



English

Dave Dempsey

Dave Dempsey holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Western Michigan University ('77), a Master's in Resource Development from Michigan State University ('01), and served from 1999-2004 as an adjunct instructor at MSU in Environmental Policy. Throughout his career, he has been professionally engaged in conservation and environmental policy.

Widely recognized as a leading expert on Great Lakes environmental history and policy, Dempsey has authored six books and lectured extensively in public forums throughout the region. His 2006 biography on William G. Milliken—Michigan's longest-serving governor and champion of the environment—received the Michigan Notable Book Award. The Michigan Library Association named him Michigan Author of the Year in 2009, and the Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club honored him with the Jane Elder Award for service to Michigan's natural resources and environment in 1999.

Dempsey has served in both governmental and nonprofit leadership capacities, taught environmental and conservation law and policy courses at the college level, and developed ambitious environmental policy initiatives as environmental advisor to Michigan Governor James J. Blanchard (1983-89); Executive Director of the Michigan Council on Environmental Quality (1989-90); program director at Clean Water Action (1991-1994); policy director for the Michigan Environmental Council (1994-1999); and member of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (Presidential appointment, 1994-2001).

He currently serves as communications director for Conservation Minnesota, a nonprofit organization in Minneapolis, Minn.