

# Streamside Asides



## Upcoming Events:

**September 16, 2021: Cherry Creek Stream Survey.**  
**Headquarters tract, 8:30 AM.**

This is the post-treatment electroshocking study of our habitat improvement areas in the final phase on Cherry Creek.

**September 15: General Membership Meeting.**  
**"Winter Flyfishing for Small Stream Trout"** presented by Todd Burns. 7 PM. Paradise Falls Lutheran Association.— Beach Pavilion

**September 26 and October 2:**  
Work days for kiosk construction at the George & Olive Learn Nature Preserve, Tannersville.

**October 13: General Membership Meeting.** Don Baylor presents "A History of the Brodhead Chapter." Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 7 PM.

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September 2021

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 of Trout Unlimited



## A Busy Fall Slate of Activities

With the Labor Day Holiday behind us we look forward to an active fall schedule of activities. Our Summer-Slam On Line auction closed on September 4th and was a welcomed success. The funds generated will assist us in our scheduled habitat improvement work on McMichaels Creek. And as we look forward to that project, we plan to conduct the post-work electroshocking study on our Cherry Creek project waters. That study is scheduled for September 16.

Even though we're technically in summer, we look forward to the winter fishing season with Todd Burns' presentation on "Winter Fishing for Small-Stream Trout." Todd will present on Wednesday, September 15 at 7 PM at the outdoor beach pavilion at Paradise Falls Lutheran Association (PFLA) off Route 191. Directions are found on page 14.

Work days are scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, September 26 and the morning of Saturday, October 2 at the George and Olive Learn Nature Preserve in Tannersville, PA. Parking for this activity can be found at the former Northampton County Community College parking lot off Old Mill Road. More details forthcoming.

Don Baylor will present a program on the history of the Brodhead Chapter, founded in 1977, at the October 13 General Membership Meeting at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Start time is 7 PM.

Several chapter members will be engaging in a fly rod building class as a "trial run" this October. After working through the kinks and reviewing the program, the chapter hopes to offer this to the public in the future.

So get out your calendar's and mark the dates and we hope to see you soon.



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## *The Home Pool*

Eric Baird, President  
Brodhead Chapter — Trout Unlimited #289  
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570-355-0165

Dear Members and Friends,

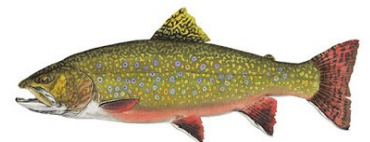
Hopefully everyone is drying out after the last couple of weeks. On the positive note the temperatures have cooled and the streams have adequate (if not a little excessive) flows once again. We have just wrapped up our first online auction and I would like to personally congratulate the winners and thank all the participants and donors that made this a rousing success for the Chapter.

After a slow summer the Chapter is very busy the next couple of months and could use some volunteer help in September and October. We hope to see everyone at our September 15 General Membership Meeting. Todd Burns will be presenting on Fly Fishing in Winter at 7:00 PM at the Paradise Fall Lutheran Association in Cresco, PA. This meeting is being held at an outdoor pavilion to reduce the potential risk to our membership and friends. On September 16 we will be doing the post restoration sampling on the Cherry Creek, volunteers and spectators are welcome to join us. On September 25 the Chapter will be running the fishing station at the National Wild Turkey Federations JAKES Day. This is a round robin style introduction to outdoor recreation for children 8 to 14 years old. On September 26 and October 2 we will be installing an informational kiosk at the George and Olive Learn Preserve in Tannersville, with details to follow. On October 9 and 10 we will be at the Quiet Valley Living Historical Farm Harvest Festival. If you are interested helping with any of these events, feel free to reach out to me at [brodheadchapter@gmail.com](mailto:brodheadchapter@gmail.com).

As I've repeated throughout my tenure as president, this is our Chapter and if you are interested in helping shape your Chapter we have some leadership opportunities available. The Youth Coordinator, Membership Chair, and Event Coordinator positions are all open and if you are interested, please feel free to reach to me or any of our Chapter Leaders.

