



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

April 2023

Upcoming Events:

April 12 at 7:00 PM General Membership Mtg: John Maclean (virtual presentation) - at KCEEC

April 15: Knights of Columbus Fishing Derby, Brodhead Park. Gates open at 6 AM.

April 22: Invasive Plant Removal Day, Larsen Tract, CVNWR, 9 AM.

May 2: Fly Fishing : The Next Step. Zachy's Pond, East Stroudsburg 6 PM.

May 6: Riparian Buffer Maintenance, Polk Twp Walking Park & CVNWR. 9 AM

May 6: VALOR Veteran's Fishing: 9 AM.

May 10: An Evening on the Brodhead, 6 PM, BCHC

John Maclean Presents: Maclean Country

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM

**Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center
8050 Running Valley Road, Stroudsburg, PA 18360**

On Wednesday, April 12, Brodhead TU will host a live, virtual video presentation by author John Maclean. The program, Maclean Country, is a PowerPoint program and commentary about the Maclean family legacy in Montana and elsewhere. Illustrated with contemporary and family photographs, the presentation explores the background of "Home Waters" and "A River Runs Through It."

John N. Maclean is an award-winning author and journalist, and also a Trout Unlimited Life Member. He spent thirty years at the Chicago Tribune, most of that time as a Washington correspondent. After leaving the Tribune, Maclean wrote a series of non-fiction books about wildland fire, beginning with *Fire on the Mountain*, that are considered a staple of fire literature. His memoir, *Home Waters: A Chronicle of Family and a River*, has been hailed as lyrical tribute to his home state of Montana and a worthy follow to his father's novella, *A River Runs Through It*. In an upcoming work, Maclean wrote the foreword to the centennial edition of Ernest Hemingway's "Big Two-Hearted River," scheduled for publication by Mariner Classics on May 9.

Maclean, an avid fly fisherman, divides his time between Washington, D.C., and a family cabin at Seeley Lake, Montana. Please let us know you are coming at <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/General-Meeting-John-Maclean-Presents-Maclean-73369>.

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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.

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The Home Pool

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Members and Friends,

Winter finally seems to be behind us as I write this on Easter weekend. The official opening of trout season is behind and there is some warmer weather in the forecast. Maybe a bit too warm to be honest. I want to thank everyone who made it out to the banquet on March 24 th . Through your generosity, the chapter raised several thousand more dollars to help us restore stream habitat including at the Pocono Heritage Land Trust's Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Nature Preserve. Phase I of the in-stream work for the project is scheduled for this coming October.

March through May are always the busiest months for the chapter and offer numerous volunteer opportunities for those who would like to get outside and have some fun while serving a few good causes. On Saturday, April 15, we need volunteers to help with the annual Knights of Columbus Children's Fishing Contest in Stroudsburg. We can always use a few extra folks to help with parking cars, registration, or assisting with measuring and reporting the kid's catch at Brodhead Creek Park.

The following weekend, on Saturday, April 22, we will have an invasive plant removal day scheduled at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Larsen Lane Tract. This is part of a multi-year effort to reduce the impact of invasive plants on this special section of Cherry Creek.

We also have a two-fer of riparian planting maintenance sessions scheduled on May 6 th and the Polk Township Walking Park in Kresgeville as well as at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Headquarters Tract near Delaware Water Gap.

As always, you can check out our list of upcoming events and let us know you're coming to help by visiting our website at: <http://brodheadtu.org/events-and-registration/>

Tight lines,

Russell

DIRECTOR EMERITUS

Gerry Bortz
Ed Filipkowski

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

James Connor
Tim Fritz
Jeff Heberley
Greg Malaska
John Smith
Daniel Steere
Arie VanWingerden
Tom Van Zandt



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Members

We welcome new members Alex Baranosky, Anthony Casciano, Evan Makuvek, Jay Perrine, Robert Prichard and Tim Sanders to our chapter. We're glad you chose to join us in our work to preserve the coldwater resources throughout the Pocono region.

If you know someone who shares our passions and mission, please send them this link. Joining is only a few clicks away...



Renewing and Contributing Members

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.

