



## *Forest Stewards Guild Lifetime Membership*

Members created the Guild and have always been at our core. As we near our 30-year anniversary in 2025, we are launching Lifetime Membership. It's yet another way to express that we are in this together, and for the long term.

Become a Lifetime member of the Guild to:

- Demonstrate commitment to an organization that has stood for forests for 30 years.
- Help ensure the Guild's financial future and support for the next generation of stewards.
- Avoid the hassle of annual renewals (and reduce transaction costs for the Guild).
- Engage as a dedicated professional the Guild can rely on.
- Receive a plaque of recognition.

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

1. Who is eligible for Lifetime Membership at the Guild?  
**New and renewing Professional and Retired Professional members**
2. What does Lifetime Membership cost?  
**\$1,000**
3. What benefits come with Lifetime Membership?  
**All the benefits of Professional Membership and a plaque of recognition**
4. I am a member now. When can I upgrade to Lifetime Membership?  
**Anytime**
5. Is Lifetime Membership its own distinct entity from other current membership types?  
**No. It is just a different way to pay membership dues. It is the same as Professional or Retired Professional Membership otherwise.**
6. Does Lifetime Membership require the Professional member application approval?  
**Yes. New Lifetime members must apply. However, already-approved Professional and Retired Professional members may upgrade without re-submitting the application.**
7. Can an Affiliate member become a Lifetime member?  
**No. Lifetime Membership is for Professional members and requires an approval process, to which Affiliate members are not obligated.**

8. What if a Lifetime member no longer aligns with Guild values over time?  
**The process is no different than an existing Professional member and you can disassociate anytime.**
  
9. How is Lifetime Membership different from a donation?  
**Lifetime Membership is a membership term with membership dues. Donations are distinct gifts. For example, a Lifetime Membership will not automatically put you in our group of Stewards Circle donors. Stewards Circle acknowledges donations of \$250+ in addition to membership dues and is updated each year.**
  
10. What if I can't afford \$1,000 all at once for Lifetime Membership?  
**That's okay! Your annual Professional membership is just as important to the Guild and this community, and we welcome your yearly renewals.**
  
11. Is this a lifetime achievement award? If not, how is it different?  
**No, this is not an achievement award. An award is freely given to recognize an accomplishment. We are not giving Lifetime memberships; rather members are purchasing them.**
  
12. How are membership dues and donations different for the Guild?  
**Both dues and donations are essential to the Guild's survival. Without you there would be no Guild. Both dues and donations go to hosting membership events, the *Forest Steward* magazine, research webinars, programs in the field, next generation steward support, and more!**

**Every dime donated helps the Guild serve members, advocate for forests, and support communities, so every additional dime means more good work.**

**Ready for your Lifetime Membership?**

[ForestStewardsGuild.org/join](https://ForestStewardsGuild.org/join)

[ForestStewardsGuild.org/renew](https://ForestStewardsGuild.org/renew)