

Lifetime Achievement Awardee
The Honorable Russell W. Peterson – 1999

The honorable Russell W. Peterson has made a lasting impact on Delaware, as a former Governor, a civil activist, and a dedicated environmentalist. As Governor of Delaware, he made important changes to a conservative Delaware, passing legislation banning heavy industry from a two-mile-wide strip of Delaware's 115-mile coastline. It was the first state law of its kind and created a trend throughout states along the coast.

Governor Peterson later served as the President of the National Audubon Society. Again, he was able to make drastic improvements, including its transformation into a powerful activist organization. He built a science and public policy group, moved National Audubon into international population and energy issues, and established effective television and youth education programs.

Governor Peterson continues to be a strong advocate for both the appreciation and conservation of our natural and wildlife resources. He is a founding Chairman of the Board of the Global Tomorrow Coalition and a former director of the World Wildlife Fund and also the chairman of the President's Council on Environmental Quality.

Russell W. Peterson's dedication in the environment and his use of education to promote conservation have made a lasting impact on Delaware and qualified him to receive the first Connecting Generations Lifetime Achievement Award.