Stephen	Babyak	Ivers	Keller	Francis	Pisko
Tim	Bartholomew	Ed	Kepczynski	Gary	Pysker
James	Bedford	Homer	Lee	Bob	Rosenberger
Tim	Bond	Bill	Leonard	Frank	Russo
Dino	Brocca	Gregory	Malaska	Ronald	Seyford
Jake	Cardillo	Vito	Marcogliese	Kenneth	Shumski
Daniel	Carvajal	Theodore	Markou	Bob	Skazenski
Peter	Clough	William	Martin	George	Talpas
Richard	Deubler	Lukas	Medvecky	Donald	Thatcher
Adolph	Fernandez	Donald	Miller	Thomas	Whetstone
Lynne	Katz	Chris	Pessolano	David	Zuber

Free 1-Year TU Memberships for First Responders

Are you a first responder? Fire Service? 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.

Current Membership:

315 Adults + 9 Youth



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Salt, Conductivity and Our Pocono Streams: Part I

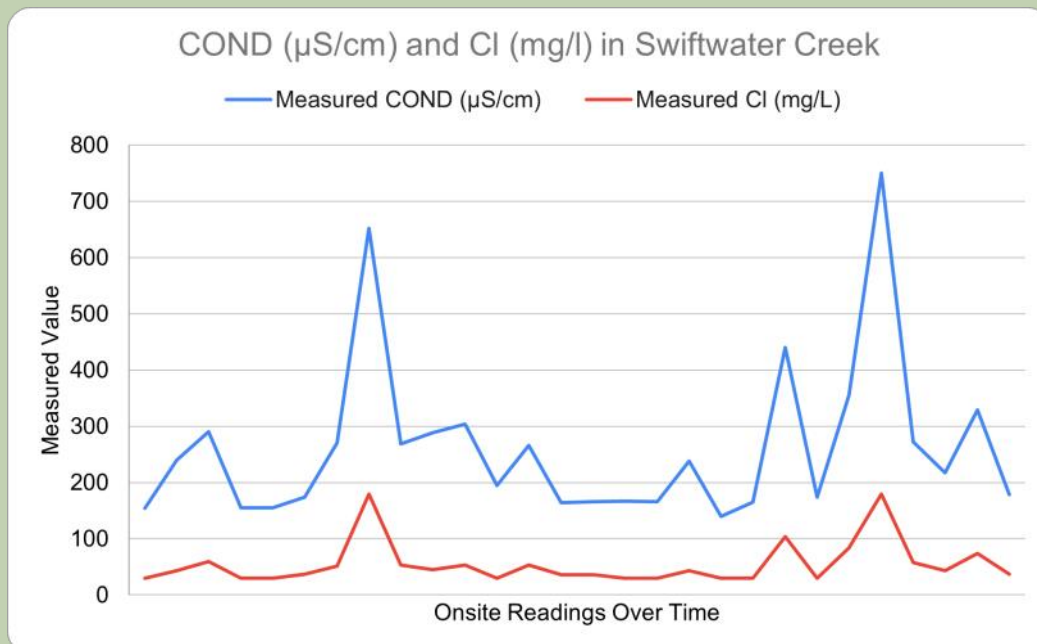
A growing focus of scientific study centers upon the effects of salts introduced into freshwater systems. These salts, generally used to de-ice roadways and parking lots, dissolve in water and are carried into nearby waterways. Such introductions increase the salinity and the electrical conductivities of the receiving waters above base levels. The effects of these changes are the subject of scrutiny: How does this salinization affect the plant and animal life in the streams? Whereas the Poconos has an abundance of free flowing streams, many of them supporting wild and native trout populations, what effects might increased salinity have on an important local sporting industry?

Chemically speaking, the salts we're focused on are inorganic salts. These consist of metal ions bonded to non-metal ions. And while there are a myriad of combinations and types, the most common salts we see are sodium chloride (NaCl) and calcium chloride (CaCl₂). These salts are found in commercially available ice melt products and both are naturally occurring compounds.

As a starting point, it is important to identify if there are streams in the area that are affected. If applications of salts to roads and parking lots run off into nearby waterways, one would expect to see:

1. An increase of Cl⁻ ions and a resulting increase in electrical conductivity in the water. (The more ions dissolved in water, the greater the ability to conduct an electrical current.)
2. Because salt applications occur in the winter months, we'd expect to see such increases between December and March.

