



FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello fellow ACTU members,

I pray that all our members and their loved ones are safe and healthy. Please observe the current recommendations to protect yourselves and those around you. For those of you that are eligible for the Covid vaccine, please get the “shot”.

While fresh on my mind, I want to thank all of our new members for joining ACTU. Your membership can be enhanced by being an active volunteer in the Chapter. We now number 199 members and our conservation goals need members to pitch in and help make things happen. Contact any of our officers, board members or chairpersons listed on our web site to offer your help.

As I sit here typing, there are 4 more inches of fresh snow covering the landscape. With all the snow, cold weather, and the pandemic restrictions it is not difficult to understand how many of us are suffering from “cabin fever”!! But, there are signs of things improving with Spring just around the corner. My wife has been pouring over seed catalogs and has finally ordered our seeds for our 2021 garden. In the South corner of our house, daffodils are poking up out of the cold ground. Our bird feeders are host to a dozen species, hopefully all preparing for the Spring nesting season.

Next week’s weather forecast is for warming temperatures. Where does this take us as ACTU members? It is time for a new season of fishing. A few things need to be done before the season opens:

EQUIPMENT: check out your rods, lines, clothing, waders, flies and lures. Do they need repair or replacement? Do you have the right type of gear for your intended fishing? Are you planning on a different method of fishing with unique requirements? Don’t leave equipment considerations to the end. Support you local fishing supply shops for materials and advice.

BOATING: if your fishing includes the use of a boat be sure to check with the PA Fish and Boat website regarding boating rules and safety requirements especially those related to life vests. Do maintance on your boat now when there is ample time to do so. Don’t put it off until it is too late to access supplies or repair services.

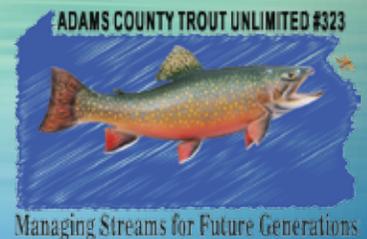
WHERE AND WHEN TO FISH: the PA Fish and Boat Commission website can be your source for just about all the information you will need. There, you will find information on licensing, stocking, creel limits, when and where to fish, boating info, etc. Take advantage of all that they offer.

Please consider mentoring someone (youth or adult) this coming season. You can make a positive difference by teaching someone how to fish while instilling a love for the outdoors and conservation. You might even get a new ACTU member through mentoring. Stay safe, say goodbye to “cabin fever”, get ready for another fishing season. Nothing makes you feel better than getting in or on the water and enjoying nature at its best. 

WHATS INSIDE

2 STOCKING DATES
Spring and Fall dates
and locations released

4 WINTER FLY FISHING
Small flies for Cold Weather
Fishing



ADAMS COUNTY PFBC STOCKING DATES

STREAM	PRE-S	TIME	PLACE	IN-S	TIME	PLACE
MARSH CREEK	3-18	10:30	CASHTOWN	4-28	10:30	CASHTOWN
LITTLE MARSH CREEK	3-23	10:30	CASHTOWN	4-28	10:30	CASHTOWN
BERMUDIAN CREEK	3-15	10:00	YORK SPRINGS	4-6	10:00	FAIRFIELD SEC 4 ONLY
OPOSSUM CREEK	3-18	10:30	CASHTOWN	4-28	10:30	CASHTOWN
LATIMORE CREEK	3-15	10:00	YORK SPRINGS	4-21	10:00	FAIRFIELD
TOMS CREEK	3-23	10:30	FAIRFIELD	4-6	10:00	FAIRFIELD
MIDDLE CREEK	3-23	10:30	CASHTOWN	4-28	10:15	CASHTOWN
ORRTANNA POND	3-23	10-30	CASHTOWN			
CONEWAGO	2-27	10:30	ACNB	4-22	10:30	ACNB FALL 10-6 11:30 HUNTSDALE

Mentoring Youth Day 3/27

Trophy Trout Stocking 4/2

One Open day 4/3

SOY at McSherrystown 6/5

Latimore Fishing Rodeo 5/8

McSherrystown F&G (Fairfield) 4/17 5/22

Please contact Dave Swope (717) 253-6680 if you are interested in helping to float stock the AC streams.

