



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

June 2022



Upcoming Events:

June 11, 2022: Fly Fishing Flea Market and Chapter Picnic at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center Market opens 9 AM, Picnic festivities begin at 3 PM.

June 25, 2022: Introduction to Fly Fishing Workshop

July 21, 2022: Monroe County Conservation Youth Camp Demos, Stoney Acres. 1 PM

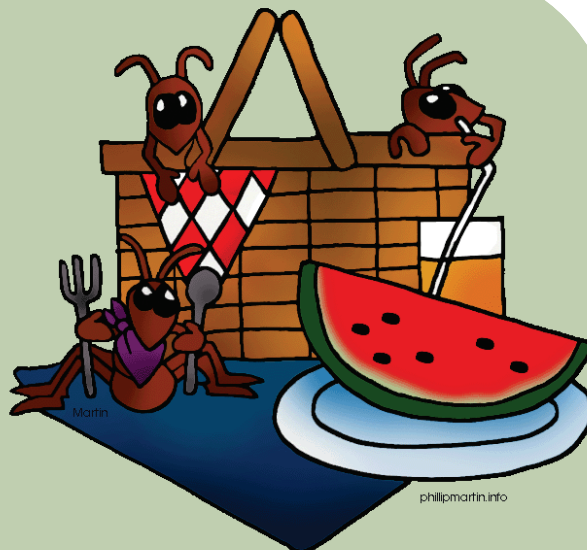
July 28: Urban Youth Retreat with USFWS at Cherry Valley Nat. Wildlife Refuge

August: Habitat improvement work on McMichaels Creek in the Pomeroy McMichaels Nature Preserve

Annual Picnic and Inaugural Fly Fishing Flea Market Set For Saturday, June 11, 2022

On Saturday, June 11, 2022, the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited will hold its annual picnic at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Activities will begin around 3 PM. There will be a

casting competition, some fishing, some storytelling, lots of food and great comradery. If the weather is good, seating will be on the large deck on the rear of the building. If it's a bit rainy, seating will be inside. Bring a side dish or a dessert and the chapter will supply the rest. If you want to be seated down in the grass, bring your favorite lawn chair.



We hope to see you there!

Additionally, the chapter will be organizing and running a used-gear or fly fishing flea market. In today's busy world, we know not everyone can make the picnic. So we'll be set up starting at 9 AM and will remain there throughout the day and into our picnic time. Our aim is to provide good quality, used gear at affordable prices so members new to the sport, young or mature, can get what they need without breaking the bank. If you or someone you know could benefit from this, bring them to the picnic or send them our way earlier in the day.

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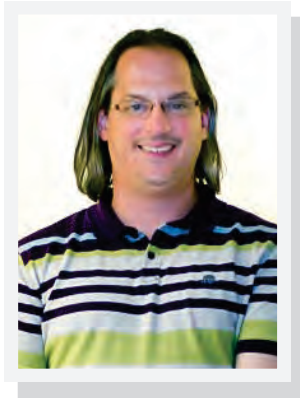
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The Home Pool

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Dear Members and Friends,

I'm using my newsletter space to thank our volunteers who have gone above and beyond to make our Chapter a success this month.

On May 13, 14 and 15 we had a STREAM Girls Program. 16 Girl Scouts ranging from 10 to 14 years old were given instruction on stream ecology, fly casting, macroinvertebrates, flow measurements, and fly tying. I would like to thank Ann Foster, Tara Ricker, Todd Burns, Glen Lippencott, Gloria Rubino, Brooke Halstead, and Tina Merli for giving a portion of their weekend to help me make this a worthwhile experience for the Scouts.

On May 22, Brian Mc Donnell and Todd Burns assisted me in clearing about a 10th of an acre of invasive plants at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge Larsen Tract. Thank you again to Todd and Brian. Also a big thank you to Landon Lewis of the USFWS staff for his assistance and instruction on herbicide application.

On June 4 Sally Rosen, Amy Baird, Caius Baird, Matt Greco, Joe Greco, and Todd Burns assisted me in planting 300 trees and shrubs at the Larsen Lane Tract of the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. This was done to mitigate against impact of the emerald ash borer that has decimated the overstory on the site and led to the proliferation of invasive species. Once again Landon Lewis of the USFWS was instrumental in helping with this project.