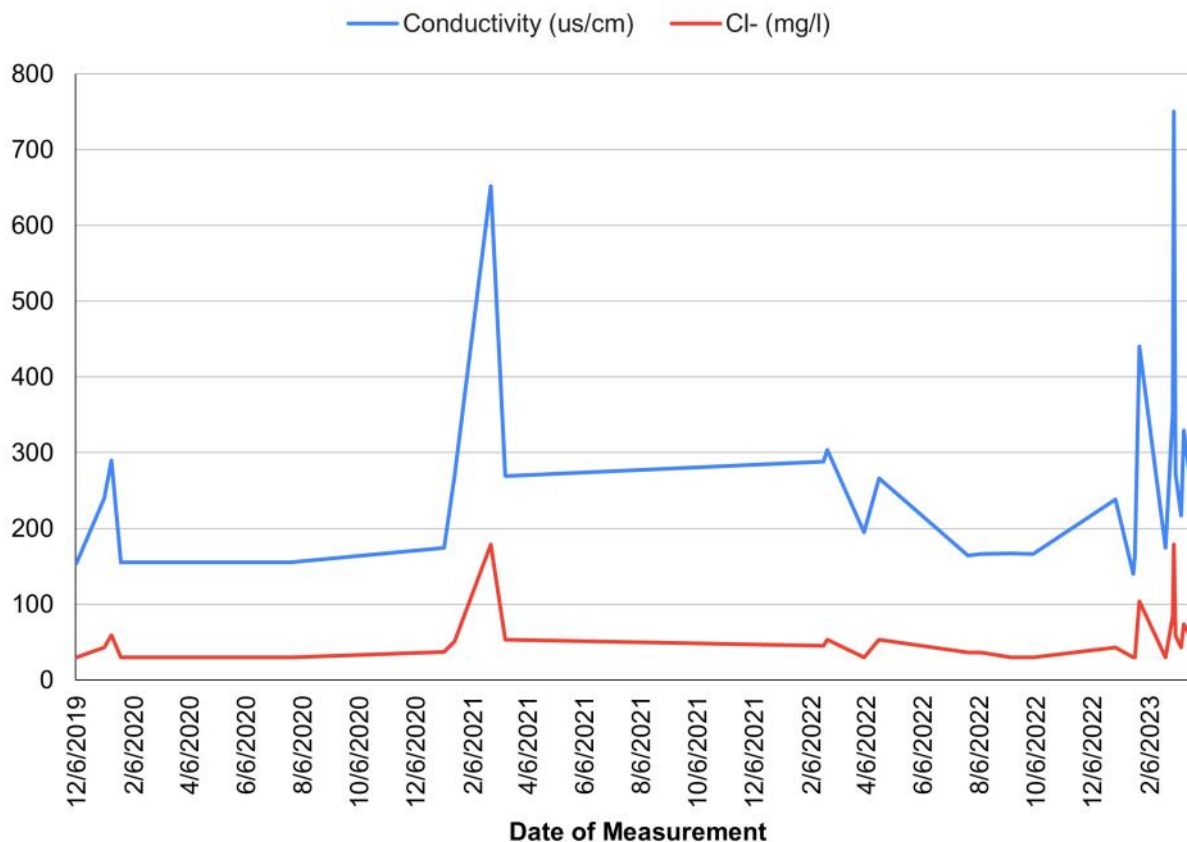
Todd Burns, a BTU Board Member and a Brodhead Watershed Association volunteer, has been measuring Cl⁻ and conductivity on Swiftwater Creek between Pocono Manor and Rte. 611, above its confluence with Indian Run. Swiftwater Creek is an exceptional value (EV) stream with a population of wild brown trout and native brook trout. A plot over time of Cl⁻ concentrations and electrical conductivity from this site produced this graph:



The data indicate a correlation between measured Cl⁻ concentration and electrical conductivity with periods of relative stability with large fluctuations or spikes. Let's look at when those spikes occurred.

Salt, Conductivity and Our Pocono Streams: Part I (cont'd)

COND ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) and Cl^- (mg/l) in Swiftwater Creek



An examination of the above plot shows that the large peaks for Cl^- and conductivity values occurred during the winter months. Natural, baseline levels for Cl^- and conductivity were observed in the summer months. These data indicate that something is happening in the winter months that is introducing a load of Cl^- into the water. This is a starting point.

For this particular station, additional study and sampling would be needed to locate sources of Cl^- input. This would entail testing at additional sites upstream of the study site. Due to accessibility issues, this may not be possible. Because the headwaters of Swiftwater Creek form on the west and east sides of Interstate 380, and the stream passes near a resort, the village of Pocono Manor, and SR 314, there are numerous potential areas from which Cl^- may enter.

