

George J. Wallace was born in Vermont in 1906 and it was there that he began a life-long interest in ornithology. He attended the University of Michigan and received his B.S. in zoology in 1923 and his Ph.D. four years later. Following graduation, he spent a year with the Vermont Fish and Game Service. Next he worked as director of a bird and wildlife sanctuary in Massachusetts. In 1942 Wallace came to Michigan State University where he spent the next three decades as a member of the MSU faculty. During this period he was very active in the fight against the pesticide DDT. He discovered that robins on campus were being poisoned as a result of spraying DDT on campus and in East Lansing for Dutch Elm disease. His work in this area is directly linked to the book *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson that helped serve as a catalyst for environmental change. Wallace retired in 1972 and passed away in 1986.