



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

JULY/AUGUST 2026



QUICK CALENDAR

**August 15: Veterans & Family
Fly Fishing, Camp Trexler**

**August 15: Stream
Improvement Workday, Tank
Creek**

**August 17: Brodhead Fly
Tyers, BCHC**

**August 22: Riparian Buffer
Restoration, Larsen Ln,
Cherry Valley NWR**

**August 22: Riparian Buffer
Restoration, Polk Twp.
Walking Park, Kunkletown**

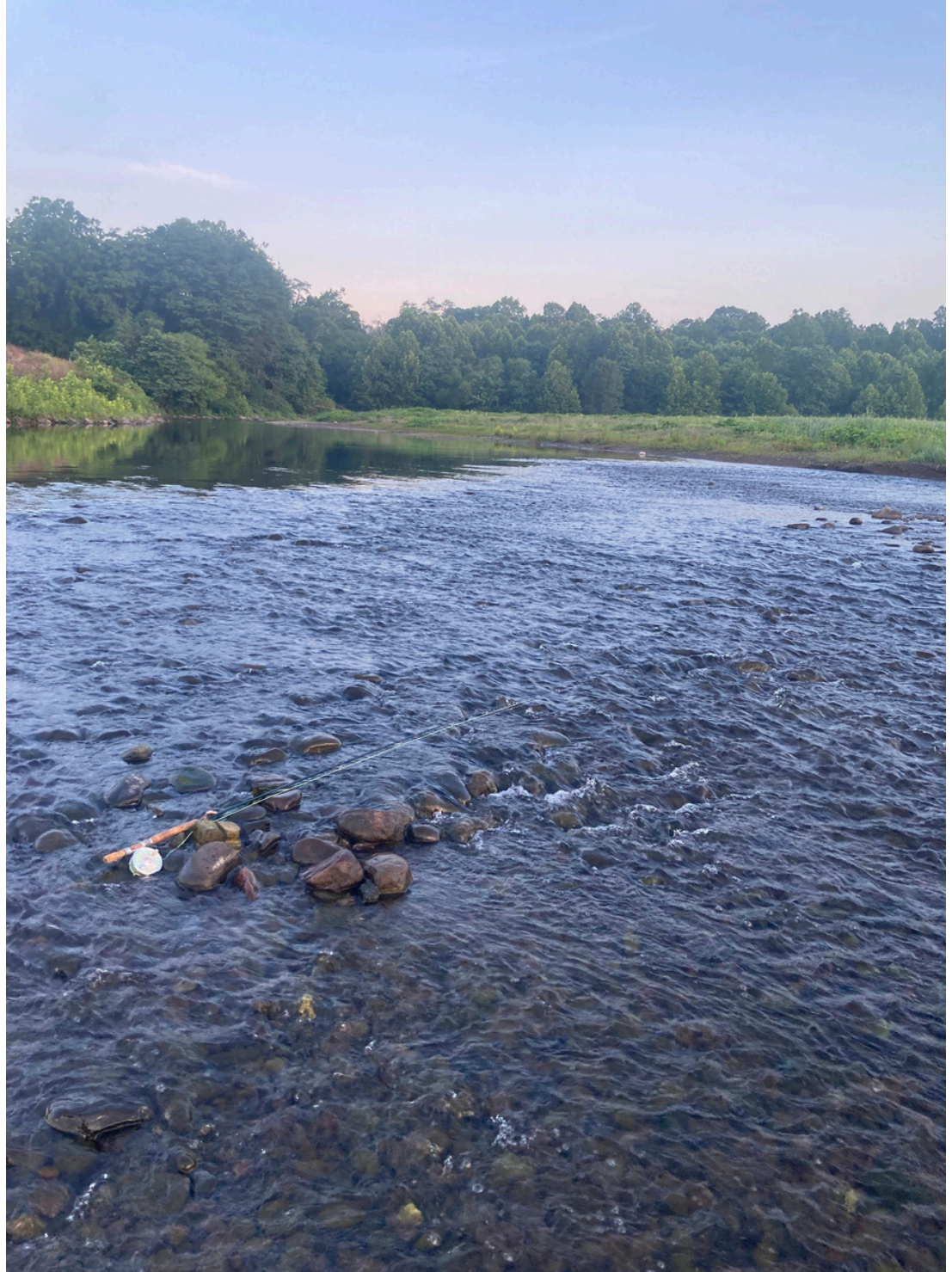
**September 9, Speaker
Series, Fishing Slovenia,
Kettle Creek EEC**

**Sept. 12: Stream
Improvement Workday, Tank
Creek**

See page 12 for info and links

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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,

Summer is in full swing, and this chapter hasn't slowed down a bit.

