



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

April 2024



Upcoming Events:

April 6: Knights of Columbus Kids Fishing Derby. Brodhead Park. 6:30 AM—12:00 PM.

April 10: General Public Meeting: Kettle Creek Env. Ed Center, 7 PM. Robert Lundquist presents, "Seasons of the Delaware"

April 13: Invasive Removal, Larsen Tract, Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge.(CVNWR) 1 PM.

April 20: Maintenance Work on past tree planting site(s). Polk Township Walking Park and Larsen Tract, CVNWR. 9 AM.

April 27: Annual Clean-up

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"Seasons of The Delaware"

A Presentation by Robert Lundquist

April 10, 2024 at 7 PM

Kettle Creek Env. Education Center

"Everything else is checkers. The Delaware is chess," said Mike Bachkosy, a Delaware River flyfishing sage. The Delaware River has more secrets hidden in its languid flow than imaginable. Join Bob Lindquist on a tour of the seasons on the Delaware that reveals

some of the subtle secrets that the Delaware offers the dedicated flyrodder. We will explore Spring trout and legendary hatches like the Hendricksons, Caddis, Golden Stones and Drakes. Next up is the shift into summer, dominated by sulfurs. Late Summer sees warmwater action explode and then caddis, Isos and olives are the centers of Autumn dry fly attention. Woven throughout the presentation is the history of the system, the character of the river and essential and proven techniques and flies for one of the greatest freshwater fisheries in the lower 48 states.

Bob Lindquist lives in Callicoon, NY. Before retirement, he waded the waters of Long Island with feathered frauds for over forty years. His favorite targets were false albacore, striped bass, weakfish and the wild brook trout of a local spring creek, the Carmans River.

Bob has also fished the Catskills, particularly the Delaware River System, since 1983. His passion for this magnificent river system inspired Bob to build his retirement home on the banks of the Main Stem of the Delaware River. As a guide, Bob uses the skills learned fishing Delaware River system to explore and catch fish in this magnificent fishery. Bob has worked with numerous fly fishing industry companies including Whiting Farms, Solarez, Ahrex and others.

Click [HERE](#) for free registration.

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 is trying to hold on after Easter with our friends and members up on the Pocono plateau having snow the first week of April. The weather forecast is good though for the opening day of trout season on April 6.

On opening day 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.

Gates open at 6:30 a.m. and the event runs until about noon.

Speaking of volunteer opportunities, check out page four of this issue for details on several events including grounds maintenance at VALOR on April 6, an invasive plant removal project on Cherry Creek on April 13, a riparian buffer maintenance day on April 20 and our annual streamside cleanup in Tannersville along the Pocono Creek on April 27.

One of the items that was clear from our recent survey of our members is the desire for these types of volunteer opportunities where families and friends can get together and help in the Chapter's coldwater conservation work in Monroe County

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

The chapter welcomes new members Caius Baird, Brett Coryell, Robin Gregor, Bryan Hudreck, and Donald Lee. We thank you for joining us in our mission and we look forward to seeing you soon.

If you know of someone who would like to join BTU, click on the link at right and send them the address.



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.

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

Eric	Baird	Ira & Phyllis	Miller
Josiah	Barnes	Chris	Pessolano
Robert	Depuy	Bob	Skazenski
Joseph	Greco	George	Talpas
Bryan	Hudreck	Thomas	Whetstone
Shane	Kocher	Bradley	Wise

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:

268 Adults + 2 Youth



Volunteer Opportunities

This past fiscal year (April 1– March 31), members and friends of Brodhead TU contributed over 1700 hours of volunteer time. This level of volunteerism enabled the chapter to conduct conservation, advocacy, education and community outreach activities designed to conserve, protect, and highlight the importance of the cold-water resources in the Poconos. Shown below are some upcoming volunteer activities in which you might be interested. If you see something that calls you to join us, come on out, bring a friend, bring two friends! It's all for a good cause.



1. Knight of Columbus Fishing Derby. April 6, starting 6:30 and ending around noon. We help with parking, measuring and recording catch data, and assist the Knights with their tasks.
2. Grounds Maintenance at VALOR in White Haven. April 6, 8 AM. 85 Meckes Lane, White Haven, PA 18661.
3. Invasive Plant Removal. April 13, 1—4 PM. Larsen Lane Tract, Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. We remove invasive plants in the riparian buffer by cutting and “dabbing.”
4. Riparian Buffer Maintenance Day. April 20, 9-11 AM. Polk Township Walking Park and Larsen Lane Tract, Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge. We'll visit existing planting and straighten stakes and replace sleeves as necessary.
5. Annual Streamside Cleanup. April 27, 9 AM at the Tannersville Woods Nature Preserve.

