



MISSION

To conserve, protect, and restore North America's Cold Water fisheries and their watersheds.

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NEXT MEETING:
 Tuesday, April 21, 2015

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
 Friday, May 1, 2015

PFBC Withdraws Delayed Harvest Change Proposal

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) announced on April 3rd that it has withdrawn a proposal to change the Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only (DHALO) regulations after receiving public comments overwhelmingly opposed to the measure. The PFBC Board of Commissioners approved the withdrawal of the proposal and the end of the public comment period in a vote conducted this week. "The DHALO program is a stocked trout program, and social factors play a critical role in how the program is managed," said PFBC Executive Director John Arway. "The proposed changes were designed to do two things: first, maximize the harvest of stocked trout before stream temperatures increase to lethal levels and, second, increase the opportunity for kids to catch fish. The proposed changes generated much public comment in which questions were posed that would require substantial staff time and effort to fully answer," he added. "Therefore, we believe that we need to withdraw this idea and focus on identifying other changes where we can more easily accomplish these objectives."

Approved at the PFBC's January 2015 quarterly business meeting, the proposal included the following:

- Move the start of the trout harvest period from June 15 to the Saturday before Memorial Day.
- Allow the use of bait by all anglers during the trout harvest period.
- Allow youth anglers under the age of 16 to use bait year-round in DHALO areas.
- Change the minimum length limit from 9 inches to 7 inches.

As of March 31, the agency had received 343 comments, with all but five opposed to the proposal. A main concern expressed by the individuals was the use of bait during the harvest period.

First launched in 1983, the DHALO program is designed to make more stocked trout available later in the season. The current regulations allow harvest only between June 15 and Labor Day, have a minimum size limit of nine inches, and a creel limit of three fish. The waters are open to fishing year-round.

Thank you goes out to everyone who took the time to submit their comments and voicing their opinion.

Do you shop on Amazon? If so, you can now make a donation to ACTU every time you shop through Amazon Smile. There is no additional cost to you and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to ACTU. Visit <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-2222233> for more information.

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STRAIGHT TALK By: President, Dave Swope

The Murray's two-some did a great job. Both have been very committed to TU. I personally would like to thank the Banquet committee for their efforts. Everyone, I talked to mentioned the donations were great. How about those gift certificates? WOW. These committee folks did an outstanding job getting raffle items, setting up the event and working at the event.

Congrats to our award winners for 2014, PFBC Adopt-a-Stream award was presented to Gary Toner, in recognition for his efforts on the streams, planting trees and shrubs, along with his duties as one of the chapter's trustees. The chapter award, Merit and Recognition was presented to Amy Stum. Amy has followed in Bob Marchio's footsteps with our newsletter, website, and Facebook page. I heard numerous comments all year on her abilities with making improvements and heard more at the banquet; I saw one member praising her efforts at the banquet. Her tireless efforts have been noticed at the State level from the Secretary; some of us noticed her baking abilities also. Let's give both of these members a pat on the back for their efforts under trying circumstances.

Well, the fishing season is upon us and the fly stretch was stocked by the Pa. Fish Boat Commission along with some determined members to give the trout a new home. Thanks fellow anglers for your efforts during high flows to make sure the trout reached the fly stretch. Boy, the Trophy Trout schedule was tough getting the information out to everyone, since I could not attend both meetings on the same evening; sorry for any miscommunications. I now have a better plan if that happens again. I want to

give the Mummasburg Sportsmen Club a pat on the back for their continuing efforts in making the traditional Adams County opening day of Trout special. I have been working along side Wally Kane, President of Mummasburg Sportsmen Club, for 17 years in the Trophy Trout program and have some great stocking memories. Someday the anglers will realize just how great the Trophy Trout program is in Adams County.

Opening day was cold and windy and occasionally the sun would poke through. I managed to fish alone in my secret area that didn't produce fishermen on site until 10 AM as I was leaving. I had three or four bumps and caught three trout, one brookie and two of Mummasburg's Trophy Trout, but it was tough.

The ACTU board will be meeting Wednesday 4/8; we will have a final banquet report and add additional plans for 2015. We missed the stream cleanup due to bad weather and hopefully we can reschedule with Gettysburg HACC students through Steve Glassman's class and Shawn Abma's Gettysburg High School class. Steve is interested in a fly fishing seminar with his students this Spring; we need helpers to assist. Let me know if you can help.

