



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

September 2023



Upcoming Events:

September 13: General Membership Meeting. Larry Ott presents: "Early Fly Rod Lures" Kettle Creek Env. Ed. Ctr. 7 PM

October 2: Pomeroy-McMichaels Habitat Project begins

October 11: General Membership Meeting 7 PM

November 11: Chapter Hike at Rail Gap Preserve, 10 AM.

December 13: Holiday Party

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Larry Ott Presents:
"Early Fly Rod Lures"
Wednesday, September 13,
7:00 PM

Kettle Creek Environmental
Education Center



Larry Ott is a retired biology teacher with an obsession with vintage and antique fishing tackle. Larry will provide an interesting look at the earliest fly-fishing terminal tackle. He will include what collectors call "The Big Five" fishing lure companies. A number of other Mom and Pop companies will also be included. He will briefly touch on the Jamison/Decker World Fishing Tournament of 1910 and will conclude with a few of our Pocono lures.

Larry is a member of the NFLCC, National Fishing Lure Collectors' Club, and regularly attends their National Conventions. If you love fishing history or just want to see what your grandparents fished with, come on out the meeting. You can sign in [HERE](#).

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,

I want to thank everyone who participated in our Summer Slam On-Line Auction fundraiser in August. Through your support, we raised over \$1500 in additional funds to support our stream habitat restoration work. The bidders also got some great deals on fishing gear and fishing experiences.

The funds raised will go toward the chapter's stream habitat restoration project at the Pocono Heritage Land Trust (PHLT) Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Nature Preserve. The chapter partnered a few years ago with the Land Trust and the Fish and Boat Commission to plan and raise funds to help improve this great piece of public water near Stroudsburg. The preserve adjoins Stroud Township's Hickory Valley Park where the chapter did restoration work a little over a decade ago.

As you'll read in this issue, after several years of planning, work on phase one of the project is planned to start on October 2 if the weather and stream levels permit.

If you've been to the preserve over the past year, you probably saw the logs that the chapter purchased that will become part of the in-stream structures. We just received the first load of rock, over 40 tons worth of larger boulders. Additional stone will be delivered as we get closer to construction.

The project to provide trout with the habitat they need to thrive wouldn't have been possible without the financial support we've received from our members and friends and the many volunteers who have taken time to help with planning and on-site work.

If you are interested in getting involved with the chapter and supporting us financially, or volunteering at one of our events or conservation projects, I urge you to do. Reach out to me or just stop by at a chapter meeting or event on our calendar and say hello!

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

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Gerry Bortz

Ed Filipkowski

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Members

No new memberships to report this month. 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.

Lou Mencio and Leila Percival

Stephen Schroettinig

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

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:

285Adults + 2 Youth



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Activity Updates



UPDATE

Summer Slam Auction The third Summer Slam On-Line Auction closed on August 26 and once again we thank our donors and friends for supporting our efforts. The total raised this year was \$1,540 and our three-year total for this activity is a bit over \$6,500.

Proceeds will go to the construction of the habitat improvement devices in McMichaels Creek at the Pomeroy-McMichaels Nature Preserve. The funds raised this year were enough to cover the quarrying and delivery of 40 tons of R7 rock. In fact, they are now on site! Construction to begin October 2.

Tabling and Community Activities

BTU is currently scheduled to participate in three local community events this fall. They are the Polk Township Environmental Day on October 1, Quiet Valley Harvest Festival on October 7-8, and the Cherry Valley Fall Festival on October 21. Come on out and experience what our communities have to offer. We hope to see you there!



UPDATE

Rod Building Class

Once again Brodhead TU will be offering a fall fly-rod building class for interested persons. Scheduled across four Wednesdays from October 18 through November 8, participants will experience the joy of building their own fly rod from component parts. This year's build will be a 7 1/2' 4-piece 4 weight graphite rod. The blank is dark charcoal, the wraps charcoal, the hardware is almost all black. Think of it as a small stream "stealth" rod. No shiny components on this one. Sign up information can be found [HERE](#) and the cost this year is \$130. We have seven slots available and they will be filled on a first-come basis.



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Project Update

Our start date for the Pomeroy-McMichaels Creek project is less than a month away and we're excited to see this project get rolling! The Chapter began drafting plans for the work over three years ago and worked with the landowner, Pocono Heritage Land Trust, and the PA Fish and Boat Commission to create a project that met the needs of all the involved parties. We accepted delivery of over 200 logs needed for the project last year and the necessary rock is beginning to arrive this month. By the October 2 start date, we'll have the rebar and other items we need to start construction.



