Philanthropy is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to the quality of life. To assure that philanthropy merits the respect and trust of the general public, and that donors and prospective donors can have full confidence in the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County, we declare that all donors have these rights:

1. To be informed of the Land Trust’s mission, of the way the Land Trust intends to use donated resources, and of its capacity to use donations effectively for their intended purposes.

2. To be informed of the identity of those serving on the Land Trust’s Board of Trustees, and to expect the board to exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship responsibilities.

3. To have access to the Land Trust’s most recent financial statements.

4. To be assured their gifts will be used for the purposes for which they were given.

5. To receive appropriate acknowledgment and recognition.

6. To be assured that information about their donation is handled with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by law.

7. To expect that all relationships with individuals representing organizations of interest to the donor will be professional in nature.

8. To be informed whether those seeking donations are volunteers, employees of the Land Trust or hired solicitors.

9. To have the opportunity for their names to be deleted from mailing lists that the Land Trust may intend to share.

10. To feel free to ask questions when making a donation and to receive prompt, truthful and forthright answers.

Adapted from the Donor Bill of Rights for charitable givers, distributed by Charity Navigator and originally developed by the following four industry experts: American Association of Fund Raising Counsel, Association for Healthcare Philanthropy, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, and National Society of Fund Raising Executives.