

Portraits of Wisconsin Naturalists: Empowering the Leopold Legacy

In the heart of America's Dairyland, a legacy of conservation and environmental stewardship has taken root, deeply intertwined with the life and work of Aldo Leopold, a pioneering ecologist and author whose seminal work, "A Sand County Almanac," has inspired generations of naturalists and conservationists.

Leopold's legacy extends far beyond his writings. In the decades since his death, countless individuals have dedicated their lives to carrying on his mission of protecting and preserving Wisconsin's natural heritage. These individuals, known as Wisconsin naturalists, have made significant contributions to our understanding of the state's ecosystems, its flora and fauna, and the importance of conservation.



Afield: Portraits of Wisconsin Naturalists, Empowering Leopold's Legacy by Sumner W. Matteson

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Lending : Enabled
File size : 13418 KB
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 729 pages

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To honor the work of these remarkable individuals and to inspire future generations of naturalists, the Aldo Leopold Foundation has commissioned a series of portraits capturing their stories and legacies. These portraits, created by renowned artist Bonnie Mohr, are not just works of art; they are powerful reminders of the enduring impact that Wisconsin naturalists have had on our state and our planet.

One of the portraits features Dr. Stanley Temple, a renowned ornithologist and conservationist who has spent decades studying and protecting birds in Wisconsin and around the world. Temple's work has helped to raise awareness about the importance of bird conservation and has led to the establishment of several important bird sanctuaries.



Another portrait features Dr. Robert Howe, a botanist and ecologist who has made significant contributions to our understanding of Wisconsin's plant life. Howe's research has helped to identify and protect endangered plant species and has provided valuable insights into the role of plants in ecosystems.



These are just two examples of the many Wisconsin naturalists who have made a difference. The portraits in this collection represent a diverse group of individuals, each with their own unique story and area of expertise. But they are all united by a common passion for conservation and a deep appreciation for the natural world.

The portraits are more than just a tribute to the past. They are also a call to action for the future. As we face the challenges of climate change and other environmental threats, we need more than ever the wisdom and dedication of Wisconsin naturalists.

The portraits of Wisconsin naturalists are a reminder that we are all connected to the land and that we have a responsibility to protect it. They are an inspiration to us all to follow in the footsteps of these remarkable individuals and to work together to create a more sustainable and just future for Wisconsin and the world.



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