



**CONNECTICUT RIVER CONSERVANCY
GIFT ACCEPTANCE POLICY
Revised March 11 2022**

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) gratefully accepts contributions of cash, personal property and real property, donations of goods and services, business matching contributions, recognition contributions and sponsorships or partnerships (collectively, "gifts") in support of its missions, goals and activities, from business entities (as defined below) and natural persons, subject, however, in all cases, to its absolute right to refuse any gift that may be offered, and also subject to the more specific limitations on acceptance of gifts described below in this Gift Acceptance Policy.

This Gift Acceptance Policy is intended to ensure that gifts which CRC elects to accept will allow CRC to maintain its integrity and impartiality, including the appearance of impartiality, and public confidence in CRC.

CRC will accept gifts from (i) foundations, government agencies, and business entities of every kind, including without limitation corporations (domestic and foreign), partnerships (both limited and general), joint ventures, limited liability companies, proprietorships, business foundations and other business arrangements, of every kind and nature (collectively, "business entities"), and (ii) natural persons, subject to the following:

1. CRC will endeavor not to accept a gift from any business entity or natural person:
 - a. whose practices, policies, operations or other behavior are deemed unacceptable to CRC or contrary to or in direct conflict with its mission or goals or the values implicit in its mission or which might limit its ability to carry out or discharge its mission;
 - b. who is a recognized major polluter, or a source that makes or sells, or whose name is widely associated with, a practice or product that is unusually damaging to the environment;
 - c. within the last five years has significantly violated any environmental laws or regulations; or
 - d. serves as a major antagonist of environmental organizations.
2. CRC also will endeavor not to accept a gift from any business entity or natural person if such gift:
 - a. would result or is likely to result in CRC violating its mission;
 - b. would result or is likely to result in CRC losing its tax-exempt status as a charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;
 - c. would be too difficult or expensive to administer in relation to its value;
 - d. would result or is likely to result in any consequences that would be unacceptable to CRC; or
 - e. would be for any purpose outside the scope of CRC's mission.

3. If CRC's staff questions the restrictive nature of any proposed gift, or its acceptance or refusal, CRC's Executive Committee shall review the terms of the gift.
4. If CRC authorizes the use of its logo by any business entity or natural person, it shall impose such requirements and limitations as it deems necessary to protect its name and reputation from excessive or inappropriate promotion.
5. Gifts with restrictions on use of funds shall be in writing and state the specific restrictions. If CRC is not able to honor the restrictions, CRC will consult with the donor with a view toward coming to mutually agreeable changes.
6. Proposed gifts of tangible personal property other than that solicited by CRC for use in its programs or operations may only be accepted if approved by CRC's Executive Committee. In all such cases, CRC will sell such property in a timely manner and invest or otherwise use the proceeds of the sale in a manner determined to be appropriate by CRC in its sole discretion.
7. Proposed gifts of real property may only be accepted if approved by CRC's Board of Trustees upon the conduct of an environmental audit and the Board's determination that the property is readily marketable, does not require remediation and can be sold promptly, without any burdensome conditions or contingent liabilities being imposed on CRC, at a price that would likely exceed its carrying costs prior to sale.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, March 11, 2022