Swiftwater Creek is just one stream of many in the Poconos. It's waters are affected by seasonal Cl^- increases and it is likely that other streams in our area, being near roadways and development, are likewise affected. In the next part of this series (next month), we'll look at some research that examines what effects Cl^- and conductivity have on macro-invertebrates and other freshwater biota.

Upcoming Activities

Because you may want more information, some additional details for events through June are shown below.

1. April 12th General Membership Meeting at 7 PM will be a virtual presentation by noted author **John Maclean** entitled **“Maclean Country.”** John, author of [*Home Waters: A Chronicle of Family and a River*](#), is the son of Norman Mclean, author of “A River Runs Through It.” We think you’ll enjoy his presentation! As this is a virtual presentation, we will gather at the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center to participate.
2. **Invasive plant removal** along the Larsen Tract in Cherry Valley at 9 AM on April 22nd (**Note change in date.**) Provides participants an opportunity to reverse decades of growth by invasive species along the banks of Cherry Creek. The chapter’s goal is to eliminate the undesirable invaders and prepare the area for a resurgence of native species. This is a long-term project but, bit by bit, we will succeed. Bring sturdy work gloves.
3. **“Fly Fishing: The Next Step”** provides participants in our Introduction to Fly Fishing Workshop the opportunity to hit the water on May 2nd for some real-world experience. Zacharias Pond is easy to fish and often provides some good action for our beginning fly fishers. A good place to get started.
4. **Veterans’ Fishing Day at VALOR** is scheduled for Saturday, May 6 at 9 AM. It will be held at the VALOR Pavilion at 65 Meckes Lane, White Haven PA. Join us in helping volunteers from VALOR (Veteran Assisted Living, Outreach and Recovery) in assisting veterans in a fishing experience along Black Creek. To find out more or to let VALOR know you are interested in helping contact our Veterans Service Coordinator Glen Lippincott at gl...@ptd.net.
5. May 6th brings two options to assist with **Riparian Buffer Maintenance**. At 9 AM, the Chapter will be working at the Polk Township Walking Park at 121 Polk Township Rd. in Kunkletown. We will be maintaining our plantings at the Polk Township Walking Park by repairing and replacing tree shelters and cleaning up any refuse. Work gloves and a pocket knife should be all you need to help. Let us know you plan on helping by registering at <https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/Riparian-Planting-Maintenance-Day-Polk-Township-76177>. Also at 9 AM, the Chapter will be working at the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Headquarters Tract, at 2138 Croasdale Rd, Stroudsburg, PA
6. On May 10th at 6 PM we **meet on the Brodhead to fish** the historic waters and walk in the footsteps (wader steps?) of some of the founders of the fly fishing community. Come and join us at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, Analomink, PA.
7. June 10th brings us two events. In the morning (9 AM), we’ll be running our **Fly Fisherman’s Flea Market** at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. We offer used rods and reels along with fly tying materials, other gear, and books at very reduced prices. If you or someone you know is getting started, this is a great opportunity to pick up needed goods without breaking the bank. In the afternoon (3 PM), we’ll be holding our **annual picnic** on the patio of BCHC. Bring a side dish or dessert and come join the fun.

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News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest

BTU Position Statement on Distribution Centers/Warehouse Construction

Discussions are being carried out concerning the construction of distribution centers throughout the Pocono region. Proposed projects are in various stages of planning, review, comment and hearings in Coolbaugh Township, Tunkhannock Township and Pocono Township. Potentially affected streams and their associated wetlands and tributaries are Mud Pond Run, Pocono Creek and Tobyhanna Creek.

BTU understands warehouse development will occur, and it believes that such development must be done in areas that do not impact the absorption, retention, filtration and free movement of rain water and other precipitation near cold-water resources. It should not reduce the size or quality of wetlands, provide damaging thermal and/or saline stress due to runoff, or cause increased siltation in our streams. The cold, clean trout waters for which the Poconos is known should not be degraded and BTU is willing to work with residents and local governments to achieve this goal.



No new information on the proposed Stadden Road campground or the proposed Hawthorne Inn site projects.

