



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

February 2022



Upcoming Events:

Feb. 12, 19: Intro to Fly tying classes. 9 AM Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

Feb. 16, 2022: Fly Tying Social, 7 PM Kettle Creek EEC.

March 3, 2022: Board of Directors Meeting. 7 PM.

March 9, 2022: Gen. Meeting—Tim Flagler presents: **What Trout Like to Eat and Flies to Feed Them.** 7 pm. Kettle Creek EEC..

March 19, 2022: Introduction to Fly Fishing. *Details to come.*

April 1, 2022: Annual Spring Banquet. *Woodsgate, Stroudsmoor Country Inn*

April 13, 2022: General Membership Meeting, CVNWR Headquarters, 7 PM

April 23, 2022 Earth Day Activities. *Details to come.*

May 7, 2022: Annual Streamside Clean-Up. Tannersville, PA.

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Annual Spring Banquet Returns On Trout Season Eve!



On Friday, April 1, 2022, the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited will once again host its annual Spring Banquet. This year's event will be held at the Woodsgate facility within the Stroudsmoor Country Inn complex near Stroudsburg, PA. The chapter invites all members and friends to come out and enjoy the evening before the opening day of trout season. A cash bar opens at 5:30 PM, dinner will be served at 6:30 PM and the awards and program will begin at 7:30 PM. As always, prizes, raffles, conservation ideas and fish stories will be available!

All ticket sales will be done online. Please follow the links below for more information. We hope to see you there.

[Banquet Tickets and Reservations](#)

[Stroudsmoor Country Inn Map](#)

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The Home Pool

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Dear Members and Friends,

Hope everyone is making the most of the great grey bucket of suck that is January and February in the northeast Pennsylvania. In case cabin fever is starting to get to you, join us at Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center on February 16th at 7:00 PM for a night of fraternization and fly tying at our Fly Tying Social.

Our Spring Banquet returns on April 1, 2022 at Woodsgate in Stroudsmoor Country Inn. Ticket sales are on-line and links can be found on the front page of this newsletter. This serves as one of our major fundraisers as we continue to preserve, protect and reconnect the cold-water resources in the greater Pocono area.

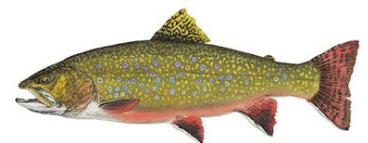
Our monthly meeting of the Brodhead Fly Tyers on Monday February 21st at 6 PM. The theme for February is soft hackle wets.

In February we are going to have a Conservation Committee meeting to prioritize and create a rough time line for potential habitat improvement projects. If you might be interested in joining meeting or would just like to forward an idea, feel free to reach out to me.

Our Advocacy Committee is ever vigilant looking for potential threats to our coldwater resources and looking for opportunities to support that will protect or help restore our favorite streams and rivers. If you are interested in helping with our advocacy initiatives reach out to our advocacy chair, Todd Burns.

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

Eric



DIRECTOR EMERITUS

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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 Wayne Beers, Joan Loveless-Blobner and Brett Riegel to Brodhead TU this month. We look forward to working with Wayne , Joan and Brett on our mission and projects. if you have any questions, please reach out to us.

Renewing and Contributing Members

It was another 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.



join

| | | | |
|---------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Tim | Bond | Homer | Lee |
| Jake | Cardillo | Dennis | Levin |
| Mike | Cutcliff | John | Lyman |
| Brian | Daniels | Gregory | Malaska |
| Tim | Fisher | Gustave | Mondragon |
| Fred | Freeman | Ronald | Otis |
| William | Harley | Gary | Pysher |
| Lynne | Katz | Donald | Thatcher |
| Barry | Kwasny | Bradley | Wise |
| Larry | Laubach | | |

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.



Proposed Change to Mission Statement

At the November 2021 Board Meeting, the BTU Board voted to propose a revised mission statement to incorporate into the existing Strategic Plan. This statement dovetails with the new, National mission statement and includes specific references to our children's future and bringing people together.



The current mission statement as included in the 2020-2025 strategic plan reads:

To protect, reconnect, restore and sustain the cold-water fisheries of the Poconos.

The proposed mission statement would read:

Our mission is to bring together diverse interests to care for and recover Pocono rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout.

We will continue to post the proposed language through February 2022 and will hold a vote on acceptance at an upcoming general membership meeting.

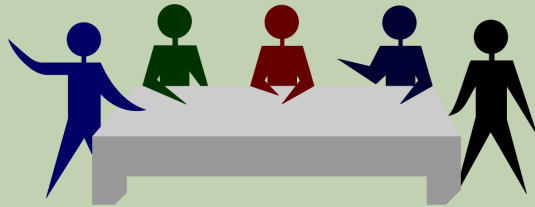


Opening Day of Trout Season: April 2, 2022

Pennsylvania returns to a single, opening-day for trout season in 2022 with the opener set for 8 AM on Saturday, April 2. Additionally, the Mentored-Youth Day will be held on Saturday, March 26th, 2022.

Be advised that Stocked Trout Waters, as defined in the regulations manual, are closed to fishing beginning February 21, 2022 and continuing until opening day. This is a date change from previous years and is a result of the movement of the Men-

tored-Youth day and the opening day of the trout season. Be sure to check your [summary book](#) before you hit the waters.



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 6-7)** The Committee also looks at PFBC policies and [proposed policy changes](#) such as Class A listings and related activities.

