State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Watch Out for Wildlife Awareness Week

WHEREAS, native wildlife populations are an integral part of Rhode Island's natural environment and serve as an indicator for the overall health of Rhode Island's statewide ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, each year in the United States more than 200 people are killed in wildlife-vehicle collisions, 26,000 are injured and more than 1.5 million animals are hit on roads; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of property damage from these collisions is over $1 billion, and the estimated cost to society annually is $8.4 billion; and

WHEREAS, the success of wildlife movement and survival in Rhode Island remains dependent upon continued public education and increased understanding of the essential role migration corridors play in wildlife movement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, do hereby proclaim September 18-24, 2011 Watch Out for Wildlife Awareness Week in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all state residents to recognize the importance of this week.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 20th day of July, 2011

Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor

A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State