You can register for any of these events by visiting our [EVENTS](#) page.



Banquet Wrap-up

Our annual Spring Conservation Banquet on March 15 was a great success. We had 80 people in attendance to enjoy the conversations, the program, the raffles and the great meal. A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Bob Steven's Silver Trout Award to Don Miller. Don's countless hours to cold-water conservation in the Poconos certainly was worthy of this recognition. Additionally, the chapter netted \$2,400 to be used for our ongoing activities. Thank you to everyone who attended, donated, or in some way helped out. We appreciate it greatly.

Advocacy Updates

1. The developers of the former Hawthorne Inn site along Route 611 in Paradise Township have expressed interest in having the commercial portion of the project rezoned. This could have an impact upon the Conditional Use that was previously granted by Paradise Township. If the developer submits a change of zoning application, all parties with standing would be notified and no decision could be made for 30 days. We'll keep our eye on the process as this project impacts Indian Run and Switwater Creek. Both these waterways are headwaters in the Paradise and Brodhead Creek watersheds.
2. A public hearing was held in March at the Swiftwater Elementary Center, Swiftwater, PA, concerning the NPDES permit for the Core5 Warner Road distribution center. Whereas this permit involves wetlands and small tributaries to Pocono Creek, Brodhead TU made public comments. Please see the next page for the full text.

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March 4, 2024

Re: NPDES Permit No. PAD450190, Core5 Distribution Center, 246 Warner Road, Tannersville, PA, Pocono Township.



Brodhead Trout Unlimited #289 is an organization committed to working with various parties to preserve and protect the cold-water resources of the Poconos, so this and future generations may enjoy these precious gifts. As such, we thank the Department of Environmental Protection, Northeast Regional Office, for the opportunity to comment on the NPDES permit for the Core5 project on Warner Road.

Specifically, our chapter is concerned about the effects stormwater management at this site will have on Pocono Creek, its tributaries and accompanying wetlands. The Pocono Creek is an amazing local resource-especially given how gracefully it flows between Interstate 80 and Route 611 for much of its course. This jewel of a stream, this jewel of the Poconos, has an existing use of HQ-CWF, MF and is classified by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission as a Class A Wild Trout stream from near the State Games Lands #38 border to Flagler Run in Stroudsburg. That's miles of water that are clean enough, with habitat conducive enough, with macroinvertebrate life plentiful enough to sustain a population of wild and reproducing trout.

Outdoor, nature-related activities such as trout fishing are very popular in the Poconos. In 2023, over 6,600 Pennsylvania residents purchased PA issued fishing licenses in Monroe County. So, too, did over 2,100 non-Pennsylvania residents. More than 86% of these license buyers purchased the trout stamp required to fish for trout in our Pocono waters. This, of course, doesn't include all those anglers from neighboring counties such as Pike, Wayne, Carbon and Northampton who visit our area. Cold, clean waters - required to sustain trout populations - are thus important to our community and its visitors.

A review of the submitted plan indicates the preservation of an existing wetland by encircling it with impervious surfaces such as asphalt and concrete. In addition to replacing the current trees, shrubs and grasses, these surfaces and the disturbance caused by their construction will serve as collection areas for oil, grease, fuels, micro-fibers of rubber and road salts from the multitude of vehicles slated to use the site. We are concerned that this collection of pollutants and contaminants will be concentrated and migrate to Pocono Creek's riparian environment and eventually into Pocono Creek. This possibility is troubling as such an introduction would degrade the high-quality water currently observed.

During the review of this permit application, we urge the department to act to ensure that Pocono Creek, its wetlands, and its tributaries are protected from degradation. By doing so, Pocono Creek will continue to provide recreational activities along with supporting the Pocono's outdoor economy for many generations to come.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Todd G. Burns, Advocacy Committee Co-Chair

Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

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.



Change In Method to Comment On Proposed Regulatory Changes

Until the end of 2023, PFBC accepted comments on upcoming regulatory proposals through email and a web-based application, in addition to regular mail. Moving forward, comments will need to be made via mail or the email RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. **The proposed regulations** are still posted on line for your review **BUT** they are on the ***Pennsylvania Bulletin*** site. To review the proposed changes, you will need to navigate by following the steps below:

1. Click on this [Pennsylvania Bulletin link](#).
2. Under "BULLETIN", select the most recent volume.
3. Select the most recent issue.
4. Select "Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission" from the menu. You will see any pending proposals as a hyperlink.
5. Select the proposal and it should open so you can read it.

