



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

August 2025

August 23: Riparian Planting Maintenance Workday—Larsen Tract, Cherry Valley NWR 9 AM.

September 7-14: Summer Slam Online Auction: Link coming soon.

September 10: Public Meeting—Environmental Roundtable.

September 13: Invasive Removal Workday—Cherry Creek, Larsen Lane Tract, CVNWR 9 AM.

September 15: Brodhead Fly tyers. 6:00 PM Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

In this issue:

Summer Slam Auction	1
President's Message	2
Membership Updates	3
Recent Activities	4-5
Newsletter Editor Needed	6
Advocacy News	7-9
Fishing Outlook	10
Calendar	11
Advertisers	12

Summer Slam Online Auction September 7 –14, 2025



Once again the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited will be sponsoring their Summer Slam Online Auction. Running from September 7 through September 14, the auction offers new, used, and collectible items for members, friends and the general public.

Some of this year's items include an original Fye (now Richardson) chest fly box from the 1951-1961 era, a new 10' 3-weight Euro rod with a blank directly from Bulgaria (with Lamson reel), a new 7' 6" 4 weight fly rod, a used Hardy Perfect reel, a framed fishing stamp collection autographed/inscribed by Lefty Kreh, and more.

Initiated in 2020, the auction has evolved into the second largest fundraiser for the chapter. The proceeds will help fund our habitat work, riparian plantings, educational activities, and public outreach. A link to the auction page will be published in a few weeks so we hope you'll stop by when the auction opens and check it out.

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.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Russell Thrall III
159 Swift Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
570-620-8677

VICE PRESIDENT

Stephan van de Loecht
123 Keystone Rd.
East Stroudsburg, PA 18302

SECRETARY

Eric Baird
267 3rd Street
Pocono Pines, PA 18350
(570) 355-0165

TREASURER

John Smith

BOARD MEMBERS

Don Baylor

Todd Burns

Kathleen Flynn

Cathy Folio

Jim Houghton

Ivers Keller

Glen Lippencott

Brian McDonnell

Don Miller

Larry Ott



The Home Pool

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

e-mail: russ@thrall3.com
570-620-8677

Members and Friends,

First, I want to extend our sincere thanks to Todd Burns, who will be stepping down as our newsletter editor at the end of this year. Todd's dedication—first starting back when the board met at the Stevens' household and later returning to the role in 2013—has kept members informed and connected. Please join me in thanking him for his service. If you, or someone you know, would like to take on the editor role and help shape the next chapter of our communications, contact me or any board member.

Thank you as well to our volunteers who turned out for recent workdays at Yankee Run and at the Monroe County Youth Conservation Camp. Your hands-on efforts—whether building habitat structures or teaching young people about conservation—are at the heart of our mission.

Looking ahead, our **Summer Slam Online Auction** is set for September 7–14. This has become our second-largest fundraiser, and the proceeds directly support habitat projects, riparian plantings, educational programs, and outreach. We hope you'll browse, bid, and share the auction link with friends once it's live.

We also have upcoming volunteer opportunities:

August 23: Riparian Planting Maintenance, Larsen Tract, Cherry Valley NWR – 9 a.m.

September 13: Invasive Removal, Larsen Lane Tract, CVNWR – 9 a.m.

Join us September 10 for our September public chapter meeting: Environmental Roundtable at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center.

Thank you for your continued support of our chapter's work. I look forward to seeing you on the water, at an event, or at a workday.

Tight lines,

Russell

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.

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Gerry Bortz
Ed Filipkowski

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

James Connor
Ann Foster
Tim Fritz
Jeff Heberley
Greg Malaska
Daniel Steere
Arie VanWingerden
Tom Van Zandt



MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Half-price membership for new members! We welcome new members Lisa Heelan and Tyler Robinson to our Brodhead TU membership roll. We look forward to seeing and working with you on our many activities.