What's up next for ACTU? April 11th celebration at the "JIG" in the Caledonia State park, Check our newsletter for upcoming chapter activities and the TIC classroom events at Strawberry Hill.

Enjoy the fishing season. See you on the Stream.

Do Your Duty and Fear No One..... R. W. Abele Executive Director PFBC 1921-1990

Short Casts

Newsletter Submissions: Submission of articles and suggestions for the newsletter are encouraged and may be sent to amystum@comcast.net in a Word document or email text. All submissions are due by the 1st of the month for that month's newsletter.

Free Fly Tying Lessons: Once again, our own Joe Whitmore is providing free 30-minute beginners lessons prior to the monthly ACTU chapter meetings from January thru May. The lessons will start at 6:30 pm, no supplies or prior experience is required! The meeting will start immediately following the lesson. We look forward to seeing you there!

Chapter Logo and Tagline Initiative: At the January 2015 monthly meeting, a motion was made to develop a Chapter logo and tag line. **We are looking for your creative ideas!** Submit your suggestions, in concept or draft, to amystum@comcast.net no later than **June 1, 2015**.

Fishing Trips: Cumberland Valley TU has generously opened their trips to our chapter members. If you are interested in participating in an organized trip, please visit <http://cvtu.homestead.com/CalendarEvents.html> to see all the scheduled trips and contact Biff Healy (biffer1966@hotmail.com) or Dave Stone (dstone@stonelaw.net)

Ich - A Bad Three Letter Word! By: Shawn Abma, TIC Teacher

I'm sure most of you have heard of this before but have you ever had to deal with it in your aquarium? Maybe so but to one up you,, have you ever had it on a tank filled with trout? Now we're really talking. My Environmental Science class at GAHS recently noticed that we had healthy fish dyeing at an alarming rate in our tank. Upon further investigation, we noticed white spots all over the trout. We had earlier in the year dealt with "Ich" in November and lost 2 batches of trout eggs before we figured out what was going on. We completely drained the tank and disinfected and dried everything. I thought we would be good to go when we received a new batch of fry in January, but here we were end of February with the same problem! So.. What is "Ich", also known as white spot disease? It is a parasite that burrows its way into the skin of the fish and feeds off the fish's blood. With an "ich" infected fish you will see small white spots on the fish. The fish may act ill, and will often see the fish glancing off of rocks, presumably to dislodge the parasite, as they are irritating to the fish. If the gills are affected your fish will gasp for air. The parasite feeds on the fish's blood, and then it bores its way out of the fish and forms a cyst in the tank. This is the reproductive stage, and when complete, about 1000 free-swimming young parasites are released. These are much smaller than the adult stage and are not visible to the naked eye. Here's where the problem continues! This free-swimming form then seeks out a host, burrows into their skin, and the whole cycle begins again. In addition, because of the small size of the free-swimming stage, they

are easily able to enter the gills of the fish. By the time you find white spots on the fish's fins and body the gills are usually already heavily infected with Ich. And then it is just a matter of time before the fish dies.

So what to do? In warm tropical tanks (75 degrees plus) the parasite lifecycle will repeat itself every four days and can be treated with a couple of products including aquarium salt. The salt will kill the free swimming young parasites and the cycle can be broken..... but wait.. if you have trout, you have a much cooler tank, roughly 50 degrees and the cycle may tank up to three weeks. With that being said, you must be patient and continue to add aquarium salt diluted in a 5 gallon bucket of water every 4 to 5 days for a three week period. Continue to vacuum bottom of tank top to remove dead parasites. I was very skeptical of this procedure because it would take so long and I really did not think I would have any trout left in the tank by end of three weeks. So we took this as a learning opportunity and figured we would see what happens. Well to end on a happy note, we actually had trout survive. I continued with the treatment for 4 weeks and the remaining trout look great and the water quality is excellent. So if you ever have "Ich" in your trout tank, don't give up. Treat with aquarium salt and be patient! You may be surprised by the results!



Ich parasite under a microscope



The "Survivors"

Changing

In 2004, Adams County Trout Unlimited (ACTU) was organizing numerous stream projects in Adams County's open waters. This all volunteer group looked at a restoration project in the northern tier of the county along Latimore Creek; streambanks were eroded, a bridge needed repairs, concrete needed removed, and trees needed planted to provide some overhead cover. This began a partnership with the Latimore Fairgrounds Committee and the PFBC with ACTU leading the charge.

