



Streamside Asides

The newsletter of the Brodhead Chapter #289 Trout Unlimited

SEPTEMBER, 2026



QUICK CALENDAR

September 21: Brodhead Fly Tyers. BCHC

Sept. 26: Stream Improvement Workday, Tank Creek

October 7: Speaker Series, Waterfalls of DWGNRA

October 10-11: Quiet Valley Harvest Festival

October 14 and beyond: Rod Building 101

October 19: Brodhead Fly Tyers

November 11: Speaker Series: Pennsylvania Stream Science

December 9: Chapter Holiday Party.

See page 10 for 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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Members and Friends,

The water is cooling, and after August's rain, our creeks actually have better flows, and this chapter had a summer worth being proud of.

Thank you to everyone who turned out for the Tank Creek workday on August 15 — the photos on page 8 show the new structures going into that Class A water. A week later, crews split between the Larsen Lane tract and the Polk Township Walking Park for riparian buffer work and maintenance, and our summer at Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge wrapped up with new trees tubed and staked along the creek. The Brodhead Fly Tyers kept the vises busy through July and August; their small flies and Iso patterns are pictured on page 9.

Inside this issue: an update on data center proposals, now tracked across 23 states; a look at the Chapter's five-year Strategic Plan; and news that TU National has placed Maddie Feaster in Monroe County to work on brook trout passage. Read that one — she needs our local knowledge of dams and culverts.

Now, mark your calendars. Fly Tyers meet September 21 at BCHC, with October caddis as the theme. September 26 brings another Tank Creek workday at 9 AM — cross vanes and random boulders this time, so bring a sledge and waders. Larry Ott opens the fall Speaker Series October 7 with "Waterfalls of the Delaware Water Gap NRA," and we'll have a booth at the Quiet Valley Harvest Festival October 10–11. Rod Building 101 starts October 14. Registration links are on page 10.

Finally, a personal note. My term as president ends this month, so this is my last Home Pool column. I'm not going anywhere — I'll stay on the board — but I want to thank every volunteer and member who showed up, swung a sledge, tied a fly, taught a kid, or renewed a membership during my time in this seat. Whatever this chapter accomplished, you did it. It has been an honor.

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, SINCE JULY 16

New members! We welcome new members or changes to membership types to our Brodhead TU membership roll. Since our last newsletter, Aaron Vague has joined our Chapter. 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.

**Clark Connor
Joseph Pipolo**

**Darel Handley
Robert Prichard**



Current Membership:

228 Adults + 4 Youth



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A Few Announcements...

September 21: Brodhead Fly Tyers. 6 PM at the Brodhead Creek Heritage Center. Theme will be October Caddisfly imitations. All are welcome.

September 26: Stream improvement work day, 9 AM to noon. Tank Creek. The Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited will be installing several cross vanes and random boulders in the Tank Creek, we could use volunteers who can swing a sledge hammer or just help move materials. Please be prepared to get into the stream. Tools needed include shovels and grubbing hoes. Don't forget a good set of work gloves, bug spray, and water.

October 7, Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 7 PM: Speaker Series: Larry Ott presents "Waterfalls of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area". A program on the nine different waterfalls found in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. Expect to see pictures, historical facts, and fishing tips. Additionally you can expect to hear a few waterfall photography tips and see a few of the plants that frequent the splash zones of the falls.

October 10-11, Quiet Valley Harvest Festival, 9 AM to 5:30 PM: Quiet Valley Living History Farm. Brodhead Chapter has a booth at the Festival. Many other local conservation groups will also be there, along with living history demonstrations, live music, and great food! Stop by if you can.

October 14, 21, 28 and November 4: Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 6:30 PM Rod Building 101. Learn to build a fly rod over 4 evenings with the Brodhead Chapter Trout Unlimited. Class fee includes all the materials and equipment to build your own 7' 6" 4 WT fly rod perfect for our smaller streams.

October 19: Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 6-8 PM: Brodhead Fly Tyers. Turkey feather flies.

November 11, Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 7 PM: Speaker Series: Don Baylor Presents "Pennsylvania Stream Science". Don's presentation on Pennsylvania Stream Science will discuss how water quality standards in streams is determined and the science behind the regulations.

