

Letters to the Editor (LTEs)

LTEs are letters submitted to newspapers by anyone who has an opinion on an issue! They are one of the most widely read parts of the paper, allowing us to educate people and influence decision-makers by getting our opinions printed.

Tips:

- LTEs should be short - usually no more than 150 words
- Make your LTE personal - include your personal connection to the issue or the solution
- Make one clear point in the LTE

Talking Points

1. We must reduce emissions and pollution from fossil fuel energy. This will help protect the clean air and water that people (and birds) need to survive and thrive.
2. Using solar energy protects our precious natural resources because it doesn't require large amounts of water or large-scale mining for fuel. It doesn't create hazardous waste to runoff in our rivers and lakes, greenhouse gasses or other toxic emissions likely to cause asthma and other health problems.
3. Local solar has the benefit of using existing roofs to produce energy. Large-scale solar installations can actually create new wildlife habitat while improving the yields of nearby agricultural crops and increasing flood storage.
4. Climate change is one of the greatest threats to birds across the country and in our state of South Carolina. 400 species of birds that reside in and migrate through SC.

SAMPLE:

My name is _____ and I live in _____, _____. I'm writing in response to last week's article in the [Name of Newspaper] called [Name of article]

I am writing to you today because this article really spoke to me. I was inspired by _____ because _____.

As a concerned citizen I believe that our representatives should _____.