We have some more volunteer opportunities this month and **we could really use your help**. On June 18 and July 16 we have veterans fishing events starting at 9AM. On June 25 we are hosting an Introduction to Fly Fishing Class. We have a full class of 24 students registered and could use some volunteers to help with casting instruction and that event runs from 9AM to 12PM, with a fishing opportunity after the class. On June 28 we are providing fly fishing instruction to Urban Youth Volunteers at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge from 10:30AM to 12PM, and all volunteers are invited to a venison lunch following the class. On July 21 we are providing fly fishing instruction at the Monroe County Conservation Camp from 1PM to 3PM, volunteers are invited to join the camper for lunch from 12PM to 1PM. If you are interested in volunteering or need more information on any of these volunteer opportunities, contact Chapter President Eric Baird at ericrobertbaird@gmail.com or 570-396-4677.

If you know any veterans or first responders that might be interested in our community of conservation minded anglers, they are eligible for a free one-year membership at https://gifts.tu.org/vsp_join. We have a few leadership positions that could be filled by members who want to increase their contribution to the Chapter. The Youth Coordinator and Membership Chair 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.

I hope to see everyone this Saturday June 11 at the Chapter Picnic and tight lines.

Eric

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DIRECTOR EMERITUS

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

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



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Members

Brodhead TU welcomes new members loan Nae, Allen Oppelt, Alan Peters, Kenneth Shumski and ruce Szulborski. We thank you for joining us in our efforts and if you have any questions, please let us know. We hope to see you soon!

Renewing and Contributing Members

It was a good 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.



Ben	Batson	Ken	Knies
Harold	Benner	Barry	Kwasny
Ronald	Besser	David	Rich
Tim	Bond	James	Rowcliffe
Ed	Bustos	Tom	Rupp
Kenneth	Card	Stephen	Schroettnig
Jeff	Crawford	David	Tobey
Ed	Kepczynski		

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.



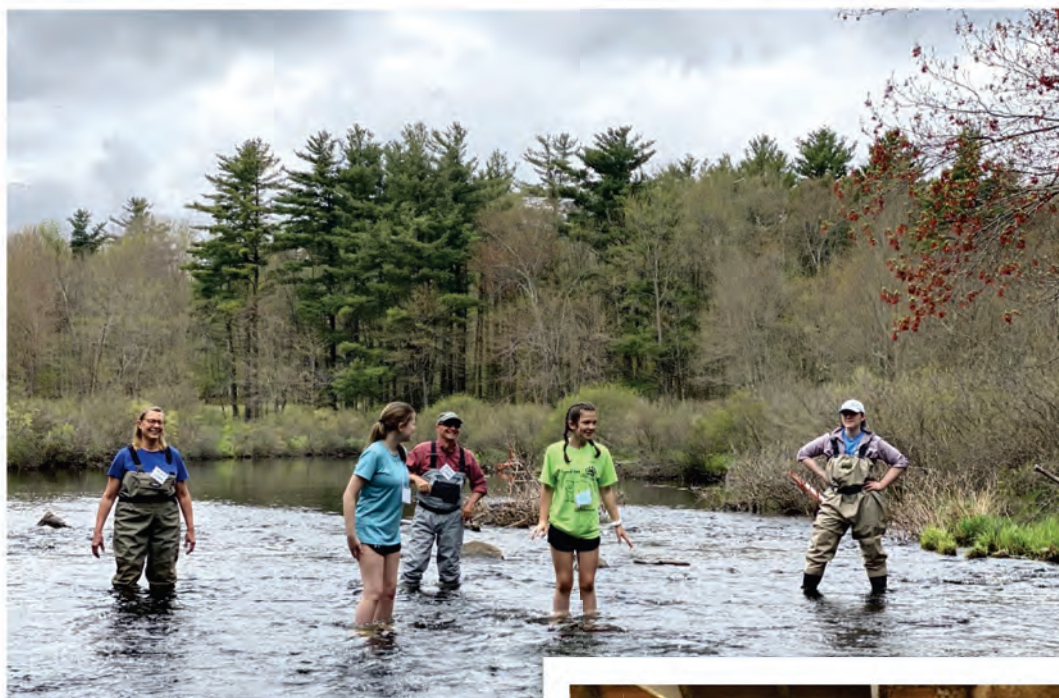
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STREAM Girls Program at Camp Minsi

Brodhead TU volunteers worked cooperatively with the Girls Scouts on May 13-15, 2022, in conducting a STREAM Girls Program. Girl Scouts ranging from 10 to 14 years old were given instruction on stream ecology, fly casting, macroinvertebrates, flow measurements, and fly tying. In total, 16 scouts participated. Volunteers Ann Foster, Tara Ricker, Todd Burns, Glen Lippencott, Gloria Rubino, Brooke Halstead, and Tina Merli provided instruction and guidance for various workshop segments. Adults and scouts alike enjoyed the time outside and the many learning opportunities.



