

## Adams County Trout Unlimited – June 2025 Newsletter

Guided by the tenets of Fishing, Conservation, and Community, our mission is to promote responsible fishing practices; conserve the county's waterways and associated natural resources; and actively support youth conservation, recreation, and education activities.

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## **President's Message**

As we welcome summer, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible strides we've made in the past quarter due to the efforts of the chapter's volunteers. I would like to recognize the following individuals, and apologize for any omissions: Jerry Gladfelter, Bob Miller, Buzz Dettinburn, Rick Franzese, Dave Kamsler, Dave Swope, Jeff Clarke, Bob Gordon, Gary Perry, Lynn Rebert, and Mike Waldron.

Our commitment to youth engagement remains strong, with programs like Trout in the Classroom, Southcentral Outdoors for Youth, and the Latimore Creek Youth Fishing Derby hopefully shaping the next generation of conservationists. These types of events brought families together, strengthening our chapter's connection to the community, and the community's connection to the outdoors.

On the conservation front, the impact from our core group of resolute volunteers has been remarkable. Some 42,500 trout were stocked in Adams County streams this year, ensuring vibrant fishing opportunities for local residents and anglers visiting from elsewhere to enjoy the chance to hook a nice catch. As it is every year, volunteers were invaluable in stocking the fish, which came from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the Fairfield Cooperative Nursery, and the Mummasburg Sportsman Association. ACTU member Dave Swope, for the 33rd year, diligently coordinated the stocking around the county.

The eradication of multi-flora rose, an invasive plant species that will easily shred a pair of waders, at the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site continued where it left off last year. To date, the spread of multi-flora rose over eight acres of land has been curtailed. Thanks to Mike Waldron and State Service Forester Matt Kern, who have done this work. None of these achievements, for either the youth of our county or the environment, would be possible without the unwavering support of a core group of our members. Their efforts are making a lasting impact.

As we look ahead, let's continue to build on this momentum. I encourage everyone to get involved, stay engaged, and help us in our various endeavors.

Frank Kozak, President, Adams County Trout Unlimited

### **What's Coming Up**

#### **Community Events**

Event	Dates and Times	Location
Southcentral Outdoors for Youth	June 7	McSherrystown Fish and Game Club
Orvis Hill Country Fishing Derby	June 7	Orvis Hill Country
Barlow 4H Club – Introduction to Fishing	June 9, 6:30 pm	Barlow Fire Co, 2005 Taneytown Rd, Gettysburg
Funfest, "Adventure Begins at Your Library"	June 13	Gettysburg Rec Park
Gettysburg Nature Alliance, "Go Fish, Gettysburg"	June 28	Sachs Bridge
Fishing 101	TBD	

#### Monthly Programs Location: Adams County Conservation District Office, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg.)

Event	Dates and Times
Program – Conewago CROFFO July Restoration Project, Bryce Workman, FlyWay Excavating	June 18, 6:30 pm
Program - Fly Tying by Dave Zimmerman	July 16, 6:30 pm
Annual ACTU Appreciation Picnic	August 27, 5:00 pm

## ORVIS GAME FAIR

Grand Reopening Weekend

## June 7 & 8 2025

- · Free, family-friendly event
- · The Polaris Experience
- · Hands on kid's programs
- The Land Rover Experience
- · Fly Casting Instruction
- · Wingshooting Instruction



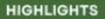






- · Falconry Demonstrations
- Sporting Clays
- . Unique Vendors & Exhibitors
- Food & Drink Trucks





#### Saturday 6/7

Fid's Fishing Derby Highland Games Academy Competition Concert feat. Half Serious Band (begins 5:30pm)

#### Sunday 6/8

The Hiff Country Classic Sporting Clay Tournament



#### **Southcentral Outdoors for Youth**

Join us for this year's Southcentral Outdoors for Youth (SOY) event on June 7th at McSherrystown Fish and Game, 2 Fish and Game Road, New Oxford. This free event is open to youth ages 6-17, accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Register from 6:30 to 7:45 am on event day. The event begins promptly at 8:00 am, rain or shine. For details, visit www.adamscountysoy.org or call 717-579-7495.



Activities include fly tying, fishing, archery, BB guns, trapping, black powder, shotguns, and a .22 shoot. Enjoy exhibits and demonstrations featuring the PA Game Commission, PA Fish and Boat Commission, and more. Lunch is provided for all attendees.

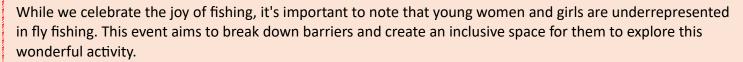
Founded in 1992, SOY is a nonprofit dedicated to introducing youth to outdoor activities in a safe environment. Through knowledgeable volunteers, children gain experience in outdoor sports without financial barriers. Let's create lasting memories together!

#### Go Fish, Gettysburg!

Bring your kids to learn about fishing, the environment, and wellness. On Saturday, June 28th, the Gettysburg Nature Alliance (GNA), in partnership with Adams County Trout Unlimited (ACTU), is hosting "Go Fish, Gettysburg!" at the GNA Barn, located near Sachs Bridge, 720 Pumping Station Road, Gettysburg.