STOCKING

The Pa. Fish and Boat Commission has agreed to allow stocking volunteers to help stock trout in 2021. The restrictions will be following protocols (masks, gloves, and social distancing). Volunteers that helped in the past will be registered with your Waterways Conservation Officer in your area.

The chapter registered volunteers including NVTU volunteers will float the Conewago Creek on Saturday February 27 at noon. Please dress accordingly. If you have any signs of cold or fever stay away. The same volunteers will be stocking the trophy trout on Friday April 2 (time TBA).

CONEWAGO CREEK RESTORATION PLAN

The stream committee has been active over the winter months determining a new approach to finalizing Phase 2 on the Conewago Creek which will be on the lower section of the catch and release. Last year, we have added a new triple tip log-deflector to sure-up an island type structure, repaired and reinforced an existing mudsill while adding a load of topsoil-we need to add some fabric/netting over this device in 2021.

Some of our restoration plans going into 2021, include making repairs at the new sign area with an existing log tip-deflector by adding more shotrock to this erosion control device an extending more shotrock downstream. Further upstream at a log crossing, a new downstream wing on the far side of the stream cannot be installed because of getting equipment close enough, so rolling in shotrock could be the answer for now.

A few places where a tributary enters the main branch of the stream needs shotrock to control sediment from entering the channel. PFBC habitat division is working with us on the stone order.

The chapter stream committee is looking for a 10 ft gate entering off of Rt 34. New or slightly used. Stream committee is working to get three signs donated explaining about No Fishing during Pa, Deer Season.

Anyone interested in joining the stream restoration committee contact Gary Perry for details at gperry@noveltyinc.com



FISHING CLUB OR CONSERVATION CLUB?

ACTU CONTINUES TO GIVE BACK

When someone comes up to me about joining or discussing trout unlimited, I wonder what they think? Is Adams County Trout Unlimited a fishing club or are we more focused on conservation. Let me inform anyone out there: ACTU does it all while protecting land and water. It creates a deep pit in my stomach to let one think, we are just a fishing club. After all, we clean up trash, plant trees, teach and instruct kids in fly tying, teach kids from the Trout In The Classroom programs, promote our chapter at outdoor shows, do fundraisers, write grants, stock fish, cut out trails, restoration projects, meetings, building partnerships, many activities that doesn't pertain to fishing. We try to circumference it all.

This is the reason my editor friend says this about ACTU "Good things come in Small Packages". This brings Troutking's motto "Trout so much more than just a Fish" to light.

ACTU believes in bringing all partners to our meetings to find proactive solutions that meet the challenges facing our cold-water fisheries. We work to protect important habitat, reconnect degraded waterways while restoring trout populations. We believe our best work comes from good partnerships between landowners, agencies, municipalities and others. ACTU stands tall when it comes to conservation. You see, fishing is just a social outlet.

Achieving our mission means bringing people into our conservation community and empowering them to make a difference that will help make it better for all of us. And the friends we make along the way just by giving back. And sometimes we have time to fish! 

SOUTHCENTRAL OUTDOORS FOR YOUTHS

JUNE 6 at the McSHERRYSTOWN FISH AND GAME CLUB

South Central Outdoors for Youth (SOY) is a non-profit organization started in 1992 for the express purpose of encouraging youth's interest in the outdoors in a safe and controlled environment, with knowledgeable volunteers on hand to instruct and promote that interest. Its founders and volunteers believe that by giving youths and their parents/guardians a free day of various outdoor activities, children have the opportunity to experience various sports without cost to the family. If the child decides to continue with the sport, there are many knowledgeable volunteers available to give information and instructions. Little experience is necessary, come out and help the kids!



Hank, Eddie, Ricky, Edna and Randy teaching fly tying



LET'S TALK WINTER FLY FISHING

Sometimes we can enjoy an experience in our favorite trout stream fighting trout as the snow gently falls around us. While many anglers opt for the relative comfort of spring or summer fly fishing, the winter months may offer some of the best fly fishing of the fishing season with limited competitors. The silence and stillness in the air is only broken by the clicking of the fly reel. We know that trout do not stop feeding because of the cold weather, and anglers that brave the winter months may be rewarded with great days on the water that will have lasting memories.