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— After receiving the Embrace A Stream grant from TU and the CHIP grant from PFBC, the chapter had \$47,000 in cash and match toward the \$62,000 Pomeroy project (Phase I) on McMichaels Creek. Through the Embrace A Stream Challenge in November BTU raised an additional \$8,110. Since the Challenge's close, another \$1,150 has been received or promised putting the total raised for materials and labor to \$56,260. BTU will continue to pursue grant funding.

Conservation— Pomeroy work is planned for summer 2022 and members are beginning the work of locating, acquiring, and storing the timber needed for the devices. Contact was made with PFBC to indicate the chapter will be ready to go. BTU members built the informational kiosk on the George and Olive Learn Nature preserve and **the signage arrived! When the weather breaks**, the locking bulletin board, a flybray and the signage will be installed. The committee is also 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. Winter is a beautiful time to walk "your" stream and get some ideas.

Tree Planting— Committee members met with representatives of the Polk Township Parks and Recreation Committee at the end of October. As a result, the Chapter forwarded proposed plans for tree and shrub plantings on the site. A follow-up meeting will occur. At the Josie Porter Farm, the committee is looking at some invasive plant removal/native tree plantings in the riparian buffer zone and a problematic run-off area on the south side of the creek. The Committee is awaiting some run-off events to visit the site and evaluate and document the situation.

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!



The Governor's budget address will occur on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. Here is a [preview article](#) highlighting the expected components of the proposed budget.

PA Legislative News: Committees in both the House and Senate have been active. Bills of note:

1. **H.B. 2020. (NEW)** Referred to the House ERE on February 3, 2022. **Growing Greener III.** For fiscal year 2021-2022, the fund would be appropriated \$500,000,000 from money received by the Commonwealth from the Federal Government under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2, 135 Stat. 4). Would fund a variety of infrastructure and positive environmental projects.
2. **H.B. 1842. (2nd Update)** The bill was [sent to the floor on Dec. 14, 2021 where it passed by a 108-95 roll-call vote](#). The bill, a companion bill to S.B. 545 below, utilizes some of 545's language. It was **given first Senate consideration on January 25, 2022**. It would allow non-professional judgments on attempted clean-ups of potentially dangerous spills and seeks to tie pollution to only specific, numerical thresholds.
3. **S.B. 545. (Updated)** Re-referred to Appropriations Committee on September 21, 2021, 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. (See H.B. 1842 above.) Existing law requires spills to be reported to DEP where trained professionals determine the severity and ecological impact of the spill.
4. **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. A recent [PSU study](#) indicates such actions have detrimental effects on the environment and are not the best tools for the job.
5. **S.B. 832. Currently in Appropriations Committee.** 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 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.

What's Up In PA Environmental Legislation

This link provides a broad overview of conservation and environmentally related legislation within the PA House of Representatives and the PA Senate. [PA LEGISLATION 2022](#)

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. We encourage you to visit: <http://www.paenvironmentdigest.com/newsletter/>

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.

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, Vice President for Volunteer Operations, or Julisa Edwards, 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.

Trout
Unlimited
Ethics
Hotline

Mid/Late Winter Fishing Outlook



If you've taken a ride by many of our Pocono streams you have seen that ice is more prevalent than running water. But that's how nature works and, soon enough, a winter thaw and/or gradually warmer temperatures will begin to melt some of the "hard stuff". It's certainly a challenge to fish waters with considerable shelf ice and if you choose to do so, please be careful. As we head into what is often the deepest part of winter, please keep the following information in mind.

- Ice, snow and winter algae blooms combine to make this time of year one of the most challenging for wading. Be careful and wear metal studs on your wading shoes.
- Our waters are currently at their coldest. Dress accordingly.
- Be careful where you park. Plowed snow thaws and then freezes solid so what may look like easy entry/exit, may not be. Check it out before you pull in (and lose your muffler!)
- The **last day to fish stocked waters** in the extended season is **February 20, 2022**. Stocked trout waters are **closed to fishing from February 21 to 8:00 AM on April 2, 2022-Opening Day**.
 - 1) Local exceptions to the above are: Hidden Lake, Lily Pond, Little Mud Pond. Fishing is permitted in these waters; however, no trout may be taken or possessed until the season opens.
 - 2) Class A streams that receive stockings, such as Martins Creek, also close to fishing on February 21, 2022. Please refer to your [summary book](#) for [more details](#).

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>Thomas R. Wilkins CEO Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate Wilkins & 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 www.BHGwilkins.com</p> |
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(570) 355-0165.



ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2022

February 2022: Final fly-tying classes will be held Feb.12 and 19 at 9 AM at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

February 16, 2022: Fly-Tying Social, Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center, 7 PM. *Facility currently requests face coverings for building entry.*

March 3, 2022: Board of Directors Meeting, 7 PM. Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

March 9, 2022: General Membership Meeting. Guest presenter: Tim Flagler presents, "What Trout Like to Eat and Flies to Feed Them." 7 PM. Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center.

March 19, 2022: Introduction to Fly Fishing (workshop). Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 9 AM.

April 1, 2022: Annual Spring Banquet. Stroudsmoor Country Inn. Woodsgate facility. 5:30 PM.

April 13, 2022: General Membership Meeting, Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters, 7 PM. Representative from PFBC, PennFuture, and TU will present during this conservation-themed meeting.

April 23, 2022: MCCD Earth Day Celebration. Hold the date!

May 7, 2022: Annual Streamside Clean Up. Tannersville PA.

May 11, 2022: "Meeting on the Creek", Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 6 PM.

June, 2022: Chapter picnic at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center