

# Streamside Asides



## Upcoming Events:

### November 8-15: Orvis -TU Embrace A Stream Challenge

One week of on-line fundraising for our Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Project. Click the image to the right and more info is provided on page 3.

**November 13: General Membership Meeting.** A stream-side hike on the Pocono Creek at Rail Gap Preserve, Shaffer's Schoolhouse Rd. 1 PM.

**November 20: Work day.** Kiosk Construction on the George and Olive Learn Nature Preserve. 9 AM.

**December 2: Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM**  
Brodhead Creek Heritage Ctr.

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November 2021

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 of Trout Unlimited



## Restore Our Rivers!

Support us and give back on November 8-14, 2021

<https://www.embraceastream.org/organizations/brodhead-chapter>

## OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

Eric Baird  
267 3rd Street  
Pocono Pines, PA 18350  
(570) 355-0165

### VICE PRESIDENT

Russell Thrall III  
159 Swift Road  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
(570) 629-8010

### SECRETARY

Todd Burns  
311 Crestmont Street  
Pen Argyl, PA 18072  
610-704-4549  
salmofisher7@gmail.com

### TREASURER

Stephan van de Loecht  
123 Keystone Rd.  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302  
[treasurer@brodheadtu.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:treasurer@brodheadtu.onmicrosoft.com)

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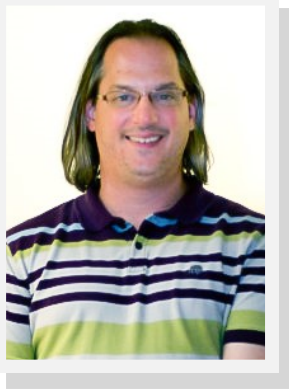
Jim Houghton

Glen Lippencott

Don Miller

Larry Ott

Arie VanWingerden



## *The Home Pool*

Eric Baird, President  
Brodhead Chapter — Trout Unlimited #289  
e-mail: [ericrobertbaird@gmail.com](mailto:ericrobertbaird@gmail.com)  
570-355-0165

Dear Members and Friends,

The seasons are definitely changing; there is a chill in the air and frost on the ground. That means that brook and brown trout are in full spawning mode for the next couple of weeks, so if you do go out please watch where you step. It also means our Trout In the Classroom (TIC) trout eggs are on their way to schools in our area!

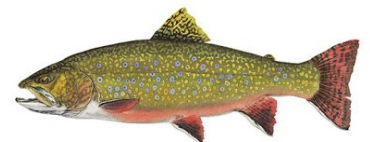
We've received some exciting news since we last spoke; the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited has won a \$7000 Embrace A Stream Grant through TU National for our proposed work on the McMichaels Creek. That also enters us into the Embrace A Stream Challenge, The Embrace A Stream Challenge is a fundraising opportunity for the chapter to move closer to having funds in place for the proposed habitat improvements on the McMichaels Creek. Every \$10 or more donated is an opportunity for matching grants and prizes from Orvis.

On Saturday, November 13, we are looking forward to spending part of our afternoon exploring the new Pocono Heritage Land Trust acquisition, the Rail Gap Pocono Creek Preserve. We will be looking for evidence of spawning trout, discussing potential improvement projects, and learning a little more about this new public access.

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 open and if you are interested, please feel free to reach to me or any of our Chapter Leaders.

Tight lines,

Eric



## The ORVIS –Trout Unlimited Embrace A Stream Challenge

The Orvis—Trout Unlimited Embrace A Stream Challenge is an on-line fundraising event running from 12:00 AM on November 8th through 3 AM on November 15, 2021. The Challenge provides opportunities for members and friends to reach out via social media platforms and traditional web and email systems. Designed to enhance fundraising for local projects, the Orvis company will graciously match donations up to \$1000 for each participating Trout Unlimited chapter. So if a chapter raises \$1500, Orvis chips in \$1000 and the final disbursement is \$2500. That's a great deal!

Locally, Brodhead Trout Unlimited is working with the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, the Pocono Heritage Land Trust and Hamilton Township on trout habitat improvements in McMichaels Creek. This stretch of creek runs through the Trust's Pomeroy McMichaels Nature Preserve off Hickory Valley Road near Stroudsburg.

Phase I of this project has estimated materials, equipment and labor costs of approximately \$62,000. Currently, through active fundraising and grant writing, the Chapter has \$47,000 to put toward this total. Although looking to pursue additional grant funding, there is nothing guaranteed so all funds raised through this EAS Challenge are extremely important. And don't forget Phase II!

So spread the word far and wide and don't be shy. People often enjoy supporting something that's near and dear to their friends and colleagues.



**JOIN US!**

11.8.21-11.15.21



To give and/or to forward to your friends, click on the graphic at left for the Brodhead TU EAS Challenge page.



#### DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Ed Filipkowski  
2171 Wallace St.  
Stroudsburg, PA 18360  
(570) 424-1856

#### 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 seven new members to Brodhead TU this month. We look forward to working with you on our mission and projects. If you have any questions, please reach out to us.

