



# Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

November 2025



**December 10:** Chapter Holiday Party. Lakeside, Saylorsburg.

**December 15:** Brodhead Fly Tyers, BCHC, 6 PM

**January 8:** Board of Directors Mtg, BCHC, 7 PM

**January 10,17,24,31:** Introduction to Fly Tying classes. 9 AM

**February 7,14:** Introduction to Fly Tying classes. 9 AM

**March 27:** Annual Spring Banquet at Skytop Lodge. 5:30 PM



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## Chapter Holiday Party



Come join us on December 10, 2025, at the Lakeside in Saylorsburg as we gather together to celebrate another year of protecting and nurturing the cold-water resources of the greater Pocono area.

Activities will start at 6 PM with the sharing of stories and getting reacquainted with our members and friends. Dinner will follow at 6:30 PM (we order from the menu) and there will be a brief meeting/review of the chapter's activities throughout 2025 and a look forward to 2026.

We've found this is a nice relaxing evening and a great way to top off a year of volunteer work. We hope you can join us. More information and registration is available at this [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.

## 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](mailto:russ@thrall3.com)  
570-620-8677

### Members and Friends,

It's hard to believe we're already turning the corner into November—and still waiting for meaningful rain. Even with cooler temperatures, our local creeks continue to run low/A good soaking is overdue. Let's hope that before the ground freezes, we get enough steady precipitation to recharge the water table and restore some healthy flow to our streams.

Despite the dry conditions, there's plenty happening within the chapter this month and beyond. The chapter hike at George C. Childs Park earlier this month offered a great reminder of why we do what we do: protecting the cold, clear waters that sustain wild trout across our region. Thanks to everyone who joined us on the trails.

Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for our Holiday Party on Wednesday, December 10 at The Lakeside in Saylorsburg. It's always a relaxed and enjoyable evening—a time to share stories, recognize our volunteers, and reflect on the year's accomplishments. You can register online through the events page.

Don't forget the Brodhead Fly Tyers on December 15, and we'll resume activities quickly in the new year with our Introduction to Fly Tying classes beginning January 10. These sessions are a great way to spend a winter morning learning new patterns and skills while connecting with fellow anglers. And don't forget to save the date for our Spring Banquet at Skytop Lodge on March 27, 2026, our signature fundraiser supporting conservation and education programs.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our chapter. Let's keep hoping for rain—and for a strong, wet start to winter.

Tight lines,

Russell

#### DIRECTORS EMERITUS

Gerry Bortz  
Ed Filipkowski

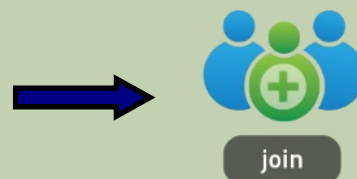
#### THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PAST DIRECTORS FOR THEIR RECENT SERVICE:

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



#### MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

**New Members!** We welcome new members Trish D'Imperio, Mo Elkadim, and Mark Ruppen to our Brodhead TU membership roll. We look forward to seeing and working with you on our many activities.



#### Renewing and Contributing Members

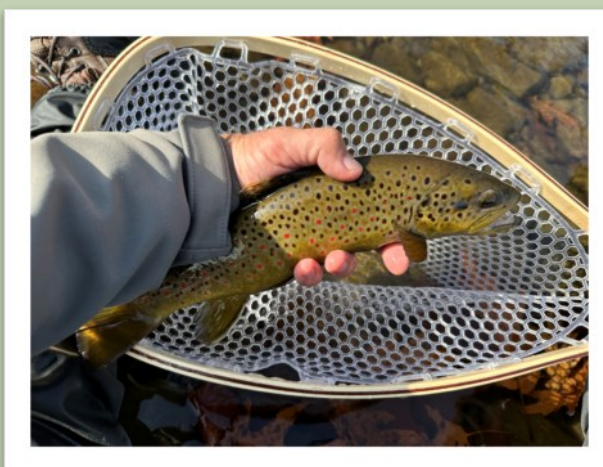
The chapter extends a sincere thank-you to the following individuals who have chosen to renew a membership or contribute to TU's mission. Your efforts in supporting our education, conservation, and advocacy efforts are greatly appreciated.

