



# PLEDGE COMMITMENT FORM

The Mission of the Ridgetop Lakes Conservancy is to protect and preserve the natural environment of the Shawangunk and Mount Prosper ridge tops and surrounding areas by land acquisition and by promoting conservation through educational programs and seminars.

**Important!** The IRS does not allow not-for-profit organizations to return tax-deductible charitable donations once they have been accepted. Charitable contributions are considered final gifts, and once they are made, they cannot be refunded without potentially jeopardizing the tax-exempt status of the organization and creating tax consequences for both the donor and the nonprofit. Returning funds to donors could raise issues of mismanagement of funds against the nonprofit.

For this reason, we ask you to make this **legally binding pledge**, and not to write a check just yet. Your pledge would only become payable once the project viability is confirmed. If the project fails, the pledges are not binding, so no one loses money. Additionally, accounting rules require that donations for a specific purpose must be held in a restricted fund and cannot be used for any other purpose, even if it's aligned with the organization's mission. So, make a pledge. Provide your contact info. We will let you know when to send a check/transfer funds.

**Legally Binding Statement:**

I (we) commit to make the following contribution of \$                      to The Ridgetop Lakes Conservancy, Inc., restricted to the **Save the Whale Campaign** to purchase and preserve 500+ acres of land bordering Yankee Lake and State Route 17. This includes the actual purchase price and associated expenses.

**Donor Information:**

Name(s):		
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone:	Email:	

Donor/Trustee Signature:  Date

**Acknowledgements:**

	I prefer that my donation <b>not</b> be acknowledged publicly
	My donation may be acknowledged publicly, but not the amount
	My donation is in honor of: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 500px; height: 20px;"></span>
	My donation is in memory of: <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 500px; height: 20px;"></span>

**Please send your check and/or pledge commitment form made payable to:  
Ridgetop Lakes Conservancy, Inc.  
P.O. Box 568  
Wurtsboro, NY. 12790-0568**