As a refresher, the project involves the construction of 15 devices within approximately 2000 linear feet of stream. Additionally, there will be rock and boulder placements within the middle third of the creek. The purpose of these constructions is to provide much-needed habitat for wild and stocked trout. Also, by increasing stream flow, new oxygenated habitat will be created that will enhance the macroinvertebrate populations. In short, we're looking to give the trout some shelter and additional food. With these improvements, the expectation is that year-round trout population will increase, thereby providing an improved angling experience. Approximately 1 year after completion, we'll electrofish the work area to assess the results of our efforts.



In order to get to this point, the Brodhead Chapter solicited and received funding from a variety of sources. These sources include Trout Unlimited, PA Council of Trout Unlimited, East Stroudsburg Savings Association Foundation, PA Fish and Boat Commission and Brodhead TU and its members and friends. Grant funding is almost \$16,000 and the Chapter raised an additional \$41,500 over three years through auctions, used gear sales, an Embrace-A-Stream Challenge, special donations and an initial start-up as seed money.

By the time our next newsletter goes out, we should have early photos of these logs and rocks in their new configuration as in-stream habitat. By our November newsletter, we should have "final" photos of the devices.

Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated.

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.



PAFBC Studying Minimum Trout Harvest Size Limit. The PA Fish and Boat Commission is revisiting the minimum size limit for harvesting of trout in Pennsylvania. More information can be found [here](#).

Reporting of Private Stocking in Pennsylvania Streams and Lakes Starting in 2024, PA Fish and Boat commission will require individuals or groups who stock fish in Commonwealth waterways to report the activity, most probably via an on-line portal. More info [here](#):

Proposed Protections for Wild Brown Trout. PFBC Commissioners approved a notice of proposed rulemaking to address Class A wild brown trout-designated streams that are also stocked with hatchery-raised rainbow trout in central Pennsylvania. Locally, this would affect Martins Creek from the confluence of East and West branches downstream to the Bangor wastewater treatment facility (Section 1). More info [here](#).

Proposed Additions to Wild Trout and Class A Streams Lists. Several streams in the Pike and Wayne County area are on the Wild Trout list proposal. Being identified helps protect these valuable tributaries and streams. You can comment [here](#) until September 18, 2023.



Hawthorne Inn Site Development.

NEW The proposed development of the former Hawthorne Inn site was approved by the Paradise Township Supervisors after a series of public, conditional use hearings. Numerous conditions were included in conjunction with the approval. The site development has potential impacts on Indian Run and Swiftwater Crerek, headwaters of the Brodhead Creek. As such, we'll be researching what the stipulated conditions for development are and share them with you.

Comment Period: Here is the *updated* 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: Regulatory Changes](#)

[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

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

September Fishing Outlook

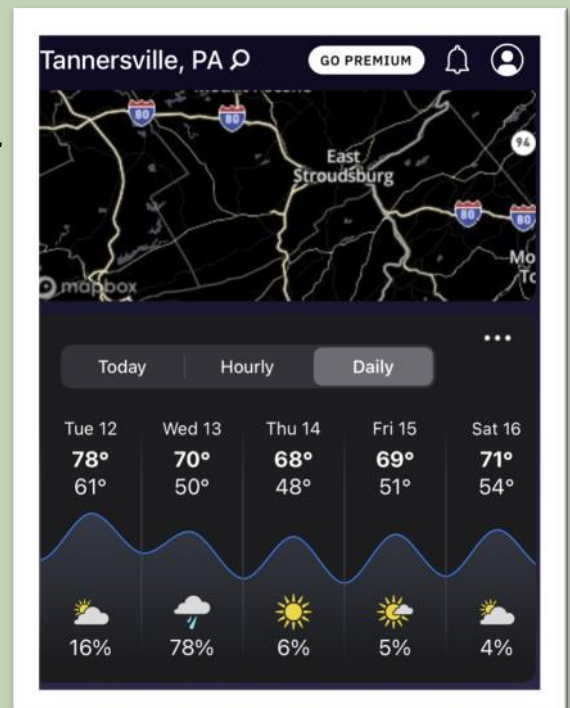


“Hopefully by the time September rolls around our evening temperatures will begin to drop, we’ll get some seasonal rains, and our cold-water streams will perk up.”

BTU Newsletter, August 2023

I’ll be honest, I don’t always get it correct, but judging from the weather forecast shown at right I may have hit the target this month!

We’ve had enough rain this summer to keep our trout streams flowing. Temperatures were high at times but not for extended periods. And, lately, we’ve been getting some rain. So, now that nightly air temperatures are dropping into the 50s and even the upper 40s, our favorite trout waters will be cold and conducive to fishing.

