

GREENPEACE FUND

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greenpeacefund.org



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Martha Vinick Works on What Matters

By Andrea Kebrdle

“We’re all traveling in the same wagon, bound to one another in time on one globe. Do we have the gumption to share the provisions, care for the land we journey through, cherish the water, keep the breezes fresh – and not kill each other along the way?” wrote Mrs. Martha Vinick, in her book of memoirs. What poignant words from a long time activist.

Mrs. Martha Osborn Vinick is a deeply committed Greenpeace supporter with decades of activism under her belt and her personal activism has taken her on many adventures. In 1982, Martha was one of a million people who demonstrated in New York City’s Central Park against nuclear arms and for an end to the arms race of the cold war. It was the largest anti-nuclear demonstration of its time. Mrs. Vinick has also been to The Hague, where she participated in the 1999 Hague Appeal for Peace.

In her hometown of West Hartford, Connecticut, Martha was active in working on environmental issues, and advocating for peace. She co-founded



Martha Vinick, activist and Greenpeace supporter.

“Our Town, Our Planet.” Before that, she co-founded “The Freeze - West Hartford.”

There is also much to say about Bernard “Buster” Vinick, Martha’s late husband. An interior designer and artist, Bernard taught their three children to ski and swim, among other hobbies. Bernard shared Martha’s worldview and was supportive of Martha’s community activism, as she took part in local marches and protests. Together, they had two sons and one daughter, seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

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Martha Vinick



Cape Petrel reflecting in the surface of the Antarctic Sound

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Leave a Lasting Legacy

Martha Vinick Works on What Matters (cont.)

These days, Martha is still avidly involved with her community in Sarasota, Florida. She's been a Florida resident for 13 years. Martha founded an environmental group called "The Green Team." She attended the 2018 Women's March in Sarasota. Martha often submits "letters to the editor," to the Sarasota Herald Tribune about environmental issues and the world's pursuit of peace. She received 10 letters from President Obama during his presidency

in answer to a stack of letters that she wrote, urging him to take a stronger environmental stance and objecting to more military funding.

When talking about Greenpeace, Martha says, "We have to support organizations like Greenpeace. Maybe we have to be missionaries for the cause, and encourage others in a gentle way – like Paul McCartney said – to step up and get involved in real, tangible ways. We've got to do more than talk; we have to support organizations, particularly Greenpeace. As far as I'm concerned, Greenpeace hits all of the points that are most important – working for peace and protecting the environment."

Mrs. Martha Vinick has chosen to include Greenpeace in her legacy giving, dedicating support to causes that she cares deeply about, and continuing to have an impact past the extent of her lifetime. By choosing to leave a bequest to Greenpeace, Martha chooses peace and sustainability for future generations. She is an inspiration to all of us here at Greenpeace, and we're so grateful for her.



Collared Mangabey at Mefou Primate Sanctuary in Cameroon

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Your Giving and the New Tax Law Changes

It's that time of year when you've probably just finished up doing your taxes. And maybe you are wondering, how will the new tax bill change things for you in the future? Will there be any tax benefit to giving in 2018?

There has been so much confusion about the new tax bill that we thought we'd try to address some of the biggest issues here to help you in planning your philanthropy.

First the good news, for 2018 you will still be able to deduct your charitable donations! This vital part of our tax system will continue to benefit many folks who choose to give to charity. It's important to note, Greenpeace Fund is the tax-deductible arm of Greenpeace. Please see the box on page 3 for details on giving to Greenpeace Fund.

That said, next year some tax-payers will find greater advantage in choosing the standard deduction, rather than itemizing charitable gifts and other deductions. That's because the new tax law has essentially doubled the standard deduction for most Americans.

Tax Deductible Giving

Greenpeace Fund, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization. Contributions to Greenpeace Fund are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed under tax laws.

Legal Name and Address: **Greenpeace Fund, Inc.**
702 H Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20001

Federal Tax ID Number: 95-3313195

For questions or more information, please contact Corrine Barr at 1-800-328-0678, corrine.barr@greenpeace.org or see our website at greenpeacefund.org.

Now, no one wants to pay more taxes than they have to, so even if you don't think you'll itemize on your tax return next year, there are still some smart strategies that may help your tax bill. Talk to your accountant now to see if you should use any of these strategies this year:

IRA Rollover Contributions: If you are age 70½ or older and you have an IRA, consider donating to Greenpeace Fund directly from your IRA. This is a fantastic strategy whether you are itemizing or not; that's because if you donate directly from your IRA to charity, the money is never even added to your income to begin with, yielding a much better bottom line on your tax return. Best of all, donations from your IRA "count" toward your required minimum distribution—great news if you don't need your IRA for income right now, but are forced to take it because of your age.

Gifts of Stock or Real Estate: If you are fortunate to have a portfolio that includes a variety of resources, consider gifts of appreciated assets, like securities or property. Even if you don't itemize, donating your appreciated assets may help you avoid the capital gains tax—which, incidentally, did not decrease with the new tax law. Ask your accountant if you'd benefit from shifting some of your philanthropy from cash gifts to gifts of stock or real estate.

Gift Bundling: If you contribute each year to charity, and your budget is somewhat flexible, consider bundling the donations you might have made over several years into one gift in one year to a Donor-Advised Fund (there are many available).

The new tax bill gives you greater accommodation to do this; the law now allows you to deduct up to 60% of your adjusted gross income for cash gifts, an increase from last year. If you can combine your gifts into one year, they could qualify for itemization, and you can use your new Donor-Advised Fund to benefit your favorite charities for many years to come. It can be your legacy fund for long-term philanthropy.



Giraffe at Masai Mara National Park in Kenya

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