Thank you to chapter treasurer John Smith who represented us at the White Haven Trout Festival on June 13, and to the Brodhead Fly Tiers, who filled the bench with terrestrials on June 15 — ants, beetles, hoppers, and inchworms, all pictured in this issue and ready for when the water cools.

Our work crews earned their keep. Volunteers maintained brush deflectors on Cherry Creek June 18, and June 20 was a doubleheader: habitat construction on Tank Creek in the morning, riparian and invasive work on Mill Creek in Cresco that afternoon. On July 11 the crew was back in Tank Creek adding stream improvement structures to that Class A wild trout water. And a special thank you to the volunteers and instructors who made the Ladies Introduction to Fly Fishing on June 27 another success — the smiles in the photos say it all.

Inside this issue: with our freestones too warm for ethical trout angling, check out the feature on warm water fishing, plus Stephan van de Loecht's piece on ants and beetles with two patterns worth tying. And don't miss Eric Baird's comments on data center water use — cold water is our whole mission, and this one matters.

Now, mark your calendars. August 15 brings Veterans and Family Fly Fishing at Camp Trexler and another Tank Creek workday, both at 9 AM. Fly Tiers meet August 17 at BCHC. August 22 offers concurrent riparian buffer days at the Larsen Lane tract and the Polk Township Walking Park — pick a site and lend a hand. On September 9, Ben Minchhoff opens our fall Speaker Series at Kettle Creek EEC with "Fishing Slovenia."

Registration links are on page 12. Thank you, as always, for everything you do.

Tight lines,
Russell

DIRECTORS EMERITUS

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THANK YOU TO THE
FOLLOWING
PAST DIRECTORS FOR
THEIR RECENT
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MEMBERSHIP UPDATES, JUNE 16 TO JULY 16

New members! We welcome new members or changes to membership types to our Brodhead TU membership roll. Jeanette Barci and Dona Morgan have joined our Chapter. We also welcome 2 members who have joined our Chapter: George Ike and Larissa Soraka. We look forward to seeing and working with you on our many activities.

If you know of someone who shares our interests, please send them the link at right. New memberships are half price!



Renewing and Contributing Members: The members listed have renewed their membership, changed membership type, or contributed to the mission of the Brodhead Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Your efforts supporting our education, conservation, and advocacy efforts are greatly appreciated and are critical to our future success.

**Eric Gerald
Jeffrey Feick
Ann Foster**

**Duane Gower
Paul Fratto
Dona Morgan**



Current Membership:

234 Adults + 4 Youth



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A Few Announcements...

BTU member John Smith ties flies at Clymer Library (Pocono Pines) on most Fridays 10 AM - 1 PM and at Hughes Library (Eastern Monroe Public Library, Stroudsburg) on most Mondays 1 - 4 PM. Tying is open to anyone. John carries a couple of spare vises and tools. Come pull up a chair and tie. Help us tell BTU's story and recruit new members.

August 15th: There are two events planned for this day, both scheduled to start at 9 AM. Veterans and Family Fly Fishing at Camp Trexler. This is not a Brodhead TU event, but we support outreach to veterans. The other event is a continuation of the stream improvement devices in Tank Creek, a tributary in the Brodhead Creek watershed. We plan to construct several more deflectors and cross vanes to improve the trout habitat in this Class A trout stream. See the calendar for links.

August 22nd: We will be conducting 2 concurrent events on this date, maintaining our existing riparian buffer tree and shrub plantings. The sites are on Cherry Creek, Larsen Lane tract, within the Cherry Valley NWR, and along Middle Creek at the Polk Creek Walking Park in Kresgeville. Both events start at 9 AM. And once again, see the calendar for links to the events.

Looking ahead to early September, Chapter member Ben Minchhoff will be the speaker at our Speaker Series presentation at the Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center. His topic is "Fishing Slovenia". Ben has been fishing the Soca River for trout for several years, and will share his experience and knowledge of this unique fishery. Date and time: September 9 at 7 PM. See the calendar for details and tickets.



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News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest

The link to the online GIS application tracking data centers across PA:

[PENNSYLVANIA DATA CENTER PROPOSALS](#)

Last month, without any editorial comment, we linked to Google's plan for water use at its data centers:

[WATER STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENTS](#)

Brodhead TU's Eric Baird prepared the following comments on the Google document above:

The article discusses returning water to the system, which works in a public water supply, but not in a direct source (individual well). There is not a good explanation how direct sourced (individual well) would be "returned to the system". There is no discussion on how temperature will be mitigated prior to the water being "returned to the system".

The article emphasizes how little water is currently being used but seems to avoid discussing how much water they project to use. Everything else in business is projected out 5 years or more, I'm sure water use is one resource they have projected out.

