

## Communicating with Congress

Communicating with your representatives is an important part of being an active and responsible citizen. Your Representative and Senators have been elected to serve you, and they need to know what you, their constituent, believe are the important issues. Visits to your member, either in Washington or within the state or district, are generally the most effective way to explain your position. Visits are not, however, always feasible and a well-reasoned personal letter is another practical way to get your message across. The following information is meant to serve as a resource for helping you better communicate with Congress

- Tips for writing your member of Congress
  
- Helpful hints for meeting with members of Congress
  
- Take along a *Geoscience in Your State* factsheet to discuss during your meeting with members of Congress
  
- Additional Resources for Communicating with Congress
  - American Geophysical Union: How to Conduct a Successful District Visit
  - Soil Science Society of America: Get Involved
  - University Corporation for Atmospheric Research: Community Resources
- Other Geoscience Policy Websites
  - American Association of Petroleum Geologists: GEO-DC
  - American Geophysical Union: Science Policy
  - American Institute of Professional Geologists: Policy Position Statements
  - American Meteorological Society: Public Policy
  - Geological Society of America: Geology & Public Policy and News from the Hill RSS Feed
  - National Ground Water Association: Government Affairs
  - Seismological Society of America: Government Relations
  - Soil Science Society of America: Science Policy
  - Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration: Government Affairs and Public Policy
  - University Corporation for Atmospheric Research: Government Relations

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