



Dear New Yorker,

Since 1946, the *Conservationist* has highlighted our state's spectacular natural resources and educated generations of New Yorkers on the importance of conserving them. The magazine's proud tradition is part of our collective consciousness, helping New Yorkers to appreciate our environment and pass along the wonders of nature to their children.

Now, this great magazine is even better. This issue of *Conservationist* contains a number of enhancements, including myriad design changes and the inaugural issue of *Conservationist for Kids*, an exciting new magazine full of environmental facts and fun outdoor activities for schoolchildren across New York State. In upcoming issues, you'll see additional improvements, including articles detailing New York's approach to a wide range of emerging environmental challenges.

Enjoy this issue. There's much, much more to come.

Sincerely,  
Governor Eliot Spitzer



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Eliot Spitzer, Governor of New York State

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Dear New Yorker,

Educating tomorrow's environmental stewards is a critical task that Governor Spitzer and his administration take very seriously.

With that in mind, we are proud to share a new magazine with *Conservationist* readers: *Conservationist for Kids* (C4K). Written for children in fourth grade, each issue will contain articles and activities to encourage youngsters to get outdoors and explore their back yards, school yards, or nearby natural areas. Class sets of C4K will soon be available to fourth-grade classes across New

York, along with a supplementary guide for teachers.

As a valued member of our family of readers, we thought you would be interested in seeing an advanced copy of C4K and sharing it with others, so we've included it in this first edition of the newly redesigned *Conservationist*. We hope that by helping to educate children about the environment and connecting them to nature, they will show the same appreciation of, and care for, New York's environment as you do.

Sincerely,  
Pete Grannis, Commissioner