Camp Trexler

UPDATE #3 The Trexler Scout Reserve (CAMP TREXLER) is now officially listed for sale. In anticipation of this possibility, Pocono Heritage Land Trust has partnered with a complementary nonprofit organization, [WHERE ANGELS PLAY FOUNDATION](#), whose mission includes providing a camp for juvenile burn victims. At the same time, generous commitments from community minded philanthropists have been solicited in gifts and pledges. For more information, please follow this link to the Pocono Heritage Land Trust site:



<https://www.phlt.org/>



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

What's Up In PA Environmental Legislation

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:

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.

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

**Trout
Unlimited
Ethics
Hotline**

News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest



A public hearing will be conducted on **Monday, April 24, 2023** from 7:40 p.m.—9:10 p.m. at the Tunkhannock Township Fire Hall located at 1539 Long Pond Road, Long Pond, PA 18334. Representatives from the Department's Waterways & Wetlands Program, the Monroe County Conservation District and Orchard BJK Company, LLC will be in attendance. Orchard BJK Company, LLC, 925 Berkshire Boulevard, Wyomissing, PA 19610 has applied for a Individual NPDES Permit Application No. PAD450158 for the discharge of stormwater from construction activities to the following receiving watercourses:

EV Wetlands to Duckpuddle Run (EV)

Written comments on either of the above hearing can be sent to ccon...@pa.gov.

Annual Spring Conservation Banquet A Success!

On Friday, March 24, Brodhead TU held its annual conservation banquet at Woodsgate, Strouds Moor Country Inn. Approximately 80 people attended and enjoyed great food, conversation and a wonderful program on “Fishing Patagonia” by Don Baylor. Thanks to the generosity of our members and friends, the chapter raised over \$2400 for use in our conservation, education, and advocacy activities.



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April Fishing Outlook



April brings the start of the regular season for trout fishing and that means all stocked trout waters, Class A trout waters, and Wild Trout waters are open for fishing. You'll have quite a few options!

The relatively warm, dry late winter and early spring has had an effect on our Pocono streams. What little moisture from the winter has drained away (or evaporated by the winds) and flows are low. Long-term weather forecasts call for warm air temperatures with very little precipitation for at least the next two weeks. Water temperatures, even with cold nights, are moving upward and the mid-April hatches have been here for at least a week. Quill Gordons, Hendricksons, brown stoneflies and early season caddis are out and about as are the ubiquitous baetis. These hatches have been popping up in the afternoon hours after the water warms a bit. Stones first, then some caddis and finally the mayflies.



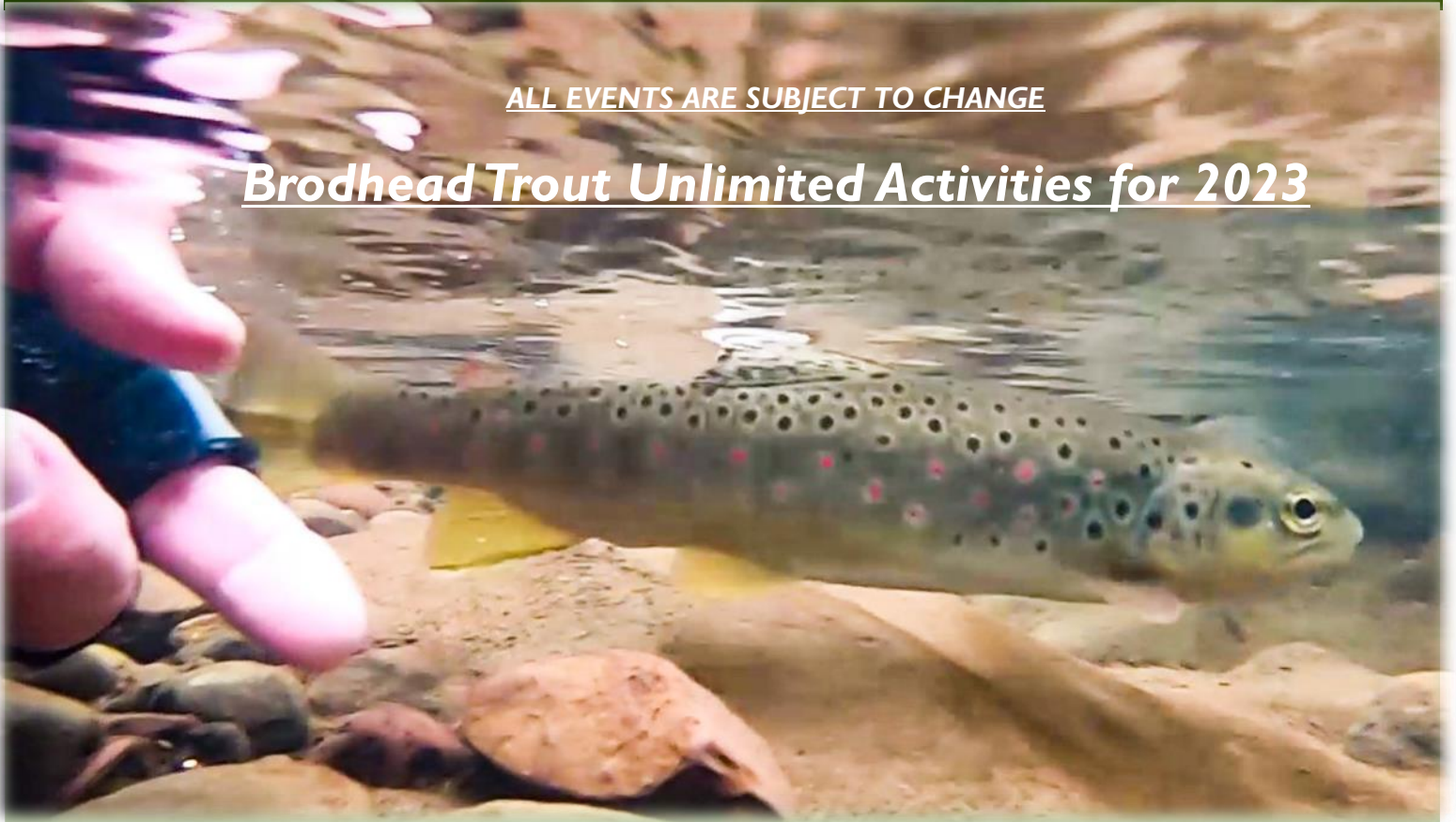
A size #16 olive-brown caddis skittered or dead-drifted on the surface can be a good producer under these conditions. Of course, don't forget some pupae and emerger patterns. Short-stripping an emerging caddis pattern can trigger some vicious strikes.

