



“Questions You Were Afraid to Ask” Suggested Questions

**Stock
Yards.**
Bank & Trust

WEALTH
MANAGEMENT
& TRUST

Estate Planning Basics

1. Do I really need a will if my family “already knows what I want”?
2. How often should I update my will or estate plan—and what life events should trigger a review?
3. If I name a charity in my will, can I still change my mind later?
4. What's the difference between a will and a trust, and how do I know which one I need?
5. Is it expensive to set up or revise an estate plan?

Tax & Asset Questions

6. What actually happens with the step-up in cost basis—will it still exist in the future?
7. If I give appreciated stock to a charity, do I still have to pay capital gains?
8. How do taxes work if I leave my IRA to my children versus to a charity?
9. Can I use charitable gifts to reduce taxes *this year* even if I don't itemize?
10. What are “alternative assets,” and how do I know if they're appropriate to give?

Retirement & Income Questions

11. What's the difference between a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) and a normal IRA withdrawal?
12. Can I make charitable gifts directly from my IRA before I'm 70½?
13. If I set up a charitable remainder trust, do I lose access to my income?
14. Does creating a trust mean my children won't inherit anything?

Donor-Advised Funds & Endowments

15. Is a donor-advised fund only for wealthy people?
16. Can my children help recommend grants from my donor-advised fund after I'm gone?
17. What happens to my donor-advised fund if I don't name a successor?
18. What's the difference between giving to an organization's endowment and giving to its annual fund?
19. What does an endowment actually *do* for an organization like The Cabbage Patch?

Practical & Personal Concerns

20. If my estate isn't very large, does planned giving still make sense?
21. Can I make a legacy gift without telling my family first? Should I?
22. What's the simplest way to include a charity in my plans?
23. What information does a charity need if I want to leave them something?
24. How do I make sure my children don't fight over my estate—or the charitable gifts I want to make?

Myths & Misconceptions

25. Are charities allowed to change how they use my gift?
26. Do I lose control of my assets if I name a charity as a beneficiary of my life insurance?
27. Is it true that giving to charity can help avoid probate?
28. Do I have to tell the charity if I've put them in my will?