



You have a remarkable opportunity to help conserve California's special lands and waters while earning unprecedented federal tax benefits



pension protection act

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 offers numerous incentives for landowners and supporters of California land trusts. This new federal law provides new tax benefits, and dramatic increases to existing programs.

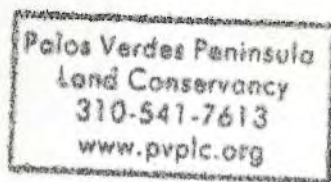
This is an important and urgent opportunity for landowners and donors because, unless extended, these incentives are available only for the years of 2006 and 2007. Please act now!

These benefits are briefly described in this brochure. If you are interested in learning more, please contact your local land trust (see back cover) or visit www.calandtrusts.org or www.lta.org.

This brochure is for informational purposes only. Interested persons need to consult their own financial and legal advisors.

California's land trusts work with willing landowners and local communities to conserve special lands and waters. Land trusts respond to local needs and priorities with experience, expertise and efficiency, and provide a lasting presence to care for these California treasures.

Land trusts are rooted in local communities throughout California. Your local land trust is:



Or, for more information, visit www.calandtrusts.org



Funded by a grant from the Department of Conservation's California Farmland Conservancy Program.



But the clock is ticking...



donating conservation easements

Tax deduction for the donation of a conservation easement is increased from 30% to 50% of the donor's adjusted gross income.

Qualifying farmers and ranchers can deduct 100% of adjusted gross income if the land remains available for agriculture.

A donor may carry forward the deduction from donating an easement for 15 years (increased from 5 years).

A partial sale/donation of an easement can also qualify for the expanded incentives.

Qualifying farmers and ranchers must receive more than 50% of income from "the trade or business of farming". Further information can be found in Internal Revenue Code section 2032A(e)(5).

investing in your community

Seniors at least age 70½ may make direct charitable disbursements from their Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to a land trust in 2006 and 2007 and pay no tax on the distribution. There is a limit of \$100,000 per taxpayer per year.

Your investment conserves the lands, waters, wildlife and scenic views you love in your community or your favorite corner of California. You may help conserve the creek near your town, the oak-studded foothills you drive through each day, or build a trail for children to enjoy.

Every level of investment is meaningful. And, your investment will be multiplied by the gifts of others. Act today to keep your corner of California the place you know and love.

protecting land and water

Conservation easements are voluntary, permanent conservation agreements placed on a property by the landowner. Each easement is tailored to the particular conservation resources of a property. The easement must be held by a non-profit land trust or a public agency. The landowner retains the right to occupy the property and continue to use the land in many ways, such as farming, ranching or recreation.

Land conservation is the permanent protection of natural areas, working farms and ranches, forestlands, water bodies, parks, scenic open spaces, and other natural and cultural resources. Land conservation typically occurs through purchase or donation of land or conservation easements.