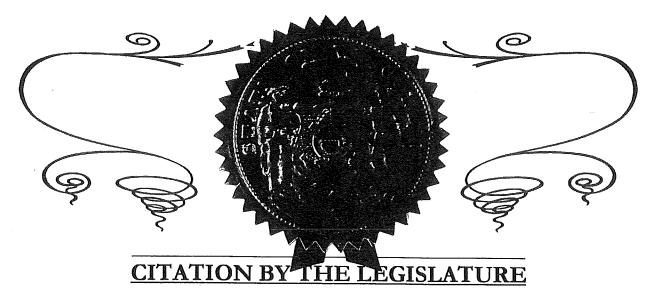
State of Misconsin



KNOW YOU BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, Edward Merriam Griffith was a conservationist who dedicated himself to the preservation, conservation and protection of Wisconsin's forests and waterways; and

WHEREAS, E. M. Griffith was appointed as Wisconsin's first State Forester on February 8, 1904. A man of great resight and vision, his ideas and practices weren't embraced by many citizens and lawmakers of the state at that time and a 15 Supreme Court decision halted all of the forestry programs, except fire prevention and control, that he had implemented; and

WHEREAS, E. M. Griffith is regarded by many as the man who virtually invented modern forestry in Wisconsin. Among other accomplishments he developed a forest fire-fighting system, was the first professional forester to detect forest fires from an airplane, pushed for a different taxation system for forested land, helped bring the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory to Madison and established the first state tree nursery at Trout Lake; and

WHEREAS, E. M. Griffith stressed the influences forests had upon the waters of the state. He recognized the importance of Wisconsin's water resources and how the health of those resources are affected by healthy forest lands. He realized that to promote forest conservation, the taxation of forest land had to be reformed; and

WHEREAS, in 1984 he was presented with the Wisconsin Forestry Hall of Fame Award in recognition of his ten years of service as Wisconsin's first Chief State Forester; now

THEREFORE, the members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator Shibilski and Representative Murat, commend EDWARD MERRIAM GRIFFITH for his vision and dedication to Wisconsin's forests and waterways and for his induction into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame.

SCOTT R JENSEN

Speaker of the Assembly

<u> April 18, 1998</u> Date FRED A. RISSER

President of the Senate

DONALD J SCHNEIDER