If you don't feel comfortable joining us in person yet, you can still help by donating to the Chapter. We can now accept credit card donations at the "donate now" section of our webpage at <http://www.brodheadtu.org/donate/>, and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Eric



#### DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Ed Filipkowski  
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#### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PAST- DIRECTORS FOR THEIR RECENT SERVICE:

Gerry Bortz  
James Connor  
Jeff Heberley  
Greg Malaska  
John Smith  
Daniel Steere  
Tom Van Zandt



## MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

### New Members

We are pleased to welcome new members Donald Jones, Larry Kish and Thomas Staskowski to Brodhead TU this month. We look forward to working with you on our mission and if you have any questions, please reach out to us.

### Renewing and Contributing Members

The chapter extends sincere thank-yous to those who have chosen to renew their memberships or contributed to TU's mission. Your efforts in supporting our education, conservation, and advocacy efforts are greatly appreciated. (A complete listing of donors to the McMichaels Habitat Improvement Project will be published in a future issue. We thank you for your support and patience.)



Douglas	Andersen
Thomas	Dowling
Richard	Fox
Ed	Kepczynski
Larry	Laubach
Ronald	Otis
Brett	Riegel
Stephen	Schroettig
Ronald	Taylor

### Free 1-Year TU Memberships for First Responders

Are you a first responder? Fire Servicer? Law enforcement? Military? Is someone in your family? TU is offering free 1-year memberships to those who serve our communities and our country in these capacities. If you or a family member is interested, please [follow this link](#) for more information.







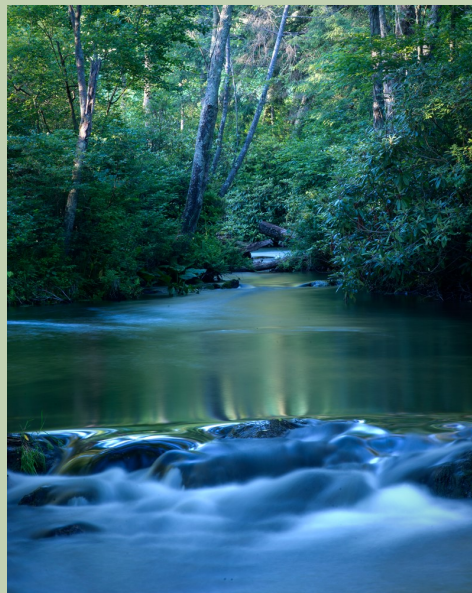
# Brodhead Trout Unlimited Summer Slam On-Line Auction

## \$ 3,000 Raised!

[Support the Project!](#)[About](#)[Updates](#) New[Share this fundraiser](#)[Contributions](#)[CONTACT ORGANIZER](#)

Thank you to all those who participated in our first on-line auction experience. Your monetary, service, and goods donations enabled us to net, yes net, \$3,000 on just a limited number of items. There were several hundred bids, eight happy winners and lots of last-minute excitement as the clock wound down. The chapter looks forward to utilizing the donations to purchase the stone, logs, rebar, and other items required for this much-needed project.

With a little less than a year to go until the tentative project start date, there will be more opportunities for you to help us provide new habitat for the trout in McMichaels Creek. We'll keep you posted but, until then, thank you so very much!



## An Interview with Helen Neville, Trout Unlimited Senior Scientist

*I recently had the opportunity to interview Trout Unlimited Senior Scientist, Helen Neville. Helen has been with TU since 2006, overseeing a multifaceted program working to recover the federally listed Lahontan cutthroat trout and she collaborates with other TU scientists on research evaluating population viability and climate change impacts on trout. When approached about doing an interview as part of our TU Diversity & Inclusion initiative, Helen enthusiastically agreed. Brodhead Chapter 289 sincerely thanks her for her time and participation in this interview and for her support of TU's Diversity & Inclusion initiatives. Her leadership roll within TU serves as an example and inspiration for us all.*

*Helen also serves on the National Leadership Council Climate Change Workgroup.*



*Ann Foster  
Brodhead TU 289*

*NLC Climate Change Workgroup member  
TU Diversity and Inclusion chapter representative.*

### **Tell us about yourself.**

I grew up in rural South Carolina, having tons of access between there and a family cabin in western NC to woods and fields and streams, where I could muck around and catch frogs and salamanders and snakes, and fish a little, too. I was a huge tom boy, probably spent 90% of my free time outside. My dad died when I was 9, which led us to move to NH so my mom could finish up her medical residency. That move was obviously a huge shake-up but opened up a whole new world for me: to a different culture (the north is a little different than the south), entirely different aspects of the outdoors (snow!), and a great public school.

