SPRINGS

THE RACHEL CARSON CENTER REVIEW

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Animals and More-than-Human Worlds

Springs: The Rachel Carson Center Review (ISSN 2751-9317) is inviting submissions for a thematic issue on nonhuman animals and more-than-human worlds.

Springs is an open-access online publication for peer-reviewed articles, creative nonfiction, and artistic contributions that survey the interrelationship between environmental and social changes from a wealth of disciplines and perspectives. In the spirit of Rachel Carson, it publishes sharp writing with an impact. It is a place to share rigorous research, test out fresh ideas, question old ones, and advance public and scholarly debates in the environmental humanities and beyond.

The issue will combine various formats: We seek (a) accessible writing that communicates current research on animals, human–animal relations, and multispecies worlds to a wider public, as well as (b) artistic contributions that portray and critically examine human–animal relations and the place of more-than-humans in today's world.

Springs does not publish conventional academic journal articles. We are particularly interested in essayistic and more experimental forms of writing with a strong narrative. More scholarly contributions should bring current research into conversation with lived experience, observation, history, culture, and the arts. While we welcome submissions from all disciplines, we are particularly interested in humanities-based approaches. Artistic contributions may range from graphic and photo essays to short stories, poetry, and multimedia work. Text contributions should not exceed 3,500 words and can be as short as 500 words.

Submissions must be sent to the *Springs* editorial team (editors@rcc.lmu.de) by **31 December 2026**. Guidelines are provided in the form attached. Your email should include your draft submission, a completed version of the attached form, two to five images and/or other media (with permissions, if necessary), and a profile photo.

For accepted submissions, developmental editing and copyediting will be provided throughout the publication process. Submissions may also undergo blind peer review. We will ask you to address feedback within a set timeframe.

This thematic issue will be published on springs-rcc.org in the first half of 2027. Dr. Mieke Roscher will serve as an advisor in the manuscript selection process and developmental editing stage.

Springs requires neither submission fees nor article-processing fees, and is published open-access under a Creative Commons license.

Please note that we do not accept AI-generated or AI-edited work, previously published work, work that significantly exceeds the recommended word count, or incomplete submissions.

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GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Style Guidelines

- Because *Springs* aims to publish writing that reaches a diverse and international audience, articles should be free of jargon and passive voice. We want readers to come for the ideas and stay for the writing. And because this is an online publication, we encourage writing that embraces this format. Think snappy sentences and short paragraphs.
- *Springs* articles are published under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 license. This open-access license encourages reuse and distribution, while requiring that authors are always credited. (For more, see the post by the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association "Why CC BY?") Authors may choose to apply licenses with additional restrictions..
- The RCC uses US English. That said, we encourage each author to use the English spelling they prefer—be it British or Canadian, Australian or Indian. We just ask that you are consistent throughout your piece.
- Because *Springs* aims to bridge the gap between academia and the wider public, language should be inclusive and respectful. Authors should make their contributions understandable to people unfamiliar with the particulars of any one region. The question to capitalize or italicize we largely leave up to you based on the specifics of your piece, but we encourage critical reflection on how even a small style choice reflects much larger political beliefs and assumptions. (Take, for instance, the 2020 decision by the *New York Times* to capitalize Black.)
- References should follow the Chicago Manual of Style, 18th edition.
- Authors may choose to provide footnotes or no notes at all, depending on the style of a particular piece. However, notes should be kept to a minimum. Since *Springs* articles do not have works cited lists, we always need the full page range for journal articles, along with the specific page or page range you are citing from (if applicable).
- The RCC supports diversity, and, like language, citations should reflect this and be inclusive. We encourage authors to go beyond the canon and to cite recent research that acknowledges the contributions of scholars from diverse and/or underrepresented backgrounds. (This article offers a recent diagnosis of citation practices in environmental history.)
- The RCC uses double quotation marks for quotes and single quotation marks for quotes within quotes. Please use only one typeface and size. All text should be ranged left and unjustified. Please avoid extra formatting, such as underlining and indents. All texts will be copyedited and proofread prior to publication.
- After publication, submitted manuscripts may be recorded for the *Springs* audio project.

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Image Instructions

- We would be grateful if you could recommend one or more images—preferably in landscape format—to accompany your text, either ones you have taken yourself or that are unique in some other way. It is the author's responsibility to obtain permission from the copyright holder, but we can provide you with forms and support. Please clarify copyright of any images or graphics et cetera before publication. We retain the right to add, cut, or replace images. Please note that we cannot consider images that are sent to us after receipt of the final draft of the article.
- Please submit images as separate TIFF or JPG files. We require 300 dpi images, full width: 2480 x 3500 pix (portrait) or 3500 x 2480 (landscape). In addition to the image(s), please supply the following details: caption; creator (the photographer et cetera); source (publisher, museum, or archive); publication date (YY/MM/DD, or n.d.); and rights status (e.g., CC BY, public domain, copyrighted).
- Should you want to add any other multimedia, please contact us and we will discuss the possibility.

Submission Instructions

- Please submit your article in a single Microsoft Word document or Word-compatible format.
- Include a copy of the (completed) Contribution Components Form (page three of this document) with your submission.
- Please attach an author photo as a separate TIFF or JPG file.
- If your contribution is an academic article, please suggest up to three peer reviewers (with email addresses) in the "Additional notes" section. Also, please let us know if there is someone we should not ask.
- Send your submission by the agreed deadline to editors@rcc.lmu.de.

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CONTRIBUTION COMPONENTS FORM

To ensure that your article looks great and is discoverable, please provide the following:

Author profile: Please provide a short biography and a suitable headshot. If applicable, please include in your biography section the dates of your stay(s) at the RCC.

Name
Institution
Short biography (max. 80 words)
ORCID (optional)

Article headline: A title that captures attention and communicates significance.

Article snippet: A description, in the present tense, to appear in search results and serve as the introduction to any potential *Springs* audio-recording companion (max. 20 words).

Article summary: An abstract used to increase the visibility of your article online (max. 100 words).

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Keywords: Suggest three to five keywords.

Username(s) on social media: Your username(s) on social media (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Bluesky) to tag when promoting your article/the issue your article appears in.

Additional notes:

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