As the restoration project was underway, the Chapter decided to adopt a section of stream for kids only and handicap adults. Under the PFBC guidelines, when adopting a section of stream, the organization is required to annually host a kids fishing derby. ACTU's first fishing derby was held on May 17, 2005.

Over the years, the kids fishing derby grew by leaps and bounds, recruiting more and more at each annual event; getting the kids in the outdoors by holding such an event is like "touching heaven" for some of these youngsters. The youngsters are out to learn lessons in patience and experience the thrill of the catch. The program builds relationships and families enjoying the outdoors, hey, its fun for all.

This year's program will be held on May 2nd from 8-10AM and will give us the opportunity to reach future members. ACTU has opened up a whole new world for some kids, and maybe even changed their lives, and proves there are heroes among the volunteers.

Landowner Relations

Adams County Chapter of Trout Unlimited has a long and rich history with private landowners allowing anglers public access to private lands for fishing. While this practice has benefited generations of anglers, it also means that fishing as we know it in Pennsylvania is also very susceptible to privatization. Of our stocked trout waters in Adams County, 98% are on private lands.

The number one reason waters are removed from active management programs (like stocking) by the Commission is because of increased landowner posting in response to poor behavior such as littering, building open fires, trampling farm fields and blocking driveways and access roads. Preserving public access to private lands is a simple matter, but one that requires us all to take action to police ourselves. Recognize that the land you are on may very well be private property and act like a guest. This is why annually all the sportsmen's clubs in the County participates in a stream

cleanup on all eight approved trout streams. Since 1991, when the trout stamp was introduced in Pa. private landowners along these eight streams receive a free invitation to attend a pig roast of one of our supporting clubs. Under the Recreational Use of Land and Water Act, limits landowners' liability for personal injury or property damage if they make their land available to the public for recreation without a use or entrance fee.



ABC's of Fly Fishing

Do you have any tips you'd like to share with others? Please send them to amystum@comcast.net. Look for more hints each month.

Wind knots in your leader will weaken your leader/tippet and will break at the worst time possible. Hence the big fish that got away stories. They are not caused by the wind, however, but can be traced to faulty casting issues. That could be an incorrect rod tip path, overpowering your forward cast or failing to allow your line to unroll before starting either your forward or back cast. Seek professional help for a fix.

The delivery cast of the fly to the water should be identical to and be an extension of your previous back cast. Smooth and easy does it.

Also, use as long of a fly rod as conditions will allow. The extra length is a huge advantage in line control and mending the line for the perfect drift. This is one of Lefty Kreh's most used tips.



2015 Governor's Environmental Award for Excellence Award

Adams County Trout Unlimited has been selected to receive a 2015 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence! Each year, projects that encourage and promote environmental stewardship are selected to be recognized at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council's Annual Dinner. This year 30 applications were received for consideration and ACTU's Conococheague Restoration Project was 1 of 15 projects selected to receive an award. The award dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2015. About the project: In 2003, the Old Chambersburg (Birch Run) Reservoir was drained. As a whole, the Conococheague Creek (or the Jig as some locals call it) is one of the healthiest and most productive wild trout streams in the South Mountain Region. However, the section that runs through the Old Chambersburg Reservoir was shallow and had little trout habitat. Ten years later with the leadership of DCNR Bureau of Forestry and the Adams County chapter of Trout Unlimited, the Conococheague Creek Stream Restoration Project began.

This 2-year project enhanced native brook trout habitat on this impaired stretch by installing 24 fish habitat structures – cross vanes, single log vanes, and j-hooks. The project also enhanced the riparian buffer and initiated long-term physical and biologic monitoring of the creek.. DCNR Bureau of Forestry and Adams County Trout Unlimited coordinated with over 17 active local partners including other Trout Unlimited chapters - Cumberland Valley, Falling Spring, and National Capital, local businesses, state and county agencies, and local/state/national nonprofit organizations. Both organizations built new partnerships and strengthened existing ones to undertake the countless volunteer hours that were needed to complete the project and further the South Mountain Partnership's mission. As soon as the project was completed, news of the project spread quickly and local fisherman enjoyed the newly improved stream almost immediately. (See photos on page 6).

2014 Chapter Awards

At the 2015 Fundraising Banquet, President Dave Swope presented the annual Chapter awards. The 2014 Stream Steward winner was Gary Toner; the Merit and Recognition Award winner was Amy Stum. Congratulations Gary and Amy.



President Dave Swope presenting the Merit and Recognition Award to Amy Stum.



