

Nature's Scorecard

SAMPLE SCRIPT: FOR TESTIFYING

TESTIFY BEFORE YOUR CITY OR COUNTY

Thank you Members of the [*name of your community*] [*City/County Council*] for your time.

My name is [*insert name*].

I am a resident of [*name of your community*]. I'd like to express my support for significant investments in retrofits to our infrastructure in [*name of your community*] to better control the number-one source of toxic pollution - polluted stormwater runoff.

(if you are testifying as part of a group, be sure the first person to speak introduces Nature's Scorecard)

If they scored well on Nature's Scorecard...

Thank them for their hard work implementing LID principles and practices in your community. Express gratitude for seeing your community receive high marks on Nature's Scorecard, with the expectation that they will work equally hard to retrofit developed areas.

If they scored poorly...

Express concern they didn't do as much as other communities during the legally required low-impact development code update process. Ask how they plan to better incorporate low-impact development principles and practices into your development codes in the future, and how they are planning to address or are already addressing pollution through targeted retrofit projects.

Add a personal story here: *why does clean water and protections from stormwater pollution matter to you?*

Thank you again.

STEP 1

Review Nature's Scorecard to see how your local community is performing.

STEP 2

Find when your city or county council has a meeting when the public can testify.

STEP 3

Use this sample script to practice your comments - then show up and deliver your lines!

Hot Tip: Remember to sign-in (usually open for a few minutes before the meeting begins). You will only have a few minutes to speak (typically 2-4 minutes), and that time can be cut if a large number of people sign up to testify. It's always good to prepare your comments in advance. You can usually circulate written copies of your testimony to the council members at the meeting as well. The public comment period is usually held at the start of each meeting, and agendas can be found on the city or county's website.