



Legacy Society Member Spotlight

Robert E. Horton (d. 1945)

Robert E. Horton, often called the father of American hydrology, is remembered most as a scientist of great vision, curiosity, and originality. Horton was very active in several professional societies, allowing him to think and work with colleagues across disciplinary lines. The ultimate emergence of his seminal ideas was the result of his innate ability to think across disciplines and his continual interplay between engineering practice and scientific curiosity.

In keeping with his legacy of curiosity and collaboration, the Robert E. Horton estate and AGU's Hydrology section established the Horton Research Grant. Since 1983, the grant has been awarded to up to three Ph.D. candidates annually in support of research projects in hydrology (including its physical, chemical, or biological aspects) or in water resources policy sciences (including economics, systems analysis, sociology, and law). Each winner receives \$10,000 in support of his or her work as well as travel to the AGU Fall Meeting to advance his or her project and network.

The AGU community, the Hydrology section, and the Horton Research Grant's winners appreciate Robert Horton's lasting support of hydrologic research and collaboration.



Contact Us

For more information on planned giving methods and membership in AGU's Legacy Society through a bequest, estate gift, or other planned gift of any size, please contact AGU staff or visit giving.agu.org/way_to_give/planned-giving

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Gifts to AGU are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law in the United States.
Tax ID# 52-0955532.

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Make A Lasting Impact

The Legacy Society

Support the American Geophysical Union
Through Planned Giving

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AGU's Legacy Society

Tomorrow's Work Supported
by Today's Leaders.

Since 1945, members of the American Geophysical Union's Legacy Society have sustained a commitment to support and advance the future work of AGU and its members well past their lifetimes through planned giving. Your support will continue this tradition as we approach AGU's Centennial and beyond.

For many, planned gifts through bequests, life insurance policies, or retirement plans can create opportunities to support AGU with larger charitable gifts than could be done through current income alone. Planned gifts provide a foundational source of funding for AGU's programs and a number of benefits to donors, including:

- The ability to contribute to AGU's long-term health and success
- Charitable tax deductions for your estate
- Membership in AGU's Legacy Society and inclusion in special recognition and events
- The ability to direct your support to the area of AGU's work where you see the greatest need

Planned gifts can come in many forms.

Charitable bequests are gifts of any property made by naming AGU as a beneficiary in your will. Bequests can take various forms: a general bequest, a residuary bequest, or a percentage bequest.

- **A general bequest** is one of the most popular ways to make a charitable gift, by simply leaving a specific dollar amount to AGU in your will.
- **A residuary bequest** is a gift to AGU of all, or a portion, of your estate's property after all debts, taxes, expenses, and other bequests have been paid.
- **A percentage bequest** is expressed as a percentage of your estate or of your residuary estate.

To leave AGU in your will today, simply share this sentence with your attorney or financial planner: "I bequeath \$ _____ or _____% of my estate to the American Geophysical Union, 2000 Florida Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20009 (tax ID# 52-0955532)."

Gifts of **life insurance** are made by naming AGU as a full or partial beneficiary of your life insurance policies. Upon adding AGU as a beneficiary, you retain ownership of the policy and continue to have access to the policy's cash value. When the proceeds are paid to AGU, your estate will be allowed a charitable estate tax deduction. You can work with your insurance provider to designate AGU as a beneficiary of your policies.

Retirement plans are another easy way to make a planned gift to AGU. Retirement plan benefits represent a major portion of the average donor's estate. Through your retirement plan provider, you can designate AGU as a full or partial beneficiary. You can name AGU as a beneficiary of a specific amount or a percentage of your plan at any time. Giving in this way can help maximize tax savings.

Naming AGU as a beneficiary in your will or through your life insurance policies or retirement plan will not affect your cash flow during your lifetime and can be revoked or amended if your situation changes.

Let us know whether you have already included AGU as part of your estate planning or whether you want to learn more so that we can include you as we recognize Legacy Society members at future Fall Meetings.

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