Stephen Babyak	Ronald Mishkin
Eric Baird	Joseph Pipolo
Alego Bartolacci	David Rich
Todd Burns	James Rinker
Adolph Fernandez	David Roy
Duane Gower	Mark Ruppen
Stephen Hajdu	Stephen Schroettinig
Richard Kessler	Kenneth Shumski
Gregory Latsko	Bob Skazenski
Homer Lee	Stephan Van De Loecht



#### Current Membership:

**228 Adults + 2 Youth**



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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.



### **Mount Airy Dam on Forest Hills Run**



On October 21, 2025, S.T. Hudson Engineering notified Paradise Township of its intent to file an NPDES permit with PA DEP for Mr. Airy Dam removal and stream restoration work. Dam removals allow for the free movement of fish (trout) between headwaters and lower stream stretches. Such removals also assist in addressing the thermal effects of impounded waterways. Generally, dam removals are positive events for cold-water fisheries.

Should such work occur, a comprehensive sedimentation and erosion plan will need to be effectively implemented in order to prevent vast amounts of silt currently behind the dam from washing downstream into this Class A Wild Trout fishery. We will be following this closely to ensure that this vital tributary to Paradise Creek and Brodhead Creek is protected.



### **Comments on NPDES Permit Renewal for East Stroudsburg Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Brodhead TU submitted comments to PA DEP regarding the permit renewal for East Stroudsburg's wastewater treatment facility. This facility discharges effluent into Brodhead Creek near Glen Park. The chapter urged DEP to ensure that effluent limits and monitoring efforts are not relaxed, that year-round temperature monitoring is done to ensure compliance with cold-water fishery standards, and to phase out the use of chlorine as a treatment option in favor of ultraviolet light. Whereas this stretch of the Brodhead serves as a conduit for fish migrating between the Brodhead and the Delaware River, we also supported monitoring of macroinvertebrate populations both upstream and downstream of the point of discharge. Hopefully, the issuance of the renewal will address our concerns.



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### **Forest Hills Run Sections Approved as Class A Wild Trout**

At the October PA Fish and Boat Commissioners meeting, the Commissioners approved the classification of 20 sections of streams across the Commonwealth as Class A Wild Trout. The sections of Forest Hills Run above Mount Airy Lake and below Mt. Airy Dam were included in this approval.

Comments on proposed changes 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](mailto: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](#). (Or the link highlighted above. )
2. Under “BULLETIN”, select the most recent volume.
3. Select the pertinent issue(s).
4. Select “Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission” from the menu. You will see any pending proposals as a hyperlink. Select the proposal and it will open so you can read it.



### **PA Council Trout Unlimited Outlines Position on A.I. Data Center Development**

[PA Council of Trout Unlimited](#) released a policy statement calling for the responsible development of A.I. data centers and the adoption of [PennFuture's model zoning ordinance](#) to address water consumption, power consumption, noise and aesthetic concerns. Whereas data centers are being proposed from the Wyoming Valley, through the Poconos, and along existing high-voltage power lines, it is important to understand what they are, why their development is expanding, and what should BTU look for in submitted plans. Please follow the link below for Council's Policy Statement.

[Policy Statement on Artificial Intelligence Data Centers – PA Council of Trout Unlimited](#)

## 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.

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## 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.

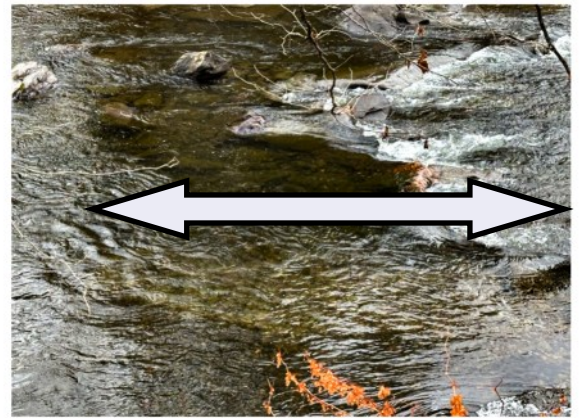
A blue square with a white border containing the text "Trout Unlimited Ethics Hotline" in white, bold, sans-serif font.