If you're fortunate enough to be present for a decent Quill Gordon or Hendrickson hatch, the fish will be focused on some form of the insect. It's not unusual to see duns dancing on the surface with no takers. If that's the case, try a nymph or emerger pattern. Also, you'll often see crippled emergers and adults floating by. Trout feed on these as they can't fly away! Be ready to change a few patterns until you find the right one.

Get out on the streams and see what's happening. May your lines be tight and wriggling!

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2023



To register for any of these events, visit <http://brodheadtu.org/events-and-registration/>

April 12, Author **John Maclean** presents “**Maclean Country**” (virtual presentation) - viewed at Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center, 7:00 PM

April 15: Knight s of Columbus Fishing Derby. Lots open at 6 AM. Fishing begins at 8.

April 22: Invasive Plant Removal Work Day, Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge—Larson Tract. 9 AM.

May 2: Fly-Fishing the Next Step 6 PM, Zacharias Pond.

May 6: Veterans’ Fishing Day at VALOR at 9 AM. It will be held at the VALOR Pavilion at 65 Meckes Lane, White haven PA.

May 6 : Riparian Buffer Maintenance. At 9 AM, at Polk Township Walking Park and Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Headquarters Tract

May 10: General Membership Meeting. **An Evening on the Brodhead.** Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. 6 PM

June 10: Fly Fisherman Yard Sale. 9 AM Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

June 10: Annual Chapter Picnic. 3 PM. Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

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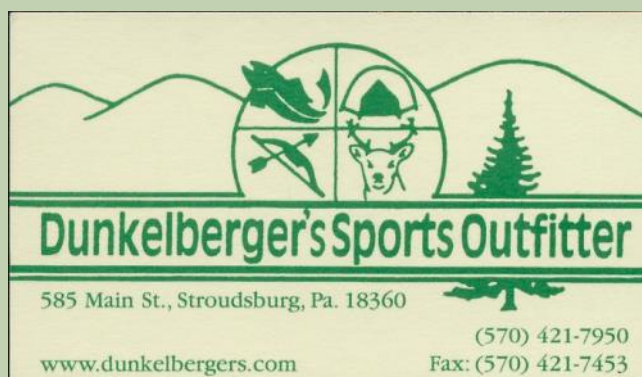
A sincere thank you is extended to the following supporters of our Chapter as we work to preserve and protect the cold-water resources in the Poconos.



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