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Volunteers Remove Invasive Species, Plant Native Trees and Shrubs

In late May and early June BTU volunteers visited the Larsen Lane Tract of the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge to work on removing invasive plants and planting native species. Invasive species in our riparian areas take advantage of the existing conditions to squeeze out and overtake the native species. Whereas the native species evolved in their natural habitat to fulfill a specific niche and/or function, the invasive populations will grow but fail to fill those niches and the ecosystem changes. These changes can lead to long-term negative consequences for our waterways. A contributing factor to the influx of invasives on this tract was the death of the native ash trees.



The area within the Larsen Lane tract is large, and it is overwhelmed by Russian olive, Japanese barberry and multi-flora rose. Volunteers cut these plants near to the ground and sponged a herbicide on the exposed tissue. This application technique is designed to kill the root of the plant, not just trim it back. Two weeks after the initial clearing activity, a second group of volunteers arrived with some native species of trees and shrubs to plant within the cleared area. The wetter areas near the creek received plantings of river birch, black willow, silky dogwood, sandbar willow, buttonbush and maple leaf viburnum. The hillside leading to the creek welcomed sweet gum, spicebush and chokeberry.

Work on this tract will be a challenging, years-long project. But successfully addressing the issue and helping the native species regain the upper hand will be a benefit to this stretch of riparian land along Cherry Creek.



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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 occurred on Tuesday, February 8, 2022. Here is a [preview article](#) highlighting the 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](#). (No change)** 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](#). (Updated) Re-Referred to Senate Appropriations Committee on Feb. 7.** 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](#). (No change)** 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](#). (No Change) 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.

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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-

Trout
Unlimited
Ethics
Hotline

Summer Fishing Outlook/Report



Well, the month of May flew by and with it quite a few of our local hatches. But fear not, there are still a lot of bugs out there for our trout to feed upon.

As we've entered June, be prepared to see significant numbers of Yellow Sallies (#16-#18) flitting above the water. We still have some caddis with sizes and colors ranging from #16-#20 and from grey to green. On those cloudy, rainy morning look for the Cornutias or blue-winged olives(#14). These mayflies are already hatching and several of our members reported seeing them on the water with the trout very interested. The fish really like to look up for this hatch so carry your favorite pattern—and a raincoat!



You may still find some Sulphurs (probably #16 now) and possibly Light Cahills (#14-#16) emerging from the riffles at evening dusk and their spinners will fall around dark. (A repeated hint: Carry a little flashlight so you can see to get out safely.) As stated last month, fish the emergers (usually with a trailing brown shuck), then the duns, and then the rusty spinners. There is nothing quite like fishing in the near dark, hearing trout slurping spinners while you're trying to figure out where your fly is drifting. Oh yeah, you may get spinners of different bugs coming by at the same time. Just another bit of challenge to overcome.

Water conditions right now are very good. With some consistent and frequent rains (not torrential downpours) the month of June can be a great time to be on the water. However, please be aware of the water temperatures. As the water levels drop and the days become warmer, water temperatures in many of our streams can creep above 68 degrees. It's best for the trout if they don't need to exert themselves when the water gets warm. So when things heat up this summer, hit the ponds or the Delaware River for some warmwater action until things cool down.

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ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2022

June 11, 2022: Fly Fishing Flea Market (9 AM start) and Chapter picnic (3 PM—?) at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Bring a side dish or a dessert and enjoy a great afternoon.

June 25, 2022: Introduction to Fly Fishing Workshop

July 21, 2022: Monroe County Conservation Youth Camp Demos, Stoney Acres. 1 PM

July 2022: Tobyhanna Township Community Day (tabling event)

July 28, 2022: Urban Youth Retreat with USFWS at Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge

August 2022: BTU and PFBC habitat improvement work on McMichaels Creek in **PHLT's Pomeroy McMichaels Preserve.**

August 2022: Scheduling meeting for 2023. Date to be determined.

Stay tuned for some upcoming special events—we've got more activities in the works!

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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.

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