November 17, Brodhead Creek Heritage Center, 6-8 PM: Brodhead Fly Tyers.

December 9, Chapter Holiday Party, Lakeside, 6:30 PM. Celebrate the Holidays with an evening out with our community of sportsmen conservationists. We will be meeting at the Lakeside in Saylorsburg for evening of frivolity and fraternization. This is a great opportunity to learn all that your Chapter does for the community and how you can become involved. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing some fishing stories.

Check the Chapter Calendar for more information and registration.

News Notes, Advocacy Opportunities, and Items of Interest

DATA CENTERS

Since data centers were first mentioned in this newsletter, interest in the topic has only grown. The first link provided here was to data centers for Pennsylvania. In the months since, the developer has included 22 other states' data center development information, and quite a few additional states are planned for the future. Data centers are intended to be the future of AI (artificial intelligence) and computing, but bring some potential impacts to the area local to the center, and to the larger surrounding region. We encourage interested parties to research related topics of personal interest. A good starting point is to check out the plans for centers in our region. An internet search for "local and regional effects of data centers" is also a worthwhile exercise. Ironically, the AI summary of that search starts with the negative effects, of which there are several.

The link to the online GIS application tracking data centers across 23 states:

[DATA CENTER PROPOSALS](#)

BRODHEAD CHAPTER STRATEGIC PLAN

A steering draft document has been prepared to guide your Chapter's activities for the next 5 years. The Strategic Plan is broken into 4 broad categories: Conservation, Engagement, Communications, and Funding. All are critical to the success of the Chapter. To see what is planned, check out this link:

[STRATEGIC PLAN](#)

TROUT UNLIMITED EMPLOYEE IN OUR AREA

TU National has hired and placed an employee in Monroe County! Maddie Feaster is here as the Upper Delaware Watershed Project Manager (NJ/PA), to help protect brook trout populations in our area. Her project is designed to identify and hopefully remove barriers to free movement of these populations. The main impediments to free movement are dams and poorly designed culverts, structures that impede free upstream movement. The current focus is on brook trout streams in Pike County, but Maddie plans to focus on Monroe County for the next round. If you know of any brook trout streams with these restrictions, please pass on the information to us at the Chapter email address. We'll pass them on to Maddie.

EMAIL US!

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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



Stream Improvement Work Day, Tank Creek, August 15



Summer 2026 work at Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge

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FISHING, FLIES AND TYING FEATURE

FEATURED FLIES FROM BRODHEAD FLY TYERS

The Brodhead Fly Tyers have met twice since our last newsletter. In July, the group concentrated on small flies, size 20 and smaller. Mayflies, notably Tricos and little blue-winged olives, and various midges are the most commonly imitated small flies. Tricos generally emerge from early to late summer, and midges are available year-round, but really shine from autumn through winter.

August's meeting has the group tying imitations of the *Isonychia* mayflies. The adults are known as slate drakes, mahogany duns, or white glove howdy's. The Iso's have a late spring emergence, and then continue sporadically throughout the summer.



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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

September 21, Brodhead Fly Tyers, 6-8 PM, BCHC. [Register](#)

September 26, Stream Improvement Workday, 9 AM to noon. Tank Creek. [Register](#)

**October 7, Speaker Series, Larry Ott Presents Waterfalls of Delaware Water Gap
NRA, BCHC, 7 PM. [Register](#)**

**October 10-11, Quiet Valley Harvest Festival. 9 AM-5:30 PM. Quiet Valley Living
History Farm.**

**October 14 and the next 3 consecutive Wednesdays, Rod Building 101. 6:30 PM
BCHC. [Register](#)**

October 19, Brodhead Fly Tyers. 6-8 PM BCHC Register link to follow.

**November 11, 7 PM: Speaker Series: Don Baylor Presents "Pennsylvania Stream
Science". BCHC. Link to follow.**

December 9, 6:30. Chapter Holiday Party. Lakeside. Link to follow.

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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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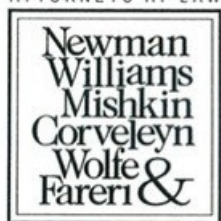
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business. For information and rates, contact**

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