When winter fly fishing one of the biggest adjustments to make is the size of the flies. Trout don't need a lot of food at this time of the year. Your fly selection in black, silver, brown or green imitations in sizes #20 to #24 are normal. Most times these flies are fished in tandem. Most, if any bugs hatching at this time of the year are relatively small. Using flies to imitate smaller insects will create a realistic scenario which your offerings match closer to the diet of a trout and will result in more fish be taken.

In fall, the streams are carrying many leaves that sometimes frustrates an angler. Then in the winter months the trout streams start to accumulate ice and lock up. These actions can pose a serious threat to wintertime angling but also be a great opportunity. The trout will congregate in the much deeper pools and fast riffles that will not freeze or will not freeze the whole way to the bottom. What trout need in the winter months are oxygen, cover, and food coming into a spot where trout do not have to work as hard against the current. In winter months, the fish needs calories and will stay in areas where they work less.

During the summer months anglers are well accustomed to the window of opportunity with trout feeding in early morning and late evenings. But I find that changes in the winter months, fish will feed heavily during the warmest part of the day when the sun peeks out and water temps rises a few degrees. So, let's say from 11AM until 3PM may be very good. But still anglers must be able to brave the cold. Remember it is important to understand and adjust to the changing habits of trout during the winter months.

Some of these tactics are a great start for anglers who want to extend their trout season as something that never ends. 🐟



LAWSUIT WOULD FORCE PENNSYLVANIA TO USE GAS REVENUES FOR FOREST



The Pa. Supreme Court is being asked whether revenues from oil and gas drilling in state forests should pay only for forest conservation work or can it be continued to be diverted to the state's general fund. The Pa. Environmental Defense Foundation is appealing a recent Commonwealth decision to allow the state to use \$110 million in oil and gas lease proceeds from 2017-18 and 2019 to help balance its budget and pay the operating expenses of state agencies such as the Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources—rather than forest conservation projects, including those that would mitigate drilling impacts. The October 22 decision repeals the Oil and Gas Lease Fund Act of 1955.

The foundation's appeal, filed November 3rd, is the second time in a decade the non-profit has gone to the Supreme Court seeking to keep lease proceeds out of the hands of the Governor and State legislators. An earlier decision that reinvigorated the 1971 Environmental Rights Amendment to the Pa. Constitution, defining the state's role as trustee, rather than owner, of public lands, air and water and its obligation to “conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all people.” The recent Commonwealth Court ruling violates both the Amendment to the Constitution and the 2017 Supreme Court decision, said an attorney for the foundation. The Supreme Court specifically said those funds can't be used and are in public trust for budgetary and operational expenses. Yet, just months after the Supreme Court issued its opinion in 2017, a \$110 appropriation was approved by Governor Wolf. The Governor and the General Assembly just ignored the findings of the Supreme Court. And they gotten away with it, at least until now.

To date, DCNR has collected more than \$1.2 billion in royalties, rentals, and bonuses from the gas and oil industries. More than half of Pennsylvania's 2.2 million acres of state forest are underlain Marcellus Shale. More than 320,000 acres are leased or under gas storage contracts. Add in private-owned 'severed rights' to oil and gas not controlled by DCNR, plus privately owned and under lease within the state boundaries and the total acreage under contract adds up to more than 600,000. Environmental issues related to hydraulic fracturing of shale and other kinds of oil and gas extraction range from degradation of surface and groundwater quality to this disruption of wildlife corridors and habitat, according to U.S. Geological Survey. 



NORTHERN VIRGINIA CELEBRATES 40 YEARS

Congratulations,

To the Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited Chapter on your forty-year achievement. We, at Adams County Chapter, had the pleasure to share a restoration success story for many years. In 2022 we can celebrate our forty years together. What a great Trout Unlimited partnership, not sharing the same borders. Now, together in 2021, we are finalizing on another success story with the acquisition of the Knouse Property in the upper reaches of the Conewago. This purchase agreement will preserve 58 acres in perpetuity. When your Chapter was founded there were no graphite rods or breathable waders. You could purchase a fishing vest for \$5.95, hip boots for \$12.00 or chest waders for 20 bucks. If you tied your own flies, you could buy 100 hooks for \$2.00. These low prices were reflective of wages back then. One thing has changed – there weren't nearly as many fishermen then as there are now. One thing that hasn't changed is the need to keep working to protect and maintain our waterways and keep them safe and productive for the future. Your Chapter's mission to conserve, protect, and restore cold water fisheries and watersheds for future generations has continued throughout all these years.