Renewing and Contributing Members



join

The chapter extends a sincere thank-you to the following individuals who have chosen to renew a membership or contribute to TU's mission. Your efforts in supporting our education, conservation, and advocacy efforts are greatly appreciated.

John	Balas	Darel	Handley
William	Cleffi	Lisa	Heelan
Colman	Danges	George	Ike
Gregory	Daniel	Richard	Jackson
John	DeVivo	Joan	Loveless Blobner
John	Fossett	Benjamin	Minchhoff
Timothy	Fretz	Richard	Newell
Eric	Girardi	Joseph	Pipolo
Duane	Gower	Roger	Wrazien



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:

245 Adults + 3 Youth



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.

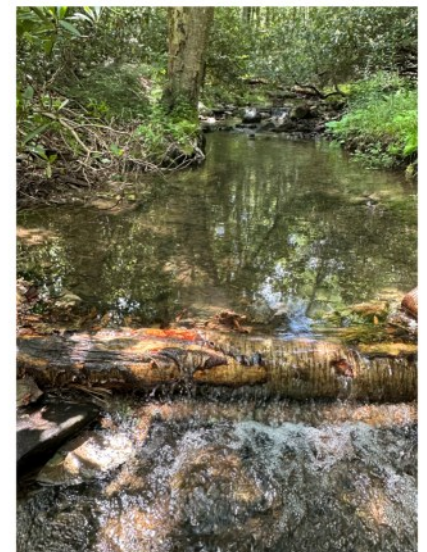
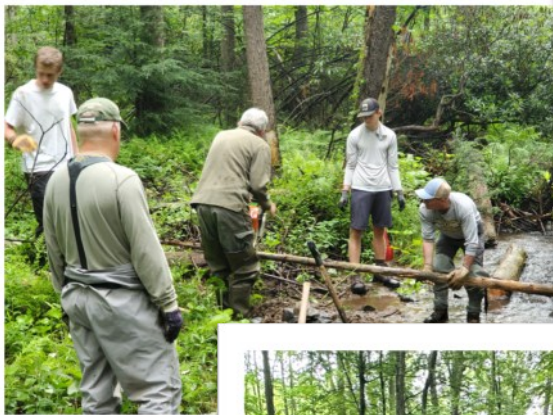
Yankee Run Habitat Workdays

On June 28 and July 26, BTU volunteers gathered at Pocono Heritage Land Trust's [Yankee Run Nature Preserve](#) to build in-stream habitat structures. These workdays produced three, new log-throated cross vanes within this small headwater stream. These structures join another cross-vane the chapter constructed last fall bringing the total number of devices to four.

Yankee Run in this area is only a few hundred yards from the source spring so the water is cold. However, due to its size, there simply aren't many places for wild trout to shelter. By placing these cross-vanes in the stream, the water level was raised a few inches providing some protective depth while also inundating areas underneath tree roots. Additionally, the riffles created downstream of the devices provide oxygen for organisms downstream.

Last year's project was deemed a success when in mid-winter observers counted five wild trout finning in the pool.

Time will tell how the new devices will do but the future looks bright.



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.



Monroe County Youth Conservation Camp

BTU volunteers assisted with the Monroe County Youth Conservation Camp on July 24. Campers worked their ways through stations that involved them in knot tying, fly casting and fly tying. Although it was hot, the campers and the instructors had a great time.



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.