Jeffrey	Barlow	Jesus	Torres
Reagan	Jones	Jim E.	Ellis
Thomas	Wilkins	Matt	Krzan
Kyle	Szollar		



join

##### Renewing and Contributing Members

It was a great month for renewals and contributions and the chapter extends a sincere thank-you to those who have chosen to renew memberships or contribute 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.)

Eric	Baird	Mark	Exeter	Dennis	Purcell
Donald	Baylor	Adolph	Fernandez	Michael	Reinhardt
James S.	Bedford	Rich	Isphording	James D.	Rinker
Edward R.	Benjamin	Richard	Jackson	David	Roy
Gerald	Bortz	Ken	Knies	Thomas	Rumore
Todd	Burns	Larry	Laubach	Bob	Skazenski
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William	Cleffi	Andrew	Marcelliano	George	Talpas
Jeffrey	Crowley	Thomas	Muller	Stephan	van de Loecht
Raymond	DeCesare	George	Nixon		
Robert	Depuy	Timothy	Pinkerton		

##### 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.



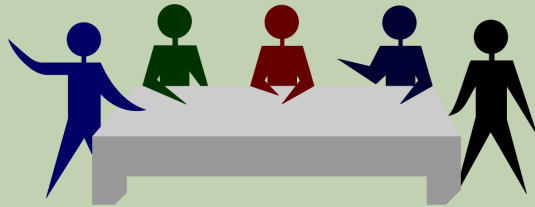


## BTU Instructs At Introduction To Fly Fishing Workshop

On Sunday, October 24, members of the Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited served as lead instructors at an Introduction to Fly Fishing workshop at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center in Analomink. Ten enthusiastic students rotated through active, hand-on sessions covering equipment, casting, knot tying, macroinvertebrates and reading the stream. After the instruction phase, participants traveled to Zacharias' Pond and put their newly learned skills to work. Good luck and tight lines to all in the future.







## 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 7 and 8 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. In line with TU National's Harassment Policy, the Chapter 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—** BTU received a TU Embrace-A-Stream grant of \$7,000 towards the Pomeroy-McMichaels Creek project. As stated last month, BTU also applied for a PFBC Cooperative Habitat Improvement Project (CHIP) grant with the PFBC and they notified us we will receive \$5,600. They will also provide \$17,200 in labor and associated costs. Our current total raised for materials and labor is \$47,000. Projected materials and labor costs for this phase of the project are \$62,000. Next event is the **Orvis-TU Embrace a Stream** Challenge running from Nov 8-15. Orvis will match up to \$1000 and more information is found on page 3 and [here](#). The committee will continue to pursue grant opportunities and other fundraising activities.

**Conservation—** Pomeroy work plans await final funding and coordination with PFBC. The committee also is soliciting input for additional work sites in the future. Recent flooding has had a significant, negative impact on some of our past projects and it may be time to re-address those needs. Stay tuned as the ideas are coming quickly!

**Tree Planting—** Committee members met with representatives of the Polk Township Parks and Recreation Committee on October 23rd. Discussion focused upon 35' to 50' buffers along the creek, plant types and planting activities. Included would be a clear walkway to the water, possibly a rain garden and some larger trees. Followup meetings will occur after the holidays. At the Josie Porter Farm, the foci are now some invasive plant removal/native tree plantings in the riparian buffer zone and a run-off area on the south side of the creek.

## 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 re-opens on Monday, **November 8, 2021** and committees in both the House and Senate are active. Bills of note:

1. **[H.B. 1842](#)**. Last amended on October 4, 2021, the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee voted this out of committee. The bill, a companion bill to S.B. 545 below, utilizes some of 545's language. Again, it would allow non-professional judgments on attempted clean-ups and seeks to tie pollution to only specific, numerical thresholds. The bill is on the table in the House.
2. **[H.B. 1144](#)**. This bill passed the House and is still in Environmental Resources and Energy in the Senate. No recent status change. 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.
3. **[S.B. 545](#)**. Re-referred back to the Appropriations Committee on September 21, 2021, (As of 11/4/2021, it is not listed on-line as being in committee.) This re-write of last session's failed S.B. 619, would allow 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. Seeks to tie pollution to only specific, numerical thresholds.
4. **[S.B. 832](#)**. Out of committee and given first consideration on Sept. 28, 2021. 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>

This Georgetown Law source provides a comprehensive overview of pending 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](#)

[PennFuture](#)

**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**



# Fall/Winter Fishing Outlook



## Trout Spawning Season in Full Swing

Now that the November coolness has brought the water temperatures down into the upper 40's, it's apparent that spawning season is in full swing. As the waters recede from the latest high-water event, expect to see active trout in your favorite, small-stream waterway. Remember:

1. They build their redds in the tail-out flats of pools and runs from now through early December. Please be careful with your wading (look for those "clean" oval patterns on the bottom—see photo at right) and don't target fish that are near the redds.
2. Recent floods have had some major impacts on our waterways. Be careful with your wading as new cuts, runs, and strainers have been created. What once was there, may not be now!
3. As the waters cool and the fishing heats up, don't forget those streamers in your fly box. Honestly, they work! And as the fall feed provides calories for trout to sustain them through the leaner winter months, they look for as many calories as possible. A weighted zonker or bugger run deep can produce some really nice fish.
4. Remember to keep 'em wet and release quickly.