Again, a great chapter that works for the betterment in the protection of land and water. Great friends to have.



Your Friend in Conservation
Dave Swope ACTU 323 Treasurer



ACTU GRANT COMMITTEE



The sheer beauty of the Conewago Creek on the Knouse Property

The Grant Committee held their first meeting of the year on February 9th, with Deb Wentling (Chair), Gary Perry, Frank Kozak, Dave Swope, and Joe Hallinan in attendance. The following topics were discussed:

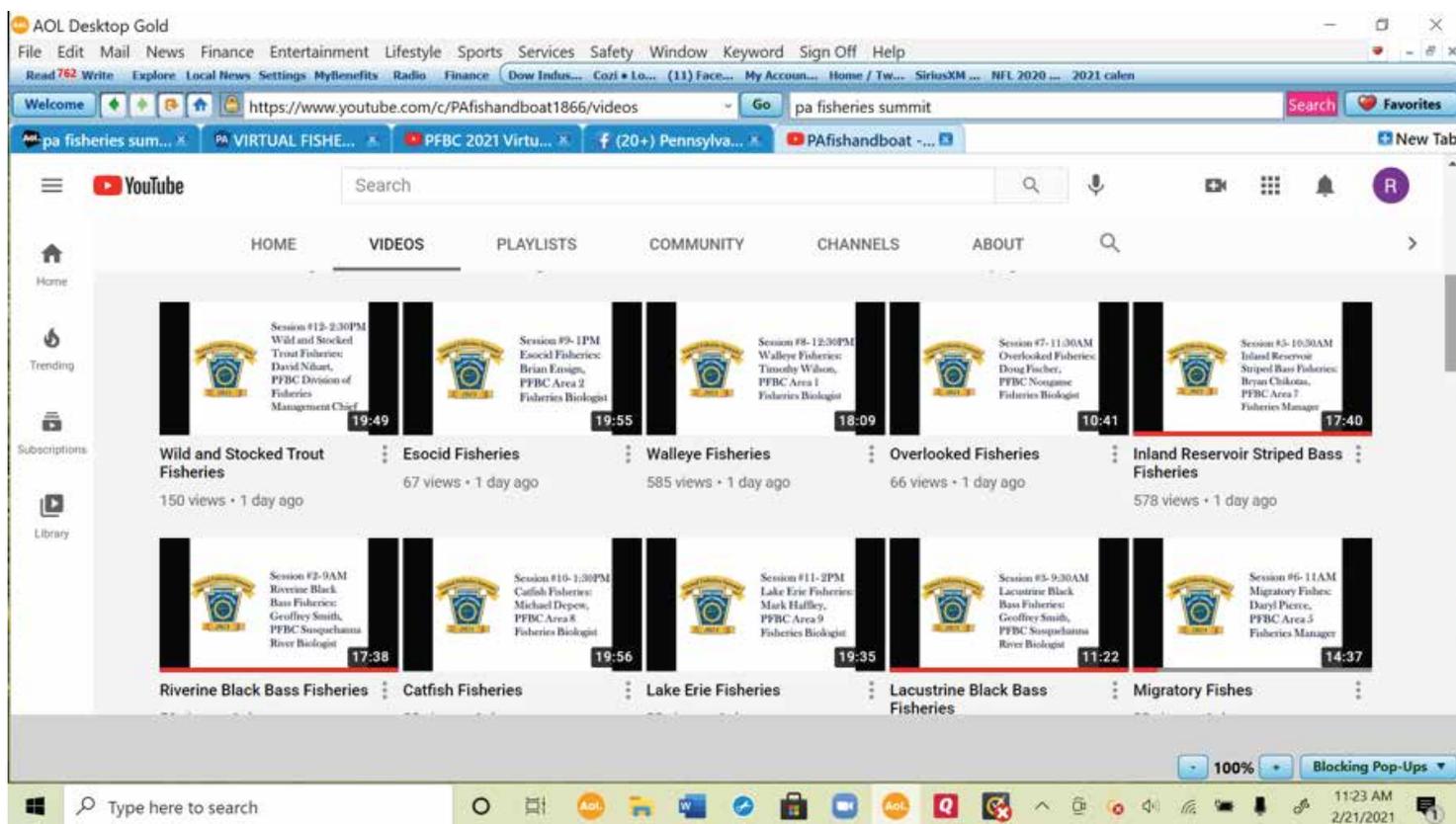
1. ACTU has applied to Wal-Mart for five grants for a total request of \$6,150. The requested funds are primarily earmarked for the Knouse property parking lot and road construction and for Phase 2 restoration of Conewago Creek.
2. Deb identified two possible grant sources: DCNR's Non-Motorized Trails Grant and DEP's Environmental Education Project. The former could be used to help with the trail building on the Knouse property. The latter would be relevant to the Trout in the Classroom program.
3. The group will continue to research organizations that may be viable sources of grant funding, including outdoor- and conservation-minded corporations (e.g., Orvis, LL Bean, and Patagonia).
4. The group agreed that applying for multiple grants related to the same project is desirable because grantors see partnerships with other grantors as a positive indication of support for the project. Additionally, applying for a grant for a project not yet approved (for example, the Knouse project) was not problematic as grantors will accept contingencies in cases like this.
5. The group discussion stressed the need to communicate to stakeholders, the community, and possible grantors that ACTU is not solely a fisherman's club but also a community-oriented conservation group.
6. Regarding the Grant Committee's leadership role, Deb asked Frank if he would be willing to take over committee leadership, to which he agreed.



