



ASLA Advocacy Day 2024 Shaping Spaces, Changing Lives: 125 Years of Landscape Architecture

ASLA Advocacy Day Assignments:

Assignment #1: Learning the Issues

- 1. Ensure that you have **cleared your schedule** for the entire day on May 8 (*for OK May 9*)
 - Meeting requests have been sent to Capitol Hill and it is imperative that registrants not cancel or are "no shows" for these upcoming meetings.
 - Congressional meeting schedules will be available by May 1. However, last minute changes may occur up to the day of your congressional meetings, in which case you will be notified.
- 2. On Advocacy Day, ASLA advocates will urge legislators to support the Investing in Tomorrow's Workforce Act, which would expand 529 savings plans to cover expenses related to post-secondary professional licenses and certifications. This measure would enable landscape architecture professionals to cover costs associated with obtaining and maintaining a license. Take some time to study the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Issue Brief to learn about this legislation.
- 3. On Advocacy Day, ASLA advocates will urge legislators to support the Water Infrastructure Sustainability and Efficiency (WISE) Act, which would increase funding for green infrastructure/nature-based solutions under the State Clean Water State Revolving Funds. Landscape architects are leaders in planning and designing water infrastructure projects using nature-based solutions. This measure would allow the profession to continue to create these successful and cost-effective projects. Take some time to study the WISE Act Issue Brief to learn about this legislation.

Assignment #2: Telling Your Personal Story

1. **Investing in Tomorrow's Workforce Act**: On Advocacy Day 2024, ASLA advocates will urge legislators to support the <u>Investing in Tomorrow's Workforce Act</u>, which





would expand 529 savings plans to cover expenses related to obtaining and maintaining your landscape architecture license. This is a great opportunity to talk to your legislators about the value of licensure and your personal licensure journey.

- Use this <u>Telling Your Personal Story document</u> to help you map out your personal talking points for the Investing in Tomorrow's Workforce Act.
- You and your chapter should edit the ASLA Licensure Fact Sheet (on the 2024 Federal Advocacy Day webpage) to help you talk about the importance of licensure in your state.
- 2. The Water Infrastructure Sustainability and Efficiency Act: On Advocacy Day, ASLA advocates will urge legislators to support the Water Infrastructure Sustainability and Efficiency (WISE) Act, which would increase funding for green infrastructure/nature-based solutions for water management projects. This is a great opportunity to showcase your or colleagues' water management projects that utilize green infrastructure/nature-based solutions.
 - Use this <u>Telling Your Personal Story document</u> to help you map out your personal talking points and determine what projects to showcase related to the WISE Act.
 - Identify local projects that demonstrate the successful use of nature-based solutions to address water management projects. Create a leave behind based on these projects.
 - You should plan to invite your legislator to do a site tour of a water management project in the district/state. Use the <u>ASLA Guide to Hosting a</u> <u>Site Tour</u> to help you think about crafting your invitation.

Assignment #3: Learning About Your Legislators

- Learn About Your Legislators: Use the <u>Learning About Your Legislators Guide</u> to begin researching information about your House of Representatives member and your two U.S. Senators. The guide provides resources and tools, including the ASLA iAdvocate Network, Congress.gov, and more.
 - a. *Is your legislator leaving Congress?* Use the <u>Members of Congress Not Returning Next Term document</u> to learn about your legislators' status.
 - b. Utilize ASLA's iAdvocate Network to locate information about your legislators.





Assignment #4: Preparing for Advocacy Day - Final Checklist

- 1. Learn the Issues
- 2. Learn About Your Legislators
- 3. Tell Your Personal Story
- 4. Identify Local Projects
- 5. Watch:Training #1: Learning the Issues Important to Landscape Architects (Passcode: 334E.PUB)
- 6. Watch: Training #2: ASLA Advocacy 101: Preparing for Advocacy Day (Passcode: Dq0ai@qH)
- 7. Connect with your Team Leaders