

## Share your conservation values with decision makers!

Calling or writing a letter to your legislators helps them understand what's important to the constituents in their district. It also helps foster a relationship between the two of you, so you can talk constructively about the most important issues. Below are tips on how to connect with your legislators.

## **Messaging Tips**

• Personalize it

Legislators are people too! People are moved by personal stories. Facts matter, but facts alone don't make for as strong of a message. Personalizing the letter can mean hand-writing it or even including a photo of you enjoying something related to the issue.

• Be respecful

This goes without saying, but it's worth noting that respectful dialogue leads to a longerterm and more productive relationship

- Include your address and zip code This is important for identifying yourself as their constituent.
- Don't stress!

You don't have to be an expert on the topic, and your letter doesn't have to look like a doctoral dissertation. It's a legislator's job to listen to their constituents.

## Who is my legislator?

Visit www.CheckMyLegislator.org to look up your legislators. On the right-hand side enter your address and zip code to find out who represents you. From there, you can click on your legislators' names to view contact information and their votes on key conservation issues.

Contact information for Minnesota State Senators can be found at www.senate.mn/members/.

Contact information for Minnesota State Representatives can be found at www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/hmem.asp.