



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

### GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

#### Great Outdoors Month

**WHEREAS**, Great Outdoors Month is an opportunity to celebrate and experience America's splendor and renew our commitment to conserve our air, water and land; and

**WHEREAS**, the enjoyment of Rhode Island's outdoors – the state's ocean, beaches and rocky shores, its forested preserves, streams, rivers, lakes and ponds and urban parks and playfields – is a cherished tradition for Rhode Islanders; and

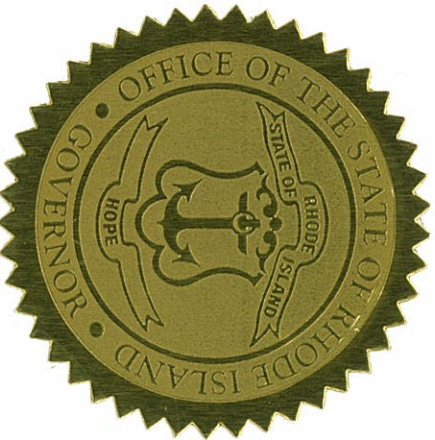
**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island's natural resources are of strategic importance to our state's tourism industry, which attracts millions of visitors each year who contribute billions of dollars annually to our economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Rhode Island play an important role in protecting our natural resources by volunteering in and supporting local environmental education programs, parks and forests, nature conservancies, watershed organizations and land trusts; and

**WHEREAS**, outdoor recreation is fundamental to the health and well-being of our citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and numerous partners are launching the Rhode Island Great Outdoors Pursuit in an effort to reconnect children and their families with the great outdoors; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim June, 2011 to be Great Outdoors Month in Rhode Island, and encourage all of its citizens to join me in recognition of the importance of this month.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor

  
A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State