USE VIRTUAL FISHERY SUMMIT PRESENTATIONS TO PLAN YOUR 2021 FISHING EXCURSIONS

Want to learn more about Pennsylvania's many and varied fish species including how the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) manages them, where to find them, how to catch them and where the best waters are in Pennsylvania based on PFBC field sampling? Tune into PFPA's Virtual Fisheries Summit presentations on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/c/PAfishandboat1866/videos> or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/PaFishandBoat>

Sit back, relax, and see learn about our many important and productive fisheries. PFBC staff biologists narrate individual presentations that provide an overview of each species and describe how Pennsylvania's state records rank nationally and compared to the world records. You will learn about 11 species or groups of species that are commonly thought of as sportfish.



- Welcome and Opening Remarks from PFBC Executive Director Tim Schaeffer and Commissioner Rick Kauffman
- Riverine Black Bass Fisheries presented by Geoffrey Smith, PFBC Susquehanna River Biologist
- Lacustrine Black Bass Fisheries presented by Geoffrey Smith, PFBC Susquehanna River Biologist
- Panfish Fisheries presented by Mike Porta, PFBC Area 6 Fisheries Manager
- Inland Reservoir Striped Bass Fisheries presented by Bryan Chikotas, PFBC Area 7 Fisheries Manager
- Migratory Fishes presented by Daryl Pierce, PFBC Area 5 Fisheries Manager
- Overlooked Fisheries presented by Doug Fischer, PFBC Nongame Fisheries Biologist
- Walleye Fisheries presented by Timothy Wilson, PFBC Area 1 Fisheries Biologist
- Esocid Fisheries presented by Brian Ensign, PFBC Area 2 Fisheries Biologist
- Catfish Fisheries presented by Michael Depew, PFBC Area 8 Fisheries Biologist
- Lake Erie Fisheries presented by Mark Haffley, PFBC Area 9 Fisheries Biologist
- Wild and Stocked Trout Fisheries presented by David Nihart, PFBC Division of Fisheries Management Chief
- Aquatic Invasive Species presented by Sean Hartzell, PFBC Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator
- Question and Answer Session featuring a panel discussion with PFBC Fisheries experts
- Closing Remarks by Andy Shiels, PFBC Deputy Director of Field Operations

While most of Pennsylvania’s warmwater gamefish species are naturally reproducing, some species such as Muskies and Walleyes are native to Northwestern Pennsylvania but, do not occur naturally throughout much of the state. An active stocking program ensures a diversity of sportfishing opportunities all over Pennsylvania. In a typical year, the PFBC produces and stocks over 20 million Walleye fry and fingerlings, nearly 30,000 Muskellunge, 6,000 Tiger Muskellunge, 128,000 Channel Catfish, 248,000 Striped Bass, and 172,000 Hybrid Striped Bass. A variety of other species are raised and stocked, particularly for use in reclaimed and rebuilt lakes. The PFBC is among the top producers of Walleye and Muskellunge for stocking. Our Fisheries and Hatcheries staff are constantly working to improve fisheries management, culture methods, increase efficiency and to utilize the best stocking sizes and methods for long term success.