Now the one bright spot is the discussion on using reclaimed water, but they specifically discussed taking what I'm assuming is post treatment effluent, adding a new pollutant (thermal) and then returning it to the discharge stream. Now if the discussion was to take something like acid mine drainage, treat it for use as cooling water, and then return it to a stream at the original pollutant source that might be something worth championing.

No where does the article address the potential thermal pollutant loading as a significant issue or even an addressable issue in the article.

I feel that TU Chapter's point of intervention in the permitting process will be addressing thermal loading as part of the industrial discharge permit that should be part of the permitting process.

At State Council level I feel demanding our state legislature and our regulatory agencies (PADEP) provide assurances that these facilities will require an Industrial Discharge Permit for their cooling system discharge be a first step and then make sure that we intervene with comments at the appropriate time in the permitting window. Also discussion with our State Legislature about increasing protections for cold water resources in the water withdrawal permitting process.

At the National level Trout Unlimited should be working with the Legislature to improve protections for our cold water resources within the water withdrawal permitting process and the industrial discharge permitting process.

BRODHEAD CHAPTER STRATEGIC PLAN

A steering draft document has been prepared to guide your Chapter's activities for the next 5 years. To see what is planned, check out this link:

[STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

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WATER TEMPERATURE MATTERS

KNOW BEFORE YOU CAST

Water temperature has a big impact on how well trout survive after catch-and-release.

Use this guide to make the best decision for the fish and the river... and don't forget to #keepemwet!

These are broad guidelines. Different trout species have different temperature thresholds. Know your local rules and regulations.

Learn more at tu.org:



68°F + GIVE TROUT A BREAK

Warm water increases stress and reduces survival.

- Find colder water
- Explore higher elevations
- Come back another day



56-67°F FISH WITH CARE

Trout are feeling the heat and need a little extra care.

- Use heavier tippet
- Land fish quickly
- Keep fish wet
- Skip the photos



UNDER 55°F FISH ON

Cold water gives trout the best chance.

- Keep fish wet
- Release quickly
- Enjoy your time on the water

Every River Needs A Champion

www.tu.org

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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://www.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 any time, 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.

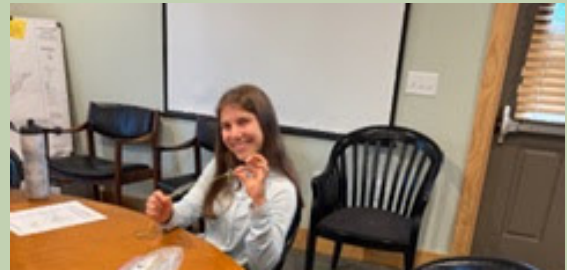
<https://www.tu.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/E-Poster.jpg>

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

**Trout
Unlimited
Ethics
Hotline**

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RECENT EVENTS



Ladies Introduction to Fly Fishing, June 27



Stream Improvement Work Day, Tank Creek, July 11

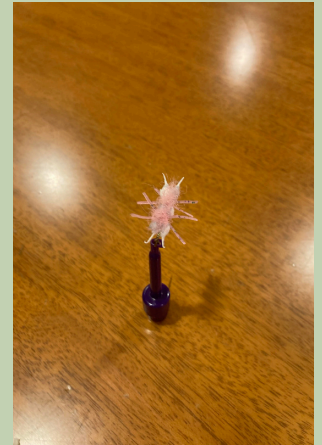
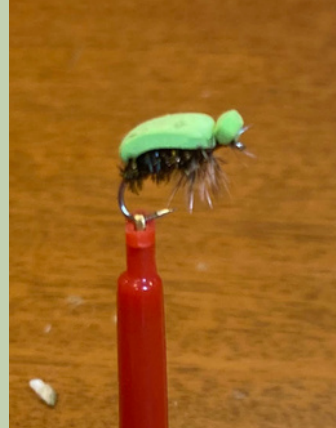
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FISHING, FLIES AND TYING FEATURE

We had gotten a little spoiled this spring and early summer. Although we had not received much rain, overnight temperatures were often cool enough to chill many of our local trout streams to trout-safe temperatures, at least in the morning hours. That's now in the past. With the exception of a few mountain streams, or tailwater fisheries such as the Pohopoco and West Branch Delaware River, our trout streams are consistently too warm for ethical trout angling. But fishing doesn't stop! While we wait for cooler water temperatures in fall, we can concentrate on all the warm water species with which our region is blessed. Bass, striped bass, panfish and many more are on the radar.

FEATURED FLIES FROM BROADHEAD FLY TYERS

Even though most trout fishing is off the menu, the fly tyers were busy in June tying terrestrials. Ants, grasshoppers and crickets, beetles, inchworms and more can be extremely effective in the summer for trout and warm water species.



