

THE PUBLIC

Wisconsin citizens have a local avenue for input and exchange of ideas concerning conservation issues through WCC on a local and statewide level.



LOCAL COUNTY DELEGATES, COUNTY CHAIRS & VICE-CHAIRS

The Conservation Congress shall have representation in each county. There shall be five elected delegates from each county. Individual's who have the majority vote in their county shall become a delegate from their county. County delegates are elected to serve a two or three year term as a county delegate. Delegates of the county at the Annual Spring Rules Hearings and Conservation Congress Meeting will elect a chair and vice-chair to represent their county to serve a one-year term.



DISTRICT LEVEL & DISTRICT LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The state is broken down into 11 Districts. The Conservation Congress shall have a 22 person District Leadership Council that is comprised of two delegates from each district to serve as district councilors. Delegates from each district will elect two delegates from within each district on Friday at the annual Conservation Congress convention in May of each calendar year to one-year terms. District councilors shall be elected from all county committee persons and not more than one councilor shall be elected per county. Current councilors will actively participate in the Thursday evening Executive Council meeting at the annual Conservation Congress Convention.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The District Leadership Council will elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Public Relations Officer, and Historian from within the District Leadership Council on Saturday at the annual Conservation Congress convention in May of each calendar year to one-year terms.



NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD

The Wisconsin Natural Resources Board (NRB) sets policy for the Department of Natural Resources and exercises authority and responsibility in accordance with governing statutory provisions.

Chapter 15 of the Wisconsin Statutes delineates the formal duties of the seven-member board. Board members are appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the State Senate.



The Wisconsin Conservation Commission (the predecessor of the Natural Resources Board) created the Wisconsin Conservation Congress in 1934. The purpose was to provide Wisconsin citizens with a local avenue for input and exchange of ideas concerning conservation issues. Prior to 1937, all fees, seasons, bag limits and regulations were established by the State Legislature.

In 1972, Governor Patrick Lucy signed legislation that legally formed the Wisconsin Conservation Congress (Statute 15.348), to ensure that citizens would have a liaison between the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources.

(s. 15.348, Wis. Stats.) **Conservation congress: The conservation congress shall be an independent organization of citizens of the state and shall serve in an advisory capacity to the natural resources board on all matters under the jurisdiction of the board. Its records, budgets, studies and surveys shall be kept and established in conjunction with the department of natural resources. Its reports shall be an independent advisory opinion of such congress.**

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress is the only "advisory body" in the state where citizens elect delegates to represent their interests on natural resource issues on a local and statewide level to the Natural Resources Board and the Department of Natural Resources.

Our delegates believe that it is important that the citizens of this state work together towards effectively managing our abundant natural resources for future generations to enjoy.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

All advisory committees shall have set responsibilities and goals that consist of addressing citizen concerns; reviewing, studying and recommending to the District Leadership Council on assigned resolutions, and review of Department opinions and positions regarding specific areas directly pertaining to the advisory committee. In order to make the most efficient use of time by delegates, the following advisory committees with specific responsibilities are established. Below is a listing of standing committees:

Bear
Deer & Elk
Environmental
Fur Harvest
Great Lakes
Land Use
Legislative
Migratory
Mississippi River

Outdoor Heritage & Education
Outreach & Public Relations
Rules & Resolutions
Strategic Plan Review
Trout
Turkey & Upland Game
Warm Water
Wolf
10-Year Fish & Wildlife Plan