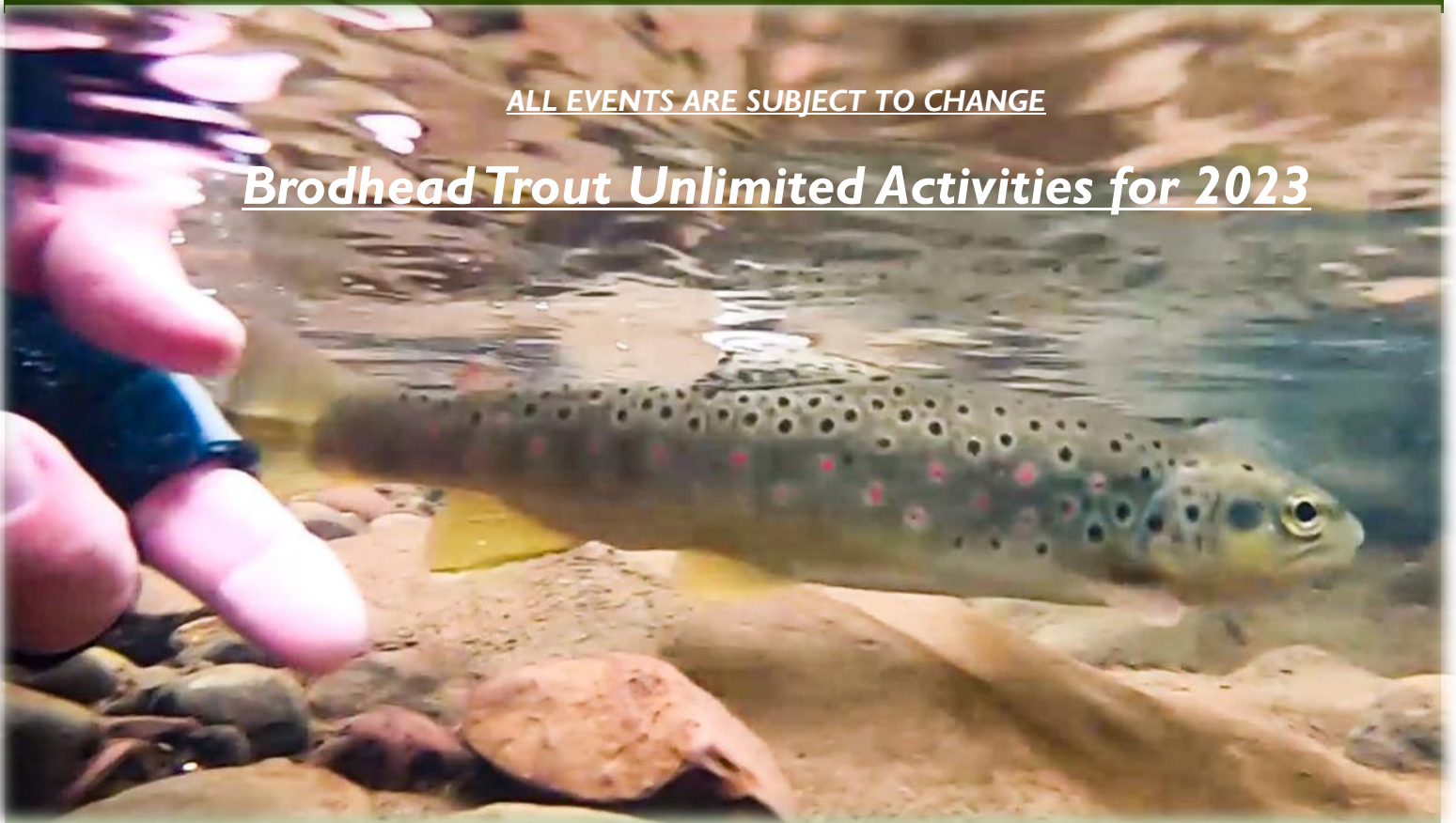


As you break out your flannel, expect to see some isonychia or Slate Drakes, fall or October caddis, the ubiquitous blue-winged olives and some midges on the waters. Fish also get very colorful in the fall (see photo at left.) As the month proceeds and spawning season gets closer (October—December) don’t forget to throw some nice, meaty streamers out there. Trout stock up on calories prior to spawning and winter so take advantage of the opportunities that arrive. May your lines be tight.

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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/>

September 13 : General Membership Meeting, 7 PM. Kettle Creek Environmental Educ. Center, Bartonsville. [Larry Ott will present “Early Fly Rod Lures,”](#) an interesting look at the earliest terminal tackle of fly rods.

October 11 : General Membership Meeting. 7 PM.

October 2: Pomeroy-McMichaels habitat improvement project work starts

October 18—November 8 Rod Building Classes. Wednesday nights at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Sign-up information is available [HERE](#).

November 11: 10 AM. Chapter Hike at Rail Gap Preserve (Pocono Creek off Shaffers’ Schoolhouse Rd.)

December 13: Holiday Party Site and time to be determined. Stay tuned.

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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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This space available to advertise your event or business. For information and rates, contact Eric Baird @

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