Oh, and you may have heard that we have some trout fishing in Pennsylvania! As of today, 16,870 miles of wild trout streams have been identified, recorded, and officially designated by the PFBC. Of that amount 2,783 miles have been designated as Class A wild trout streams which are the best of the best based on documented trout biomass levels. Pennsylvania is a national leader when it comes to the size of its stocked trout program. We stock trout to provide fishing opportunities where wild trout habitat or population densities are insufficient to provide a high-quality fishing opportunity. In 2021, we will stock approximately 3.2 million trout averaging around 11 inches in length into 128 lakes and 4,600 miles of streams. In addition, the Commission’s Cooperative Trout Nursery Program’s volunteers will also raise and stock another 1 million trout from more than 150 club nurseries.

Richard Lewis
President – Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Charles Shorewood
Catherine Short
Ken Zinn
Michael Martys
Dave Swope, Jr
Ann Lane
Paul Schriefer
Josaphine Zimmerman
Mitch Zost
Wyatt Sokol

Thanks for RENEWING

James Carpenter
Robert Anderson
Robert Marchio
William Breighner
Allen Leppo
Matthew Orndorff
Jack Cashman
Earl Trump
Bernard Anthony
Stephen Robinson
Brad Shaffer
Henry Rajotte
Justin Klinger
Robert Feister

Thanks for TRANSFERRING

Chris Pulliam
William Reichart

Please note:
TU is often slow to add members to our chapter roster so some of our newest members may not have been added to the latest report.

“The future of our water and natural resources will depend on the ability and willingness of tomorrow’s adults to demand and support policies and actions to maintain and restore health to environmentally threatened or damaged areas.”

CONEWAGO CREEK in Adams County

The Adams County Chapter of Trout Unlimited (ACTU) in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania regularly undertakes important conservation and habitat improvement projects intended to CONSERVE, PROTECT and RESTORE our fisheries and watersheds. Thousands of volunteer hours over decades have been completed to manage, maintain, and improve the fly-fishing catch and release only section of Conewago Creek. Examples of our members rolling up their sleeves and getting to work include removing trash from Conewago Creek and other local rivers and creeks, clearing out invasive weeds, stocking trout, replanting willows and native plants and grasses in stream riparian zones, hosting eleven schools in the Trout in the Classroom Program, repairing trails and closing improper access routes, hosting fishing derbies, and restoring all types of habitat. ACTU also consistently donates money in support of other cold-water fisheries and habitat improvement programs including Southcentral Outdoors for Youths, PA Trout, Rivers Conservation and Fly-Fishing Camp, Reel Recovery, Yellow Breeches Anglers and Conservation Association, Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve, and the Mummasburg Sportsman's Association - Trophy Trout Program. Since the Chapters founding in 1977, ACTU members have annually undertaken Conservation Habitat Improvement Program projects on the 1.1 mile fly-fishing catch and release only section of Conewago Creek. In 1982, ACTU formed a partnership with the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited. NVATU members have been of great help with the past stream restoration projects. 🐟

ANGLERS PRESERVE ACCESS TO THE UPPER HALF OF FLY STRETCH ON THE CONEWAGO CREEK

For decades, two distant Trout Unlimited Chapters (ACTU and NVATU) have combined efforts to manage and protect the Conewago Creek Fly-fishing catch and release section....illustrating what Trout Unlimited chapters are all about. The partnership started in 1982 and continues today working to restore and improve this special gem of stream. In 2020 one of the two property owners along this section of stream decided it was time to sell. With a future new owner there was uncertainty about whether anglers would still have access to this section of stream.

Initial meetings were held and a Conewago Creek Stream Access task Group was formed.

Adams County Chapter of Trout Unlimited and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission committed to raise \$100,000 to purchase a permanent angler access easement prior to the sale of the property. Other partners Land Conservancy of Adams County, Adams County Office of Planning & Development, Adams Soil & Water Conservation District, etc. stepped up and committed to raise enough money to purchase the 58-acre property and stream section in its entirety.