Comments may be submitted by mail to: Executive Director, Fish and Boat Commission, P.O. Box 67000, Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000, within 30 days after publication of the notice in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Electronic submission can be made to RA-pfbcregulations@pa.gov. As before, just be sure to identify which proposal you are commenting upon.

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.

April Fishing Outlook



It's finally here: April and the general opening of trout season on the 6th. Woo hoo!

Okay, now that the brief celebration is over, what will April bring us on the fishing front?

- ◆ All regulated trout streams will be open to trout fishing beginning at 8 AM on April 6th.
- ◆ Opening weekend waters, particularly streams, are running very high due to the recent rains. The smaller the stream, the quicker it usually runs off. Plan accordingly and don't be shy about using a wading staff and/or studded soles on your boots.
- ◆ Waterways will be warming as the month progresses. With the cold nights we've been having, AM water temps have been in the 40s. Look for them to gradually creep up into the 50s. That and longer daylight will "activate" bug life in the streams. Dress warmly and patch those wader leaks!
- ◆ Hatches such as Quill Gordons, Hendricksons, Blue-winged Olives, and caddis will all be making their appearances. In fact, due to an early warm-up, some of these are currently hatching. With a warm spell, and then a cold snap with heavy rain, things could be really mixed up. So hit the stream prepared. Yes, you'll be carrying a lot of "stuff."
- ◆ Fishing pressure will be highest at easier access and stocking points. If you want solitude and can do it, walk a few hundred yards and you'll probably run into few other anglers.
- ◆ If the fish are rising for mayflies, stoneflies or caddis flies, have at it with your dry fly imitations. But...
- ◆ Don't be afraid to fish your wets and nymphs and streamers. The best way to generate confidence is by practicing and succeeding. Whether it is shallow riffles on a warming day or a deep run on cloudy, blustery day, fishing all levels within the water column will help you find the fish.
- ◆ Good luck, be safe, and tight lines. See you on the water!

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Recent Event and Activity Photos



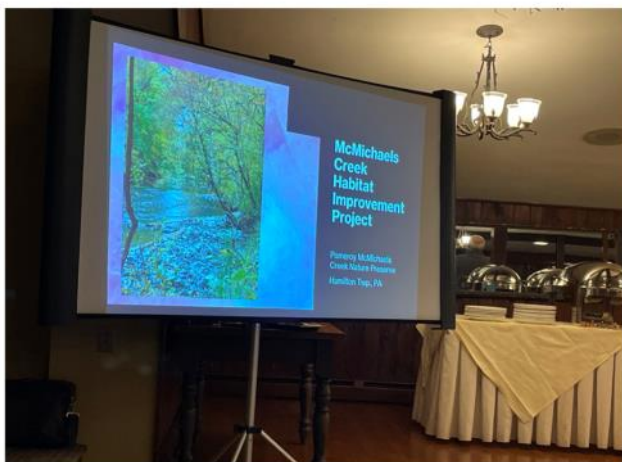
Todd Burns, Stephan vandeLoecht, Don Miller and Eric Baird map out locations for habitat devices on Yankee Run.



Tyers were busy at the March Brodhead Fly Tyers session.



Participants learning to fly cast at the recent fly fishing workshop.



Project update at the Spring Conservation Banquet



Don Miller receiving the Silver Trout Award from Eric Baird at the banquet.

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EVENT DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2024

When registrations open, visit <http://brodheadtu.org/events-and-registration/>

April 6: Opening Day of Trout Season—Knights of Columbus Kids Derby.

April 10: General Public Meeting: Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center 7 PM.

Robert Lundquist presents, “Seasons of the Delaware”. Click [HERE](#) for free registration.

**April 13: Invasive Removal , Larsen Tract, Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge.(CVNWR)
1 PM.**

April 20: Maintenance Work on past tree planting site(s). **Polk Township Walking Park and
Larsen Tract, CVNWR. 9 AM.**

April 27: Annual Trash Cleanup. Location– Tannersville Woods Preserve. 9 AM.

May 4: Tree Planting: Larsen Tract. CVNWR. 1 PM.

May 7-28: Fly Fishing: The Next Step. Tuesdays, 6 PM.

May 11: Fishing Meet-up on the Pocono Creek. 7:30 AM, meet at Billy’s Pocono Diner

June 8: Chapter Rummage/Yard Sale. Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. 9 AM

**June 8: Annual Chapter Picnic. Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Bring a side dish or dessert.
3 PM—?**

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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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