### **What made you pursue your current career?**

Oddly, an interest in genetics. I was so lucky to have an awesome teacher in high school who got access for us to a bunch of lab equipment from Dartmouth College – so in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, just 3 years after the technology was developed, we were replicating DNA in our high school biology class. That got me hooked. After college I planned to go to medical school, but my mom urged me to think about something related to nature given my passion for it. I ended up moving out west for grad school and ultimately connected the two passions in the field of conservation genetics: and my dissertation, looking at how trout are segregated across their habitats and how that influences genetic patterns across the landscape. I chose trout because they have such interesting responses to their landscape through their migratory life histories, with some being entirely resident and spending their whole life in a small stream reach (increasing relatedness), while others can move 10s to 100s of miles to larger habitats – so it was a great ‘system’ for thinking about these questions.



### **How did you hear about Trout Unlimited?**

I had met a couple TU staff while doing this trout work in grad school, and later as post-doctoral researcher with the Forest Service here in Boise (using genetic patterns to understand the resolution of natal homing in Chinook salmon and to assess how fire and isolation from road culverts impacts genetic diversity in redband trout). So when this job came up in Boise, it seemed like natural fit – and was!

### **What do you see as your current role in Trout Unlimited?**

Ensuring our work across the organization is grounded in science and, wherever possible, providing opportunities for grassroots to connect to science. I've also been putting a lot of effort in to trying to increase networking of our many staff across the organization who have strong science backgrounds, so we can better draw on each other's diverse expertise. Finally, we do a fair bit of research with external partners (universities, agencies and other NGOs) so I'm always trying to think about how we can best advance aquatic science.

### **What is your favorite experience with TU so far?**

Working with the people here. You couldn't find more dedicated, expert people, who teach me so much and are also a lot of fun to work with, so I love collaborating with coworkers and volunteers. My job is such a great sweet spot, unusual in the sense that our science work so readily gets applied directly to important conservation needs or work – often with grassroots as well. I should take more advantage of fishing opportunities than I do, which are also a good perk.

### **How would you like to see TU grow/change?**

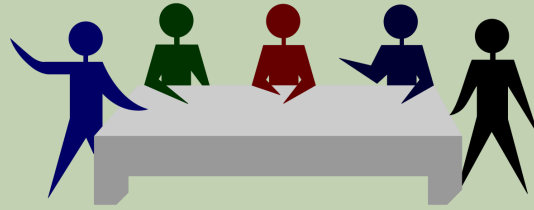
I'm really excited about our diversity, equity and inclusion work, and I hope we can drive that into real action that makes us a more diverse organization in the future – with that will come amazing perspective and opportunity, I think.

### **What are you passionate about?**

Conservation. It is hard not to get down sometimes about the many serious threats we face on this planet, especially in terms of climate change and accelerating losses of biodiversity. So, the field of conservation couldn't be more important and the restoration and land protection, and policy – all the work we do at TU – is one thing that gives me hope. It's where there is opportunity to make a real difference.

### **Where would you like to see yourself in 10 years?**

Here! But in a bigger, more diverse organization with more resources at hand to scale up our work and do better things.



## Committee Updates

Brodhead TU has several active committees focused upon meeting the needs identified in our Strategic Plan. If you would like to volunteer to serve on one of these committees, please contact a Board member at your convenience. Below are brief descriptions of what each committee does and some actions they have recently undertaken.

**Advocacy—** Advocacy alerts members of upcoming policy and/or legislative changes that can impact the cold-water resources in the Poconos, the state, and the nation. Legislation that heads through the House and Senate in Harrisburg has the potential to directly or indirectly affect the coldwater fisheries throughout the state. See pages 8 and 9 for more details.

**Diversity Initiative—** Focuses upon strengthening the chapter by providing information and activities that will attract and retain members across the spectrum found within our communities. Ann Foster recently interviewed Helen Neville, Chief Scientist at TU and her comments and thoughts are found on pages 5-6 of this issue. In line with TU National's Harassment Policy, the Chapter is continues advertising and providing a link for reporting of harassing activities. This is a vital step in creating and maintaining an atmosphere that welcomes all persons interested in BTU's activities.

**Fundraising—** The Summer Slam On-Line Auction concluded on September 4, 2021. The auction netted an even \$3000. With \$1,165 already raised on-line, the chapter has raised \$4165 in new funds for the McMichaels/Pomeroy project. The chapter submitted its application for a TU Embrace-A-Stream grant and we should find out in October if we were successful. BTU also applied for a PFBC Cooperative Habitat Improvement Project (CHIP) grant with the PFBC and have been notified those funds will be available in 2022/2023.