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Ants & Beetles

Stephan van de Loecht

By the dog days of summer the great spring hatches are a memory, the water is low and clear, and the trout have grown wary. This is terrestrial season — and on our Pocono and Lehigh Valley streams no two land-borne insects earn more trout than ants and beetles. The guiding principle is simple: match the fall, not the hatch. Terrestrials don't emerge from the water; they blunder into it from the bank, and the beetle's soft "plop" is what pulls a fish up. From late spring into October these clumsy fliers can make up a big chunk of a trout's diet.

Ants — The Picky-Fish Solution

Fish ants small, dark, and tight to cover. A #16–20 black or cinnamon fur or parachute ant is the single most reliable terrestrial in the box, and it is the classic answer to a fish that keeps refusing your dry. The two-lump silhouette and the way an ant sits flush in the film read as food to trout that have seen everything else. Winged, or flying, ants add a second act: swarms mate on warm, humid, still afternoons and August is prime flying ant time. When a swarm blows onto the water the fish abandon their caution and gorge, so it pays to carry a few winged versions alongside the standard fur ant. A slightly sunken, wet ant will also take fish that won't pass up an easy ant.

Beetles — The Confident Searcher

Beetles are available from late spring through the first hard frost, and they fish best in the warm part of the day, once the sun has the bugs moving — usually after mid-morning. Most stream-side beetles are black, often with a hint of iridescent green underneath; the Japanese beetle adds a metallic sheen. Because a beetle can't swim once it's in the surface film, trout eat it with confidence. Fish a beetle dead-drift, with just enough impact to make a small plop: the first drift is often the one that gets eaten. Prospect under overhanging limbs and along wooded banks, since many beetles live in the vegetation rather than on the ground. (Cont.)

Local Waters & Tactics

Terrestrials shine on the limestoners — the Little Lehigh, Monocacy, Saucon, and Bushkill (Easton) — where flat, clear water and selective fish reward a small ant, but do not ignore them on our freestones — a picky trout on the Brodhead might be fooled by an ant.

Wherever you go, hunt the edges: undercut banks, foam lines, and shaded seams beneath overhanging vegetation offer trout food, cooler water, and cover all at once. A deadly summer rig is a buoyant beetle up top with a sunken ant on a short dropper — covering the surface and the film in one cast. A subtle twitch of the rod tip as the fly drifts past a likely lie will often draw the strike.

Two Patterns to Tie

Tom Travis Para Ant — a #18 ring-eye dry-fly hook, black 70-denier thread, and a body of black (or cinnamon) Superfine dubbing built as two slim bulbous segments with a narrow waist between them. Tie in a short McFlylon post — bright orange, green, or yellow for visibility — at the center of the front segment, then a black, brown, or grizzly dry-fly hackle sized to the hook wound parachute-style around the post. Whip-finish at the eye first, then lock the hackle to the post with a pinhead of UV resin and cure it — a durable trick that leaves a clean, sparse fly. Clip the post to about a shank-length.

Tom Rosenbauer's Parachute Beetle — a standard down-eye dry-fly hook in #14–16, black 6/0 thread, and a strip of black flat foam about one hook-gap wide for the shellback. Dub a robust, slightly tapered body of peacock Ice Dub, pull the foam over, and tie it down to leave a small waist behind the head. Post bright orange egg yarn (or other color choice) at that waist and wind a dense black saddle hackle (about 1½ gaps) parachute-style around it. A dab of super glue under the foam keeps the body from rolling. Clip the egg-yarn post to a broad, round dot by pulling the egg yarn up when cutting it — far easier to track than other indicators and posts, and the parachute hackle lands the fly upright every time.



Tom Travis Para Ant.



Tom Rosenbauer's Parachute Beetle.

Brodhead Trout Unlimited Activities for 2026



EVENT DETAILS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!

**Consult the Chapter's website calendar for these
and all upcoming events:**

Chapter Calendar

August 15, Veterans and Family Fly Fishing. 9 AM to 4PM. Camp Trexler Lake, 288 Camp Trexler Rd., Kunkletown, PA. Call Glenn Fried to register: 484-894-4307.

August 15, Stream Improvement Work Day, Tank Creek. 9 AM to 12 noon. Register

August 17, Brodhead Fly Tyers, 6-8 PM, BCHC. Register

August 22, Riparian Buffer Restoration Day, 9 AM to noon. Larsen Tract. Register

August 22, Riparian Buffer Restoration Day, 9 AM to noon. Polk Twp. Walking Park. Register

September 9, Speaker Series, Fishing Slovenia, 7 to 9 PM. Kettle Creek EEC. Register

September 12, 2026 PATU Annual Meeting, Mill Hall, PA. Info at [PA trout.org](http://PA.trout.org)

September 12, Stream Improvement Workday, 9 AM to noon. Tank Creek. Register

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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