



### Perfect Pike

I recently went to the Conesus Lake Inlet to see the fish spawning and took this photo.

Judy Smith-Cronk  
Dansville, Livingston County

*What a great “action” photo of a northern pike. Conesus Lake Inlet is known as a place where people can see spawning runs of northern pike and walleye, and your photo captures the scene perfectly. Northern pike are one of the most widely distributed freshwater fish in the world, and among New York’s most important sportfish. They can grow quite large, with some specimens reaching more than 40 pounds!*

—Eileen Stegemann, Assistant Editor

### Climbing Cub

I thought you might be interested in this black bear cub I photographed earlier this year.

Maureen Moore  
Cornwall, Orange County

*Thanks for sharing your photo. Female black bears typically have two to three cubs in the winter while the female is in the den. Cubs will stay with her for more than a year before dispersing on their own.*

—Conservationist staff





### Loon Ride

Here is a photo of a loon with her chick in the southern Adirondacks. I love to hear the loons calling at night!

Gladys Forman

*Great photo! It also serves as a good reminder that summer is when loons nest and raise their young. Common loons are protected by state and federal laws, and disturbing them is illegal. So please remember to admire these birds from a distance.*

—Dave Nelson, Editor



### Peek-a-boo

I took this photo of a young raccoon in my backyard peeking out from behind a tree in the woods.

Shelly Lannon  
Clifton Springs, Ontario County

*We think it might be camera shy!*

—Conservationist staff

### Forest Hike

I just wanted to pass along a photo of a “wee little thing” my wife and I enjoyed while hiking in Allegany State Park.

Steve Firlit  
Rochester, Monroe County



*A great capture! A red eft is the juvenile phase of an eastern, or red-spotted, newt. Adult red-spotted newts can be found in small waterbodies such as ponds and marshes from spring through fall; juvenile efts can be found on moist forest floors.*

—Jenna Kerwin, Staff Writer

### Hunting Buttons

I have a collection of my fiancée’s grandfather’s license buttons dating from 1917-1941. (I’m missing years 1922 and 1923.) Do you have any information about these buttons?

Barry L. Hogan  
Maryland, Otsego County



*What a wonderful collection; there is much history here! These buttons were a way for hunters and trappers to show they were licensed to take game in New York. See the article, “Sporting Licenses—From the “Good Ol’ Days” ‘til Now” in our August 2003 issue about early New York State hunting licenses and buttons. Do any of our other readers have hunting buttons like these?*

—Conservationist staff



### Write to us

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