**Conservation—** This group works on stream or habitat improvement projects. Two new projects include improvements in the Upper Paradise watershed tributaries (Tank Creek and Yankee Run) and work within the Pomeroy Preserve on McMichaels Creek.

**Tree Planting—** After making multiple site visits, the committee narrowed down the possible work sites. At present, locations along Middle Creek in Polk Township and Cherry Creek at the Josie Porter Farm are high-priority locations. Committee members are planning additional meetings with the appropriate parties for these locations in order to determine what is needed and to coordinate cohesive plans. Once sites and plans are finalized, appropriate types of trees will be ordered. At that point, a call will go out for volunteers to get those trees in the ground!

## News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest

**Comment Period:** Here is the link to the [PFBC Regulatory Changes](#) page so you can review these and other proposals and leave a comment. Your voice counts!

### **PA Legislative News:**

The 2021 Legislative Session is back and running and committees in both the House and Senate are active. Bills of note:

1. [H.B. 1144](#). This bill has passed the House and is now in committee in the Senate. This bill would legalize the dumping of oil and gas drilling wastewater on gravel and paved roads. PSU has conducted two studies indicating such actions have detrimental effects on the environment.
2. [S.B. 545](#). A re-write of the failed S.B. 619 that sought to change the definition of pollution, S.B. 545, among other items, allows polluters to determine if they should or should not report a spill. Existing law requires spills to be reported to DEP where trained professionals determine the severity and ecological impact of the spill.
3. [S.B. 832](#). Would establish a new fund dedicated to water quality, specifically focused on mitigating “non-point” sources of pollution, such as agricultural runoff and acid mine drainage, that are diffuse throughout the landscape. Funding in the amount of \$250 million dollars would be appropriated from federal dollars allocated by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

After reviewing these bills and their summaries, please contact your senator and relay your thoughts.

If you want to keep track of these and other bills coming up within the Environmental Resources and Energy Committees (ERE) here is the link for the [House](#). Here is the same information for [Game and Fisheries](#). On the Senate side, here are [ER&E](#) and [G&F](#) committee assignments and meeting schedules. Be advised there are usually multiple bills being considered that could ultimately affect the quality of our streams and groundwater.

For updates and explanations on what is happening, we encourage you to visit:

<http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/>

This resource is searchable so you can simply type in your topic or Bill # and find some information. Also, we sometimes send Local Action Alert emails to our membership when an important legislative vote is imminent. Be aware there are bills and amendments being put forth that would affect funding, enforcement and regulations within agencies that are charged with protecting the clean, healthy environment guaranteed in our state's constitution.



### **Federal:**

Revisions to the Waters of the US (WOTUS) Rule: Important changes to the Waters of the US Rule will further protect our waterways. General information can be found [HERE](#).

TU's Chris Woods' WOTUS article is [HERE](#).

More information on issues can be found at these links:

<https://ww.tu.org/action-center>

A Georgetown Law source provides a comprehensive overview of environmental legislation:

<http://guides.ll.georgetown.edu/c.php?g=209325&p=3611206>

### **Local and State Resources:**

[Brodhead Watershed Association](#)

[Monroe County Conservation District](#)

[PA Fish & Boat Commission: Rulemakings](#)

[Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited](#)

**DEP Water Quality Information.** This [link](#) will take you to the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) website that focuses upon water-related issues. You will find links for existing stream uses, proposed rule-making, anti-degradation measures and more.

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## **Harassment Reporting**

As a member or volunteer, if you believe you are being harassed or if you have witnessed harassing behavior towards other volunteers, members or TU employees, you should report it immediately to Beverly Smith, [bsmith@tu.org](mailto:bsmith@tu.org), Vice President for Volunteer Operations, or Julisa Edwards, [jedwards@tu.org](mailto:jedwards@tu.org), TU General Counsel.

If, at anytime, you would feel it would be unreasonable to use this procedure to report harassment, TU encourages you to submit an anonymous and confidential report using the new Trout Unlimited Ethics hotline.

<https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/68191/index.html> or call 1-844-896-9121.

This “hot-button” link leads directly to the reporting hotline.

