

animalaid

Gift in Wills

Leave a Legacy of Love with Animal Aid.



Our *Pledge* to You

————— Your Legacy —————

When you choose to leave a gift to Animal Aid, we make this pledge:

- ☞ We will honour your intentions with respect, privacy, and gratitude.
- ☞ Your legacy will help build and maintain the facilities, equipment, and lasting infrastructure that keep animals safe for decades to come.
- ☞ We will invest in long-term improvements that deepen our welfare expertise and strengthen the quality of care we provide.
- ☞ We will use your gift carefully, transparently, and with a strong sense of responsibility.
- ☞ If your pets come into our care after your lifetime, we will welcome them with compassion and ensure they are safe, understood, and loved.
- ☞ If you wish, you may direct your gift to a specific area, project, or department that reflects your personal values or passion.
- ☞ If you choose to leave your legacy unrestricted, we will prioritise long-term animal welfare and the enduring future of our organisation and the community we serve.
- ☞ Your legacy will always be handled with integrity and purpose.

A *Gift* Beyond a Lifetime



Thank you for considering a gift in your Will to the Victorian Animal Aid Trust. Your kindness helps shape a future where every animal we care for is safe, respected, and given the chance to thrive.

Legacy gifts have shaped every part of our organisation. Much of the infrastructure we rely on today exists because compassionate people chose to leave a gift to Animal Aid. Their foresight has sheltered thousands of animals, improved our capability to care, and ensured we can keep dreaming bigger for the future.

We have more work to do and decades of animals still to protect. **A gift in your Will becomes part of that future.**



Why Gifts in Wills Matter

Bequests are at the heart of our long-term sustainability. They allow us to build safe, modern spaces, expand our welfare services, and invest in improvements that will help animals for generations.

We do not use bequests for daily operational costs. If an animal needed food, warmth, or immediate care, we would never hesitate to act. But our intention is always to honour bequests by directing them to long-lasting, strategic improvements that strengthen our capacity and amplify impact.

When you leave a gift, **you become part of the reason Animal Aid continues to exist**, for many years to come.



Your *Values,* Carried Forward



People choose to leave a gift in their Will because animals have shaped their lives in profound ways.

Your legacy can:

- Create spaces of safety and shelter for dogs, cats, and small animals in crisis.
- Fund medical treatment, rehabilitation, and specialised care.
- Support behavioural teams and welfare programs.
- Strengthen adoption outcomes and community education.
- Build and maintain the spaces that animals rely on.

Even a small share of your estate can make an extraordinary difference.



Types of Gifts You Can Leave

Any gift, large or modest, helps transform the lives of the animals in our care.



Residuary Gift

A percentage or share of your estate after loved ones have been provided for. This flexible and impactful type of gift keeps its value over time.



Specific Gift

A particular item or asset, such as property, shares, jewellery, or other belongings.



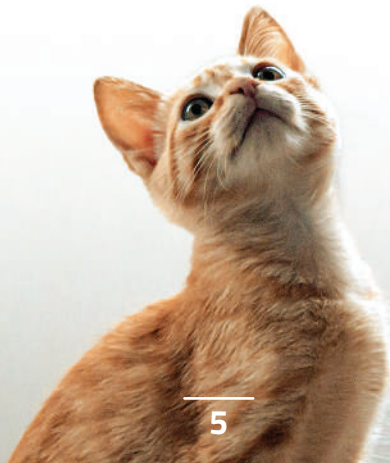
Pecuniary Gift

A fixed amount of money nominated in your Will.



Trust Distribution Gift

A trust distribution gift allows you to make regular payments to Animal Aid from a trust, providing steady, long term support for animals over time.



How Your Bequest Will Help

Because a bequest may be realised many years from now, the exact opportunities at that time will depend on the organisation's needs, the state of our facilities, and the direction of animal welfare best practice.

To help guide your thinking, supporters often find it helpful to:

- 1. Choose the department they feel connected to** such as Shelter Cattery and Kennels, Vet Clinic, Community Programs, or Training & Behaviour.
- 2. Choose the type of project they would like their legacy to strengthen.** These projects include: Capital Improvements, Equipment Upgrades, Program Development, Community Impact, Animal Welfare and Future-proofing.



Capital Improvements

- New kennel or cattery refurbishments designed around best-practice welfare.
- Upgrades to ventilation, acoustic treatment, or temperature control systems.
- Renewed adoption spaces that improve the experience for both animals and the community.

Equipment upgrades

- Veterinary equipment such as ultrasound, dental units, or diagnostic tools.
- Purpose-built enrichment and behaviour equipment for dogs or cats.
- Hydrobath or grooming equipment that reduces stress and improves welfare.

Program Development & Community Impact

- Projects that increase desexing access for vulnerable community members.
- Strengthening emergency response capacity, enabling us to care for animals in crisis.
- Working with our community to build knowledge and resources through educational services.

Animal Welfare and Future-proofing

- Behaviour rehabilitation spaces and infrastructure.
- Quiet-care rooms for vulnerable animals.
- Safe outdoor runs or sensory gardens designed to reduce stress.

How to leave a *Gift* in Your Will



Talk to your loved ones about your wishes.



Decide on the type of gift you would like to leave.
(See page 6 for more details)



Speak with your solicitor or Will-writing professional.
(See page 10 for details and resources)



Use the suggested wording included in this booklet.
(See page 9)



If you feel comfortable, let us know so we can thank you and welcome you into our recognition circle.

Suggested Wording

Your solicitor can use this suggested wording to make the process simple and clear, while ensuring your wishes are fully respected.

*“ I bequeath to the Victorian Animal Aid Trust of 35 Killara Road, Coldstream Victoria, for its general purposes,
[the sum of \$_____]
or [_____% of my estate]
or [the residue of my estate]
or [description of property or asset],
free of all duties and taxes payable upon or in
consequence of my death.*

I declare that the receipt of an authorised officer of the Victorian Animal Aid Trust shall be a full and sufficient discharge for my executor.”

Optional: This legacy is subject to the Victorian Animal Aid Trust guaranteeing care for my animals at my death.

Please note: Animal Aid **cannot** provide legal or financial advice. The information in this booklet is general in nature. **We recommend seeking independent, professional advice when preparing or updating your Will.**

Support and Resources

For general information about making or updating your Will:

- **Victorian Government Wills & Estates:**
<https://www.vic.gov.au/making-will>
- **Public Trustee information:**
<https://www.statetrustees.com.au>
- **Australian Charities & Not-for-Profits Commission:**
<https://www.acnc.gov.au>

For legal or financial advice, please speak to:

- Your solicitor
- A qualified estate-planning lawyer
- A licensed financial adviser

You are under no obligation to tell us about your decision. But if you feel comfortable sharing, it helps us plan with confidence and allows us to better communicate with you.

All information is treated confidentially and with respect.



We would be honoured to hear from you and answer any questions about leaving a gift or planning for your pets' future.



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