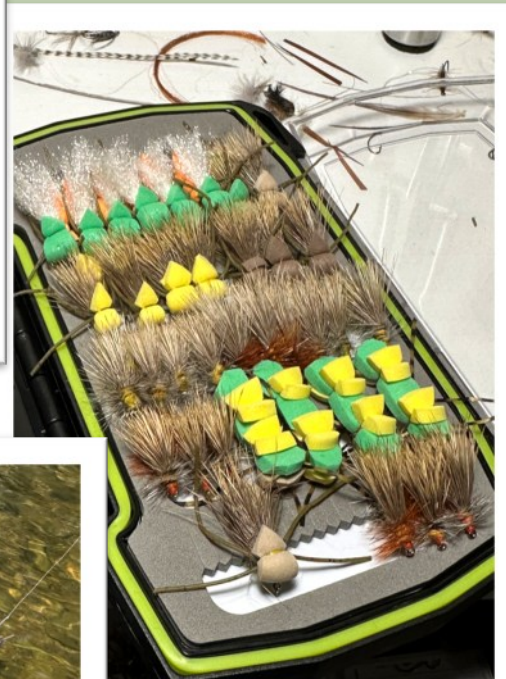
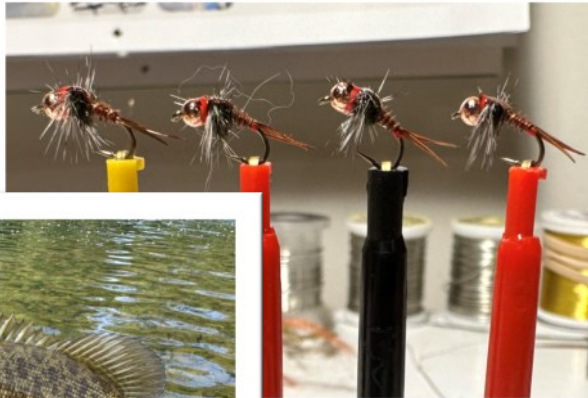
BTU Newsletter Editor To Retire

Our Brodhead TU newsletter editor Todd Burns will be stepping down from his newsletter duties at the end of December 2025. Todd began his tenure when the BTU board met at the Stevens' household along Pocono Creek. He then took a few years off and reassumed the position.

With his 'retirement', the chapter will be looking for a new editor for the newsletter and perhaps a new direction. The current and recent issues utilized Microsoft Publisher to create the product which was then converted to PDF format. Microsoft is phasing out Publisher in mid-2026 so someone familiar with another, newer software program or online publishing could take over the reigns and get a fresh start.

If you or someone you know would be interested in keeping our members and friends up to date with our newsletter, contact any board member.

Too Hot for Trout? Tie for the Fall or Fish for Smallies!



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.



Data Centers Arrive in Latest Development Push

As the push for construction of more distribution center space continues in the Pocono region, a new land use is also gaining attention: Data centers.

While a small data center may fit into a room of a building, the data centers being proposed encompass an entire building or a series of buildings. They are designed to house large-scale computing systems associated with various enterprises such as e-commerce and telecommunications. With the explosion of artificial intelligence (AI) in the past decade, the demand for data centers has grown rapidly.

The tremendous scale of the computing designs within these complexes requires large amounts of energy. The bigger the data center, the more computing power is at play, and the greater the amount of energy required. The more energy used, the more heat that is generated and the need to cool these systems grows. The two largest uses of energy within a data center are the energy to run the servers and the energy needed to keep them cool. There are several methods currently in use to cool the systems so they function optimally. Some can be cooled via traditional air conditioning while other may utilize a closed-loop or other heat-transfer method. These methods may need to access local freshwater resources.

Data centers may tie into existing high-voltage power lines or they may use on-site gas turbines or other means to generate the electricity they need. The energy source used will depend upon the scale of the facility and the energy resources available.

Currently, the largest proposal that has progressed in our region is located in Covington and Clifton Townships. This proposed data center along I-380 would possibly involve more than 30 buildings and 1,000 acres of land.

Recently, [Pennsylvania Senate, SB 939](#) was referred to the Communications and Technology Committee on July 14. This bill would establish an Office of Transformation and Opportunity and the Artificial Intelligence and a Data Center and Emerging Technology Regulatory Sandbox Program.

From a cold-water conservation perspective, several concerns arise with the proposal of large-scale data centers. As with any large-area construction, removal of trees, shrubs and grasses that hold soils in place may lead to downstream sedimentation. Additionally, the capture of runoff from large roofs or parking areas produces warm waters that must be cooled prior to entering our surface waterways. And if a cooling system utilizes cold surface waters or lowers an aquifer level via high-volume wells, diminished cold-water flows will be an issue.