**Trout  
Unlimited  
Ethics  
Hotline**

# Fishing Outlook



## Flooding and Post-Storm Fishing.

With three heavy rainfalls and two flooding events occurring in the Poconos within a two-week time frame, it's a good idea to get out and "walk" the local streams before you fish. If you don't walk them first, be prepared to see some major alterations when you arrive.

Significant changes can occur within and along even the smallest waterways as massive

amounts of water rush

downstream. As the

tremendous volumes of

rain quickly run into narrow headwater and upstream channels, the

downstream push can equal the effects of many bulldozers plowing

through the stream bed. Long-fished holes can (sadly) disappear,

new runs are scoured, rubble beaches are created, and trees are

cleared from the stream bed as other trees are uprooted and

downed. Gravity plays no favorites.

Thankfully, in most cases, our populations of native and wild trout

survive. (They are amazing creatures.) However, the extreme scouring of the stream bed can have significant, long

-term, negative impacts on the resident macroinvertebrate populations. The tumbling, grinding, and rolling of the

bed load can be devastating to the tiny, fragile nymphs living beneath the rocks. Only time will tell how well they

weathered the floods so let's hope for the best. As for now, the waters are receding and the weather is cooling

off: Go fishing!





# We Need Your Financial Support for our Stream Restoration Campaign

**The Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited needs your help to restore trout habitat in our Pocono streams**

In 2022, Brodhead TU plans to start construction on a \$75,000 project to improve in-stream habitat on nearly  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of McMichael's Creek. Located within the Pocono Heritage Land Trust's recently established Pomeroy Preserve, adjacent to Hickory Valley Park, this stream section is part of the PA Fish & Boat Commission's Keystone Select Trophy Trout/Delayed Harvest program and offers public access and year-round fishing opportunities.

As beautiful as this section of creek is, in-stream habitat is limited, and will benefit greatly from Brodhead TU's science-based habitat restoration work. The Chapter's past projects on the Brodhead Creek, Cherry Creek, McMichael's Creek and Pocono Creek resulted in improvements in the ability of trout to reproduce and flourish. This restoration project will do the same.



Scan the Code at Left with Your Smartphone to Donate to Our Campaign on Our Website or visit: [brodheadtu.org/donate](http://brodheadtu.org/donate)

Unfortunately, due to health and safety concerns accompanying the coronavirus pandemic, Brodhead TU has been unable to hold its annual banquet or other traditional fundraisers. Without these supporting events, our stream projects are in jeopardy and we need your help.

Please consider donating now to help us restore and enhance the fishery on McMichael's Creek.

Yes! I want donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support the Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited's work to restore trout habitat in the Poconos!

Send a check made payable to: Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited, PO Box 661, Tannersville, PA 18372 or donate online with a credit card at [brodheadtu.org/donate](http://brodheadtu.org/donate)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make my donation in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_



A sincere thank you is extended to the following supporters of our Chapter as we work to preserve and protect the cold-water resources in the Poconos.

		<p><b>Thomas R. Wilkins   CEO</b> Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Wilkins &amp; Associates <i>"Bringing families home since 1988"</i></p> <p>570-466-4022 Direct 570-421-8950 ext. 314 Office 570-421-4514 Fax twilkins@wilkins1.com <a href="http://www.BHGwilkins.com">www.BHGwilkins.com</a></p>
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**(570) 355-0165.**





Due to pandemic-induced restraints, ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

## **Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2021**

**September 12, 2021: Veteran's Program** at the VALOR Pavilion next to 65 Meckes Lane, White Haven PA 18661 8:00 AM. Instruction available, breakfast and lunch served. Volunteers, veterans, 1st responders & medical welcome.

**September 15, 2021: 7:00 PM** General Meeting. "Winter Fly Fishing for Small Stream Trout" presented by Todd Burns at the Paradise Falls Lutheran Association pavilion. Directions on page

**September 16, 2021**— Post improvement electroshocking studies—Cherry Creek 8:30 AM

**September 20, 2021:** Brodhead Fly Tyers

**October** Veterans Service Fishing Program, Date TBA

**October 13, 2021: 7 PM** General Meeting. "The History of the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited" by Don Baylor. Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

**October 24, 2021: 1 PM.** [Introduction to Fly Fishing Workshop.](#) Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 12:30 PM.

