

The Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame



Robert S. Ellarson

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Hall of Fame News

Our Newest Inductees: C.D. 'Buzz' Besadny, Mel Cohee, and Paul Husting. Ceremonies Set for April 19, 2008, in Stevens Point.

The man who led the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources at a time of major environmental gains, a soil conservation pioneer and a U.S. senator who pushed for public water rights will be honored April 19 in Stevens Point. They are this year's inductees into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame.

The trio will join 60 other distinguished inductees to the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame in ceremonies at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 19, at the Sentry Theater in Stevens Point.

Click the links to read the full story for each inductee.

Kewaunee native [C.D. "Buzz" Besadny](#) led the DNR from 1980-92. He was a career natural resources professional who earned the nickname "Father Nature" for his work on behalf of Wisconsin's natural resources.

[Mel Cohee](#) was among a handful of visionaries who established the soil conservation movement in America in the 1930s and who spearheaded the nation's first erosion control pilot project at Coon Valley in Wisconsin.

[Paul Husting](#), a Fond du Lac native, served as a junior U.S. senator from Wisconsin in the early 20th century and also in the state Senate, championing populist causes and conservation policy, including public water rights.

Tributes to the inductees will be given at 10 a.m. at Sentry Theater, located at the Sentry Insurance Headquarters, 1800 North Point Drive. A 9 a.m. coffee will precede the program. A luncheon at noon in The Restaurant of Sentry Insurance Headquarters concludes the day's activities. Luncheon reservations cost \$10 and can be made by calling 715-346-4992, the telephone number for the Schmeckle Reserve Visitors Center, where the Conservation Hall of Fame is located.

"The cause of conservation in Wisconsin is an ongoing story. The deeds of these men span most of the 20th century, and their accomplishments serve as living legacies in today's world," said Conservation Hall of Fame Executive Secretary Earl Spangenberg.

[2007 News Press Release](#)

[2006 News Press Release](#)

[2005 News Press Release](#)

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Open seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Located in the Schmeckle Reserve Visitor Center

North Point Drive – Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481

For more information, call 715.346.4992