

Robert A. Petzel, MD

Robert is a retired physician. He served as the Chief of Staff at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center and from 2010-2014 was the Veterans Administration Under Secretary for Health in Washington D.C. He received a BA from St. Olaf College and an MD from Northwestern University Medical School. He first became interested in Minnesota's natural history while camping in the MN State Parks with family in grade school. He joined the Minnesota Master Naturalist program in 2014. Robert has been a volunteer at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge since 2014. He is particularly interested in working with the refuge to connect with diverse communities and promote environmental education. He was elected President of Refuge Friends Inc., in 2018.