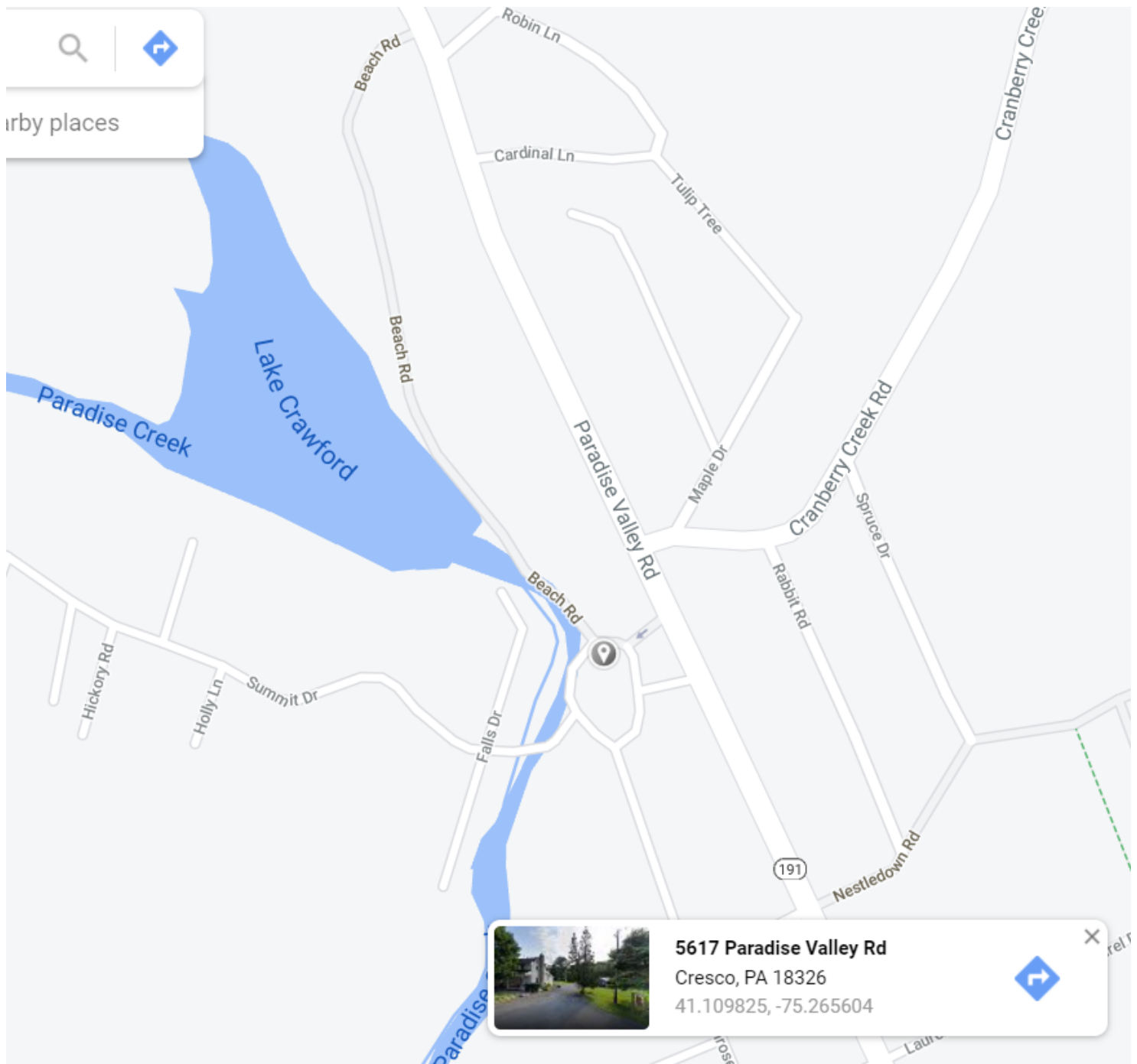
**November 15, 2021:** Brodhead Fly Tyers

**November 18, 2021:** General Meeting

**December 9, 2021:** General Meeting

**December 20, 2021:** Brodhead Fly Tyers

## Location of Paradise Falls Lutheran Association: The site of our September 15, 2021 General Membership Meeting.



Paradise Falls Lutheran Association is located off Rt. 191 near Cresco, PA. The entrance to the meeting location is located on the west side of Paradise Valley Road (Route 191) just south of Cranberry Creek drive. BTU volunteers will direct you once you arrive. Hope to see you there!