



INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF
soil and water conservation
DISTRICTS



Tips for Working with your Legislators (local, state, or national)

Grassroots advocacy can be a little intimidating to some. But, if you follow these rules below, you will see how simple it can be.

What do you want?

- You must “make the ask”
- Creative things to ask for:
 - SWCD newsletter article
 - Congressional Record statement
 - One five minute speech
 - Site visit — show them what you are doing
 - Web site statement

Who do you ask?

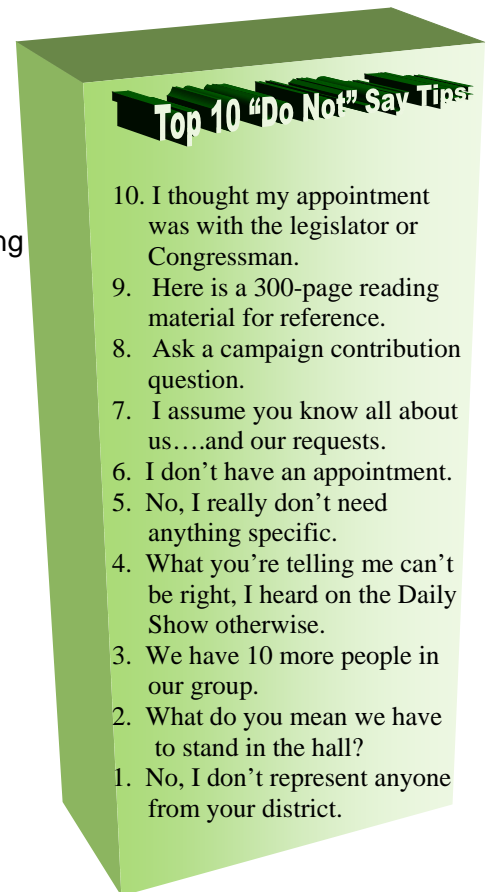
- Legislators
- Legislative staff
 - Look for folks who can be resources on issues important to your SWCD
 - Expect and appreciate youth
- Work with staff from the local offices also

How do you ask?

- Be truthful
- Be personal; make it real
- Be positive
- Be specific
- Follow the 5-minute rule

PERSISTENCE → **Makes all the difference!**

- Follow-up and ask again
- Consider hosting a site visit or meeting in the district
- Build relationships throughout the year



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