

3 Steps for Hosting a Congressional Candidate Tour

Educate your Candidates by getting them out in your woods! A face-to-face meeting is the most effective way of communicating your concerns regarding current forestry issues. Just remember to extend an invitation to all candidates!

Here are three simple steps to hosting a Congressional Tour.

1. **Invite your U.S. Senators and/or your U.S. Representative Candidates.**
 - Look up the [2012 Congressional Candidates here](#).
 - Call the candidates' scheduler or appointment secretary. Find that number on their campaign website.
 - Identify yourself as a forest landowner from the district or state. Let them know that you are hosting an event on your tree farm and you would like to invite the candidate to participate and learn about current forestry issues.
 - If he/she is unable to attend, offer an invitation for a staff member who is familiar with forestry issues. Staff is important; they track issues for candidates and advise them on the pros and cons of issues for their district.
2. **Be prepared and be flexible.**
 - In addition to the program you have planned for your event, be prepared to share some background information about current forestry issues. Visit www.familyforestaction.org for the most current policy issues, and you may also contact Christine Cadigan, ccadigan@forestfoundation.org, or Melissa Moeller, mmoeller@forestfoundation.org for current information.
 - Candidates have a number of demands on their time and attention. Be flexible with any last-minute schedule changes.
3. **Follow-up.**
 - Don't forget to thank your candidates for participating in your event.
 - If you can, thank them publicly! Contact your local newspaper about the event.