BTU will be watching these developments.

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.



Monroe County Additions to Class A Trout Waters

Recently, three streams in Monroe County were added to the Class A Wild Trout Waters list: **Tank Creek, Yankee Run and Rattlesnake Creek**. A fourth, **Forest Hills Run**, was surveyed and the data exceeded the threshold to be included on the Class A list. We contacted PFBC and they stated that the data allowed them to add additional stream miles to the existing Wild Trout area on Forest Hills Run but that it should be listed in the fall for inclusion on the Class A listings. We'll keep checking back so we and our membership can submit comments in support of this designation.

Remember, 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.

Method to Comment On Proposed Regulatory Changes

To review the proposed changes in regulation, you 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(s).
4. Select "Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission" from the menu. You will see any pending proposals as a hyper-link.

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.

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 and Boat Commission](#)

[Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited](#)

[PennFuture](#)

[Pocono Heritage Land Trust](#)

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 the Vice President for Volunteer Operations, or to 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://www.tu.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/E-Poster.jpg>

or call **1-855-662-SAFE**.

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

A blue square with a white border containing the text "Trout Unlimited Ethics Hotline" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

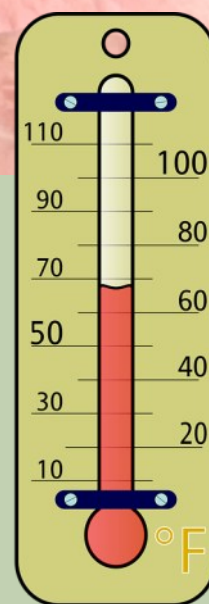
**Trout
Unlimited
Ethics
Hotline**

August Fishing Outlook



Hot, Hot and Hot!

Yes, it's been a very warm, if not downright hot, summer. And as those air temperatures have gone up, so, too, have the water temperatures in our streams. Trout are active and can metabolize well in water up to about 66–68 degrees F. Above that they begin to show symptoms of stress. Obviously, if the water gets well up into the 70s, the fish will need to find cooler water or die.



We have seen gauge readings on the Brodhead (upstream of Analomink), Pocono Creek (Shaffer's Schoolhouse Road) and McMichaels Creek (Pomeroy-McMichaels Nature Preserve) in the low 70s. Perhaps even short spikes into the mid-70s. This is not good for the trout and we urge our angling members to leave them be until the water temperatures drop.

Those anglers with access to our headwaters will find that the water temperatures are fine. Often they will be 58-62 degrees F. However, due to the absence of any appreciable rainfall these headwaters are very low and pose a greater challenge than usual.

If you find cool water, this is a great time for terrestrial patterns. Ants, beetles, crickets and small hoppers may elicit some interest from our salmonid friends.

Be careful, stay cool, and check those water temperatures!

EVENT DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2025



Visit <http://brodheadtu.org/events-and-registration/> or click on the links below.

August 18: Brodhead Fly tyers. 6:00 PM. Brodhead Creek Heritage Center

August 23: Riparian Planting Maintenance Workday—Larson Tract, Cherry Valley NWR 9 AM. [Register.](#)

September 7-14: Summer Slam Online Auction: Link coming soon.

September 10: Public Meeting—Environmental Roundtable. [Register](#)

September 13: Invasive Removal Workday—Cherry Creek, Larsen Lane Tract, CVNWF. 9 AM. [Register.](#)

September 15: Brodhead Fly tyers. 6:00 PM Brodhead Creek Heritage Centers. [Register.](#)

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.

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.



SERVING THE POCONO MOUNTAINS
SELLING HOMES SINCE 1988

Thomas R Wilkins CEO

Office: 570-421-8950



KEN & COMPANY
AVEDA SALON & SPA

507 Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA 18360
Phone (570) 421-8077 • Fax (570) 421-8227
www.Kenandcompany.com



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

(570) 355-0165.

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.