



NEWS AND INFORMATION RELEASE



Marshall Islands issues new stamps celebrating the Year of the Rabbit

On February 3, 2011, the Marshall Islands Postal Service issues four new stamps celebrating the Year of the Rabbit.

During the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.—A.D. 220), the Chinese calendar was organized into repeating 12-year cycles, each year designated by one of twelve animals. The Chinese commonly refer to the year by its animal name: 2011 is the Year of the Rabbit. Those born in a given year are said to share that animal's character traits. Legend has it that when Lord Buddha departed from Earth, all the animals were summoned to bid him farewell. Twelve animals showed up, and the rabbit was fourth in line. Thus, people born during the Year of the Rabbit—1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999 and 2011—are not only affectionate, they're also sentimental, cautious, forgiving and successful in business.

A Souvenir Sheet of 4 is available for \$5.48 (stock number 466-6232). A First Day Cover is available at the Official Price of \$6.89 (stock number 466-6240). A shipping and handling charge is added to all orders.

For information about this issue, or other stamps of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, contact the Stamps and Philatelic Center of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, One Uncover Center, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82008-0021. Information may also be obtained by calling 1-800-443-4225 or ordering on-line at www.uncover.com/hprlrms.htm.



TECHNICAL DATA

Issue:	Year of the Rabbit
Face Value:	4 x \$0.98
Issue Date:	February 3, 2011
Issue Place:	Majuro
Stamp Artist:	D. Zoe Seemel
First Day Cover Design:	Herb Kawainui Kane
Printing Process:	Cyan, black, magenta, yellow by offset lithography on unwatermarked gummed paper
Printer:	Pioneer Printing, Cheyenne, Wyoming, U.S.A.
Stamp Format:	Horizontal
Stamps Per Sheet:	4
Designs per Sheet:	4
Overall Sheet Size:	126mm x 108mm
Size of Stamps:	43mm x 34mm
Issue Number:	C320
Stamp Number:	(4-1) <i>Blue Rabbit</i> (4-2) <i>Red Rabbit</i> (4-3) <i>Orange Rabbit</i> (4-4) <i>Green Rabbit</i>
Withdrawal Date:	While supplies last