born into a family of lawyers and judges with ties to Maryland’s Eastern Shore. Adkins served as a judge of the Maryland Court of Appeals and was a leading civil rights advocate, as well as environmentalist. His love of trees and nature led his friend and the Arboretum’s benefactor, Leon Andrus, to name the Arboretum after him.

William Adkins Legacy Society

Enrollment Form

To support the operation of Adkins Arboretum, I/we have provided for a planned gift to the Adkins Arboretum, Ridgely, Maryland.

Name(s) ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City ___________________ State ____ Zip ______

Telephone _______________________

Fax ______________________________

E-mail Address ______________________

I/we give permission for my/our name(s) to appear on the William Adkins Legacy Society member’s list as:

____________________

☐ I/we prefer that this gift remain anonymous.

Type of gift (Optional Information)

☐ Will

☐ Life Insurance

☐ Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)

☐ Retirement Account

☐ Charitable Lead Trust

☐ Real property

☐ Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT)

☐ Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT)

☐ Other ________

Signature(s) _______________________

Date ______________________________

Please return this form to:
Adkins Arboretum
12610 Eveland Road
P.O. Box 100
Ridgely, Maryland 21660
Attn: Amy B. Steward