President Dave Swope presenting the Stream Steward Award to Gary Toner.

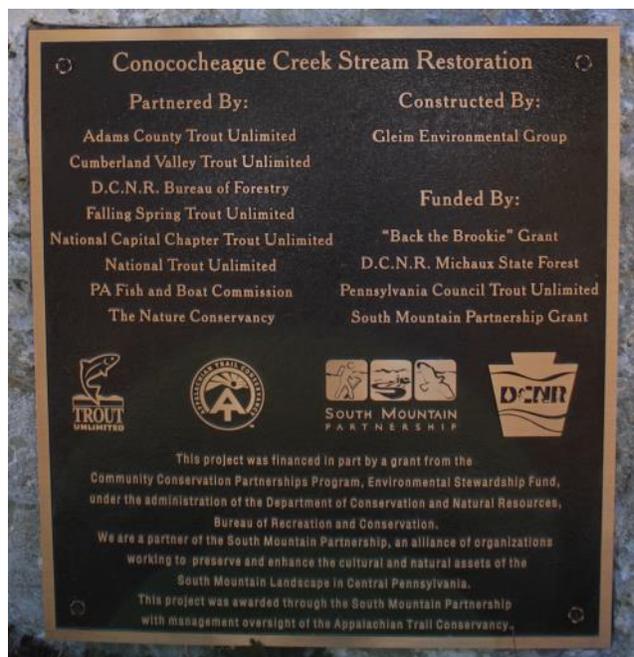
Pictures from Birch Run Celebration and Dedication



L-R: Adams Co. Commissioner Randy Phiel, Adams Co. Commissioner Jim Martin, Don Albright (CVTU), Dave Swope (ACTU), Warren Elliott (PFBC), Rod Cross (FSTU), PA Senator Rich Alloway



PA Senator Rich Alloway and Warren Elliott (PFBC) unveil the plaque at the dedication site.





May 2, 2015
8:00 a.m. till 10:00 a.m.
***Latimore Valley Fair-
grounds***
Children 12 & under

No entry fee

Prizes awarded for largest trout
in 4 age groups

Keep your catch

Bait fishing only

Refreshments - Door Prizes

***Trout provided by YELLOW BREECHES ANGLERS AND
CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION***

KIDS TROUT FISHING DERBY

Sponsored by ADAMS COUNTY CHAPTER #323 TROUT UNLIMITED

A great family activity !

Directions: From Gettysburg, travel North on US Route 15, 2 miles north of York Springs, PA, turn right (east) on Latimore Valley Rd. Go to first stop sign (old US 15 or Harrisburg Pike) turn right. Go 1000 ft to road at bridge, turn left to children's area.





2015 Chapter Calendar

APRIL

- April 18 Opening Day of Trout 8:00 am PA Statewide
Application Deadline for TU Teen Summit
- April 21 Fly Tying Lesson 6:30 pm Gettysburg, PA
Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA
- April 22 Conewago Trout Stocking 11:00 am
- April 24 High School TIC Release 8:30 am Strawberry Hill Preserve, Fairfield PA
- April 25 Montessori TIC Release 10:00 am Strawberry Hill Preserve, Fairfield PA
- April 28 PA Environmental Council Dinner 5:00 pm Harrisburg, PA
- April 30 School Class Fishing Lesson 3:00 pm Bowling Alley on RT34 by Conewago Creek

MAY

- May 2 Latimore Fishing Rodeo 8:00 am Latimore Fair Grounds
- May 19 Elementary TIC Release 9:30 am Strawberry Hill Preserve, Fairfield PA
Fly Tying Lesson 6:30 pm Gettysburg, PA
Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA
- May 20 Middle School TIC Release 9:00 am Strawberry Hill Preserve, Fairfield PA

JUNE

- June 5-7 TU Regional Meeting Fredrick, MD
- June 6 SOY Field Day 8:00 am McSherrystown Fish & Game
- June 16 Chapter Picnic 6:00 pm Streamside at Rogers' Farm,
Conewago FFO section
Allenberry Resort
- June 21-26 Rivers Conservation Camp
- June 24 ACTU Board Meeting 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA

JULY

- July 21 Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA

AUGUST

- August 18 Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA

SEPTEMBER

- September 15 Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA
- September 16-20 TU Annual Meeting Scanton, PA

OCTOBER

- October 3 PA Council Fall Meeting State College, PA
- October 20 Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA

NOVEMBER

- November 11 Board Meeting, 7:00 pm Gettysburg, PA