



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

October 2023



Upcoming Events:

October 2- Oct 12; Pomeroy-McMichaels Habitat Project work

October 11: General Membership Meeting 7 PM
Don Baylor Presents: " Trout Stream Ecology " at Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

October 18—Nov 8: Fly Rod Building classes.

November 11: Chapter Hike
Pomeroy-McMichaels Nature Preserve, 10 AM. (NEW LOCATION)

December 13: Holiday Party

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General Public Meeting Wednesday, October 11 at 7:00 PM.



Don Baylor Presents "Trout Stream Ecology"

**Brodhead Creek Heritage Center
1539 Cherry Lane Rd.
East Stroudsburg, PA**

Join us at the [Brodhead Creek Heritage Center](#) on Wednesday, October 11. Don's presentation on Trout Stream Ecology will discuss what trout need; what is detrimental to trout habitat; how trout feed; the importance of aquatic insect habitat; aquatic insect life cycles, movement and feeding strategies of trout; the longitudinal succession of species; and hatchery versus wild trout behaviors.

Wow, that's a lot of information and the best part it is free and open to the public. Come on out and enjoy the presentation.

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

Russell Thrall III, President
Brodhead Chapter — Trout Unlimited #289

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Members and Friends,

As I write this, the chapter's stream habitat restoration project at the Pocono Heritage Land Trust (PHLT) Pomeroy McMichaels Creek Nature Preserve is well underway. Our partners at the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC) and volunteers from the chapter began work on phase I of the project on October 2. By the end of the first week, they had several deflectors installed and parts of other devices. In-stream work will continue through October 12-13th.

The chapter partnered a few years ago with PHLT and PFBC to plan and raise funds to help improve trout habitat on this section of the McMichaels with public access near Stroudsburg. The preserve is upstream of and adjoins Stroud Township's Hickory Valley Park where the chapter did restoration work a little over a decade ago.

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

A special shout out goes to Todd Burns, our board member and a past president of the chapter, who has been onsite every day so far keeping the project moving with our partners at PHLT and PFBC and our contractor Papillion & Moyer Excavating.

The chapter plans to hold a hike at the preserve on November 11 to show off the project.

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

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 Sal Giello, Dennis Mooney and Patrick Sullivan to our chapter. We're glad you've chosen to join us on our mission and if you have any questions, please reach out and let us know.



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.

| | |
|---------|-------------|
| Kevin | Boutin |
| John | DeVivo |
| Tom | Filla |
| Tom | Rupp |
| Stephen | Schroettnig |
| Bob | Skazenski |
| Patrick | Sullivan |

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:

275 Adults + 2 Youth



UPDATE

Tabling and Community Activities

BTU is currently scheduled to participate (or will participate) in three local community events this fall. They were the Polk Township Environmental Day on October 1 and the Quiet Valley Harvest Festival on October 7-8. We're also looking to help out at the Cherry Valley Fall Festival on October 21. Come on out and experience what our communities have to offer.



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Pomeroy-McMichaels Creek

Project Update #2

The Pomeroy-McMichaels Creek project started on October 2 and is proceeding nicely. Due to increases in transportation and fuel costs, the extent of the project has been scaled back but we look to have seven structures built to improve an area that suffers from a lack of good trout habitat. As stated before, the purpose of these constructions is to provide much-needed habitat for wild and stocked trout. Build it and they will come.



These devices will also narrow the stream width and increase stream velocity. Habitat in such waters will enhance the macroinvertebrate populations. As we stated last month, 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.



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 was 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.



Papillion and Moyer is doing the movement and placement of logs and rocks under the direction of PA Fish & Boat. Additionally, we've worked with landowner Pocono Heritage Land Trust to ensure the current parking area is lined with boulders to prevent vehicle movements into the existing meadow. Special thanks to Martin Gonzalez, Kevin Forrest, Jack Fossett, Todd Burns, Eric Baird and Brian McDonnell for their early efforts and assistance.

Look for some "finished" photos of the work in the November newsletter and/or plan to attend a walk along this area at our November General Public Meeting on Saturday, November 11 at 10 AM.



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.



[House Bill 1300](#)

There is an amendment attached to this Bill that would transfer \$150,000,000 from the Pennsylvania Game Commission to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Clean Stream Funds. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission does not support this move which could make the Pennsylvania Game Commission unable to financially support its mission, and rob the Commission of the federal matching of nearly \$42,000,000 from the [Pittman-Robertson Act](#). Trout Unlimited asks that the HB 1300 not pass with this amendment. Contact your [State Representative](#) immediately and let them know your feelings on HB 1300.



Hawthorne Inn Site Development.

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 Creek, headwaters of the Brodhead Creek. A link to the approval document is now [HERE](#).

Comment Period: Here is the *updated* link to the [PFBC Regulatory Changes](#) page so you can re-view 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.

October Fishing Outlook



What better way to introduce an October fishing outlook than with a photo of a classic, Gray Ghost streamer. Originally tied in the early 20th century by Carrie Stevens of Maine, this fly has spread throughout the world and has proven to be an effective pattern for a variety of fish. But its fame was derived from its ability to catch large, native Brook Trout.

So why use this as an introduction to the October fishing outlook? Well, our resident trout are stocking up on calories for the winter and that means they want the most calories for their efforts. The best way to do that is to feed on larger prey like small fish. Hence, now is a great time to break out those streamer patterns you've been lugging around for six months!

Fall trout can strike such an offering quickly and with amazing force so don't be surprised if you get a jolt that almost takes the rod from your hand. Use tippet 3x or heavier, depending upon the size of your fly. Classic streamers such as these and woolly buggers can really produce some nice fish.

Our streams currently have good flows and you can fish your streamers in a down and across manner with a variety of strips as you make your retrieve. You can also fish it up and across, let it sink some more, and do some slow twitching or jigging—simulating an injured bait fish struggling to move. Either method can work so try a little of both.

We are heading into spawning season so please be careful if you fish streams with reproducing populations of trout. Look for "cleaned", oval areas in the tail-outs of pools—these are likely spawning redds of brown or brook trout so please stay clear. And, of course, don't target a fish sitting on a redd.

Good luck and give those streamers a try.



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/>

October 11 : General Membership Meeting. 7 PM. Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Don Baylor presents, "Trout Stream Ecology"

October 2-12: Pomeroy-McMichaels habitat improvement project work.

October 18—November 8 Rod Building Classes. Wednesday nights at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. **Class is currently full.** Thank you!

November 11: 10 AM. Public Meeting/Hike at Pomeroy-McMichaels Nature Preserve, Hickory Vally Rd., Stroudsburg, PA. Come get a tour of the recently finished habitat improvement project.

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

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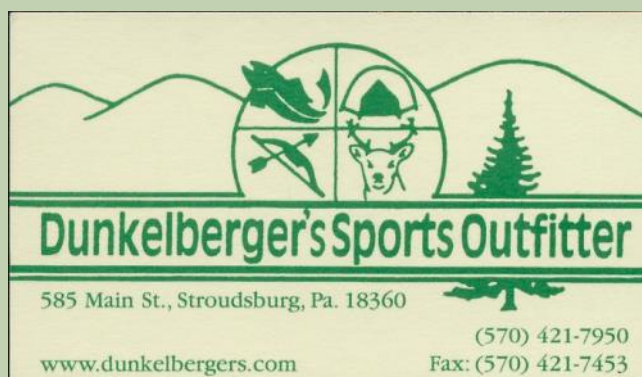
A sincere thank you is extended to the following supporters of our Chapter as we work to preserve and protect the cold-water resources in the Poconos.



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