

Proclamation

By the Governor of Rhode Island

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 livelihood, attracting 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.

Now, Therefore, I, Donald L. Carcieri, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, hereby proclaim June 2008 as

Great Outdoors Month

In the State of Rhode Island.