

Harley W. MacKenzie

1888 - 1979

Birth: 1888 in Poynette, Wisconsin

Family: Son of Scottish immigrants
Married to Lydia Stumpf (1940)
Children: Ann, Kay, Peter (deceased)

Education: one year of college

Career: 1910 - Start of employment as seasonal warden for northern Wisconsin, headquartered at Antigo
1917-1925 - Conservation warden for northern Wisconsin, headquartered at Antigo
1925-1934 - First Chief Warden of Conservation Department
1934-1942 - Director of Conservation Department
1942-1948 - Superintendent of State War Hemp industries
1949-____ - Management of his father's insurance and real estate business

Professional Accomplishments:

- Professionalized the Warden Force
- ____ - Established physical and professional qualifications
- ____ - Promoted a retirement system
- 1929 - Wrote the first wardens' manual
- 1930 - Helped to secure the first official uniforms
- 1930 - Started the Conservation Warden Efficiency Award
- 1934 - Helped found the Conservation Congress as an advisory council to the Natural Resources Board
- 1934 - Merged several game operations into one state Conservation Center and Game Farm in Poynette (renamed as MacKenzie Environmental Center in 1971, and expanded to include nature study and environmental education)
- 1936-1942 - Wrote articles for most issues of the Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin
- 1936 - Wrote words and music for "Take Me Back to Old Wisconsin," which was adopted by the Conservation Commission as the official song of the Commission and the Department
- ____ - Started the Sportsmen's License in Wisconsin
- ____ - Involved in the creation of ranger stations, building the importance of fire control
- ____ - Involved in the institution of the Forestry Mill Tax
- ____ - Responsible for state acquisition of Northern Kettle Moraine and Horicon Marsh lands
- ____ - Involved in the development of the state's basic water laws
- ____ - Threatened a lawsuit against a paper mill due to massive fish kills, resulting in the mill cleaning up its waste water - an early state battle against industrial pollution
- ____ - Promoted conservation education
- ____ - Hired the first biologists and started the first federal aid projects for wildlife research and management
- ____ - Encouraged the building landscaping of ranger stations and development of fish hatcheries

Other Public Service & Memberships:

State Planning Board

State Geographic Board

International Association of Game, Fish, & Conservation Commissioners (three years of Executive Committee)

Association of Midwest Fish and Game Commissioners (one of the organizers, second president)

Columbia County Board member

Poynette village president

Poynette park board member

- Awards:
- 1942 - Conservation Department Commemoration
 - 1957 - Milwaukee Sentinel Conservation Award
 - _____ - Wisconsin Natural Resources Foundation - honorary trustee
 - _____ - State of Wisconsin - Citation of the Legislature
 - 1976 - Association of Retired Conservationists - Honorary Membership
 - 1978 - Wisconsin Outdoor Communicator's Association, Inc., - Honorary Life Membership
 - 1979 - State of Wisconsin Natural Resources Board - memorial resolution