**Trout  
Unlimited  
Ethics  
Hotline**

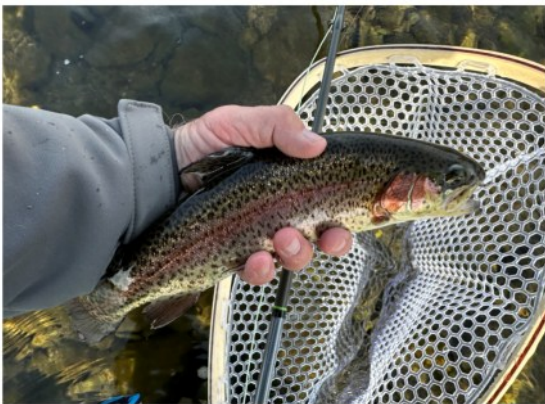
# November Fishing Outlook

The leaves are off of the trees, the air is cold, and the water is low—welcome to November in the Poconos!

The spawning seasons for brook and brown trout are in full swing so don't be surprised if you see quite a few redds when you get out. Usually these are found mostly in the headwater streams but BTU members spooked a brown trout off a redd between Stroudsburg and East Stroudsburg this week. Bigger fish create bigger redds. So, I wonder how big this brown was? (That arrow indicates about 12 feet. Photo from Brodhead Creek near BCHC.)



Small nymphs, streamers, and egg patterns can be particularly effective this time of year. If you're throwing some hardware, small jerk baits and spinners can also do the trick.



PA Fish & Boat does do some fall stockings so check the [list](#) to see what may have been stocked near you. It's not a bad idea to focus on these fish for a while as the wild trout do their thing in the tributaries. Also, these fall & winter stockings supply some trout for the upcoming ice-fishing season. Of particular interest near us may be Tobyhanna Lake, Hidden Lake., or Minsi Lake.

Good luck and be safe.

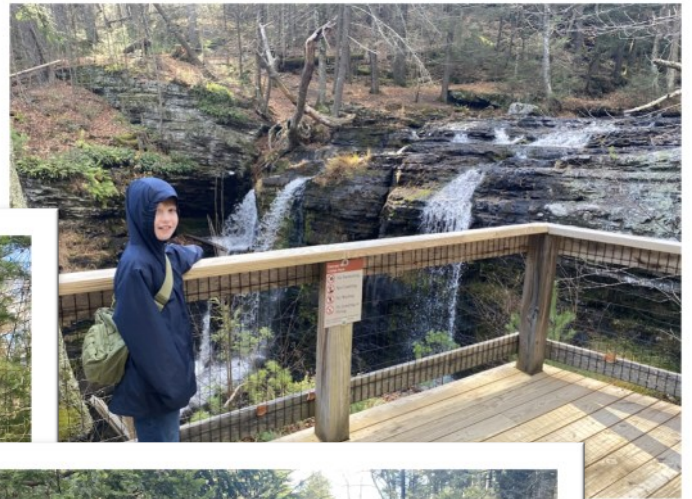
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## Recent Events



BTU's November meeting was held on the trails along Dingman's Creek at George C. Childs Park in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area on Saturday, November 8. Attendees were able to enjoy the beauty of the fall's multi-colored leaves, the gorgeous hemlocks and the tumbling waters of Dingman's Creek. Everyone enjoyed the views and beauty of Fulmer Falls, Factory Falls and Deer Leap Falls while learning some local history. (Photos courtesy of E. Baird)



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EVENT DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

## **Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2025**



Visit <http://brodheadtu.org/events-and-registration/>

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**January 10,17,24,31: Introduction to Fly Tying classes. 9 AM**

**February 5: Board of Directors Meeting, BCHC 7 PM**

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**March 27: Annual Spring Banquet at Skytop Lodge. 5:30 PM**

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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