From ACTU, Richard Lewis (trustee) Dave Swope (treasurer) and NVTU Daniel Lazenby (liason) concentrated on raising our share (\$16,000) of the necessary funds. PFBC committed \$84,000 to help with the project. An additional grant from PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources has been approved and we are waiting for a Community Economic Grant approval to move ahead with purchase the property. When the project is complete the property and the stream will be perpetuity protected under the ownership of the PFBC and managed by the local ACTU chapter. Hopefully by mid-March the purchase agreements will be finalized, and the sale will commence. After the sale is final the Chapter plans a dedication ceremony at the site to celebrate and commemorate this conservation effort that will preserve 58 acres and ½ half mile of Conewago Creek in perpetuity for all anglers and outdoor recreationists. 🐟



Zeiglers Mill Road Parking Access - Access road to stream marked in yellow

A Great Family Activity!

May 8th

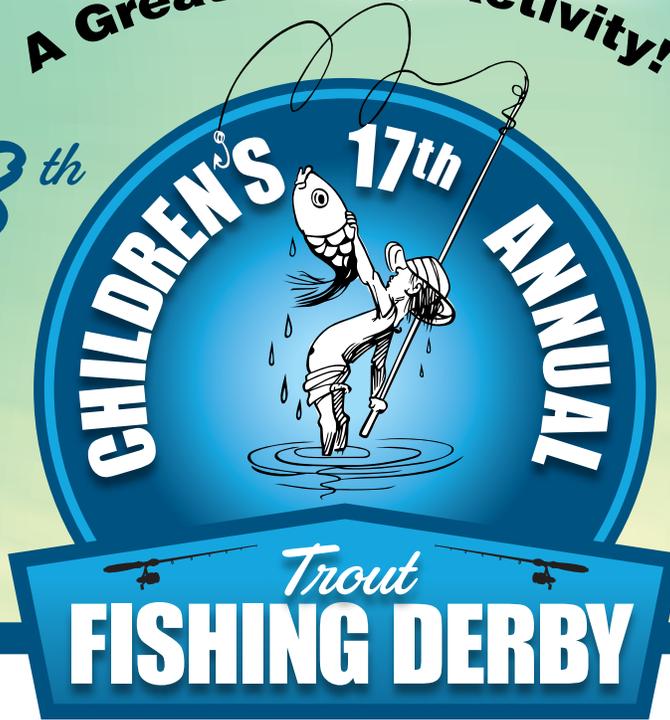
15 and under

No Entry Fee

Keep your Catch

Prizes Awarded

Lunch Provided



Latimore Valley Fairgrounds

7:30am Stocking / 8am-11am Fishing

Bait Fishing Only



Trout provided by Yellow Breeches Anglers & Conservation Association

DIRECTIONS: Travel North on US Route 15, 2 miles North of York Springs, PA, turn right (east) on Latimore Valley Road. Go to first stop sign (old US 15 or Harrisburg Pike) turn right. Cross bridge, Baltimore Road, turn left. Latimore Creek at Latimore Valley Fairgrounds – Special Regulation Section.

ADAMS COUNTY TROUT UNLIMITED #323



Managing Streams for Future Generations



A GREAT WAY TO SUPPORT YOUR ACTU CHAPTER



What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Adams County Trout Unlimited every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to our chapter.

How do I shop at AmazonSmile?

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

How do I select ACTU to support when shopping on AmazonSmile?

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), click on the "Supporting" button in the upper left corner of the page, type "Adams County Trout Unlimited" in the search box and click the Search button. Last, next to "Adams County Trout Unlimited", click on the "Select" button. Your selection will be remembered and every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation to our chapter. 

TENTATIVE CHAPTER MEETINGS 2021

All Chapter Meetings will be Zoom meetings until further notice

March 2

Board Meeting/Budget 7pm McSherrystown F&G

March 16

Chapter Meeting 7pm ZOOM

April 20

Chapter Meeting 7pm ZOOM

May 18

Chapter Meeting 7pm ZOOM



ADVERTISE IN ADAMS ANGLER

If you are a business owner and would like to reach 200 members with a common interest in fishing and the environment, consider running your ad in the Adams Angler. There are 4 issues per calendar year. Cost of the ads are \$25 business card and \$50 half page and full page ad \$100. Call 253-6680 to advertise.

ACTU BOARD MEMBERS

- President: Hank Rajotte
- VP: Dave Keller
- Secretary: Howard Hellyer
- Treasurer: Dave Swope
- Board Chairman: April Swope
- Directors: Dean Stum, Richard Lewis, Gary Perry, Charles D...