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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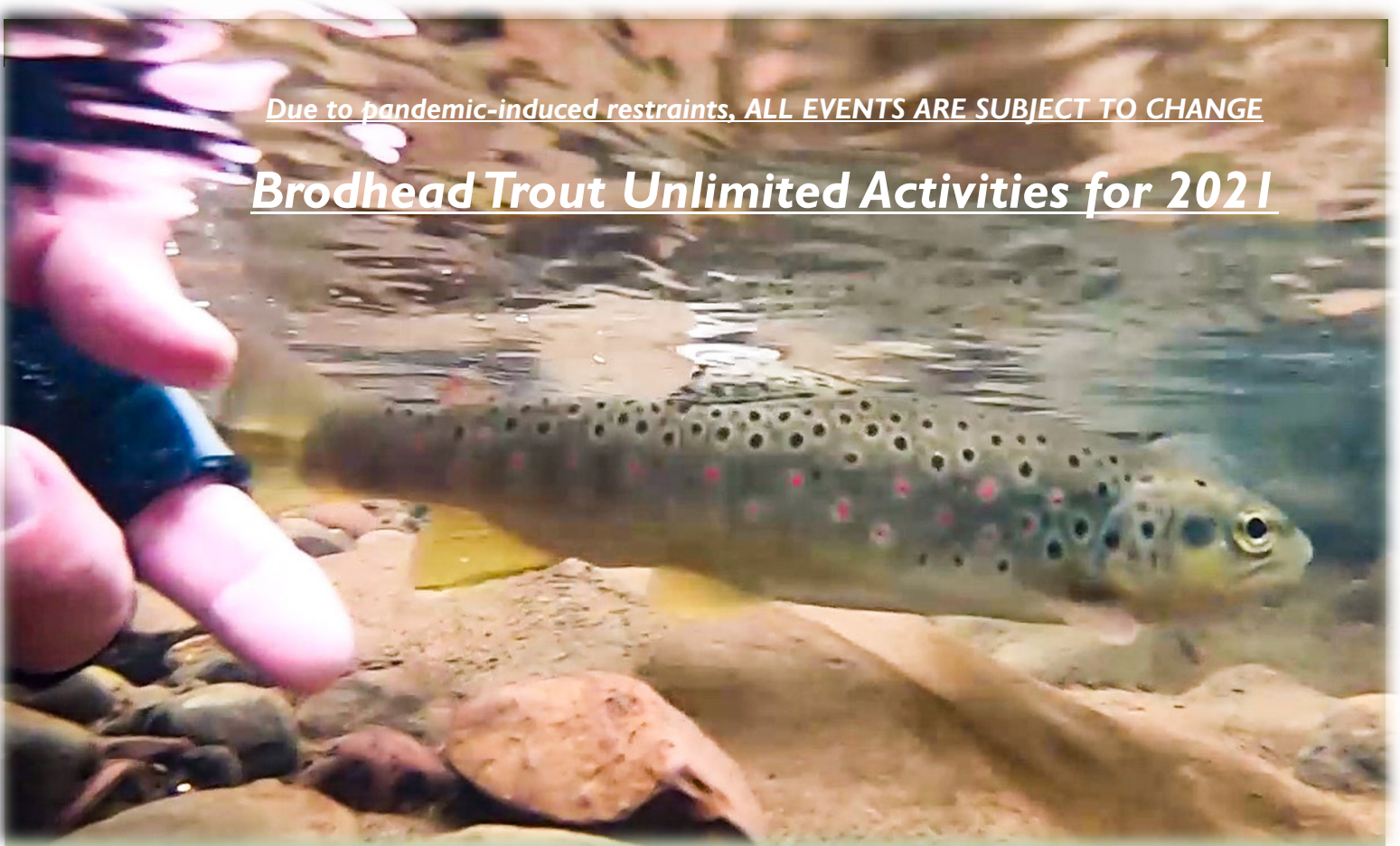
**Eric Baird @**

**(570) 355-0165.**



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

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



**November 13, 2021: 1 PM.** General Meeting. A Walk on the Creek. Rail Gap Preserve, Shaffer's School-house Rd. I

**November 15, 2021:** Brodhead Fly Tyers—Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Muddler Minnows!

**December 9, 2021:** General Meeting. TBD.

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

**February 2022:** Fly tying classes. More details to come.

**March 9, 2022:** General Membership Meeting. Guest presenter: Tim Flagler