The activities will include:

- ✓ Lessons in fly-casting and fly-tying, by ACTU,
- ✓ Engaging educational activities, by the Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve,
- ✓ Guided hikes to explore the beauty of the chestnut tree grove,
- ✓ Informative walks on invasive species.



This event is perfect for families with children, so join us for fun and learning! For more information, visit www.gettysburgmuseum.com and click on the events tab.

#### **ACCF Giving Spree**

ACTU has again applied for inclusion in this year's Adams County Community Foundation Giving Spree, to be held on November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Gettysburg Wyndham. For more than a



dozen years, the ACCF Giving Spree has been Adams County's day of giving: the day when everyone comes together to learn about local nonprofits and give them a financial boost. Last year's Giving Spree saw donors making larger gifts to a greater number of nonprofits than ever before. In total, \$3,613,000 was donated to 105 nonprofits.

This year's Giving Spree will be a live event, and as such ACCF has announced that due to space limitations a maximum of 100 non-profits will be selected to participate, meaning not everyone who applies will make it in. The approved nonprofit participant list will be announced on July 11. If selected, this will be ACTU's third consecutive year at the Spree, which over the past two years has resulted in donations to our Chapter of approximately \$11,500. Stay tuned for an update once that list is announced, and we are hopeful that our members and the local community will continue to provide us with generous support should we be selected.

#### **Proposed Changes to the Chapter's Bylaws**

Over the past several months, Board members Rick Franzese and Frank Kozak have been working on an update to the Chapter's bylaws, which were last revised in 2011. The intent is to have the bylaws more closely track our current focus and how we are running our organization. We recently completed an initial pass of the new bylaws, which we then ran by Quentin Collins, TU National's Volunteer Governance and Reporting Manager, to make sure we weren't proposing anything at odds with their or our charter. With his approval in hand, the draft is now being reviewed by the balance of the Board to make sure we haven't missed anything.

Our plan forward is to have these revised bylaws voted on by the membership at the Annual ACTU Appreciation Picnic, which will be held on August 27. This will give us ample time to comply with the amendment provisions in our current bylaws, which require that we provide 30 days' advance notice of the proposed changes to all members before taking a vote. This will be done via a Constant Contact blast email, sometime in mid-to late July. The current bylaws also specify that a minimum of 10% of the Chapter's membership be present for a valid vote, and that two-thirds of those voting are in favor of approving the change. Stay tuned for the blast email!



#### What's Been Happening?

Event	Dates and Times
Heidlersburg Sportsman Outdoor Show	Feb. 22 & 23, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Trout In the Classroom Fingerling Release Day	April 2
Northern Virginia TU Fishing Day	April 11
Earth Extravaganza	April 21, 2:00 to 7:00 pm
Latimore Youth Fishing Derby	May 10, 7:15 to 11:00 am
New Oxford Middle School Environmental Day	May 16

#### May Program Speaker – WCO Rachael Thurner-Diaz

ACTU's recent gathering, on May 21, featured a short presentation, followed by a Q&A session, with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission's (PFBC) Water Conservation Officers (WCO) Rachael Thurner-Diaz, and her newly named Sergeant, Larry Furlong. During the session, both officers provided updates on recent fishing activities and issues and took questions from the attendees.

The wide-ranging topics covered included fish stocking efforts, invasive species, fish poaching, pollutants from farm runoff, and more. Rachael and Larry also addressed the challenges in attracting young conservationists to pursue a career as a WCO, as they both are responsible for covering territory far and wide in our section of the Commonwealth. We thank Rachael and Larry for their efforts in keeping our county waterways the thriving resource they are!



#### **Latimore Creek Youth Fishing Derby**

The morning of ACTU's Annual Youth Fishing Derby at the Special Regulations Section of Latimore Creek dawned with a clear sky, after several days of rain. The nice weather brought out young anglers, who helped stock 300 trout from the Yellow Breeches Anglers' Association and subsequently fished for them!

Over the three hours of fishing, 24 anglers checked in 50 of the stocked fish. For some of these young folks, this was the first fish they ever caught! Anglers in each age group (5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-15) competed to land the biggest trout and then picked from a variety of prizes.

ACTU held its first derby in 2005 after adopting a section of Latimore Creek, in conjunction with the PA Fish and Boat Commission and the Latimore Fairgrounds Committee. This section of the stream is now restricted for fishing to only youth and disabled adults. The success of the derby over the past 18 years at this location is a direct result of the efforts of our partners, ACTU volunteers, and many wonderful sponsors.

### **New Oxford Middle School Environmental Day**

On May 16th, chapter members Dave Swope, Lynn Rebert, Bob Gordon, Buzz Dettinburn, Jeff Clarke, Bob Miller, and Mike Waldron taught the arts of fly tying and fly casting to students in the 8th grade at New Oxford Middle School. Some 100 to 125 students shared this annual opportunity to learn from the chapter's instructors. Fly tying vises were set up in one of the classrooms and fly casting was in the gym due to rainy weather. Most of the students (remember, they are 8th graders) participated in hands-on casting and tying demonstrations.

The classes began at 8:30 and went until 1:00. Students were divided into groups of approximately 20, with each group rotating through educational stations throughout the day. Many thanks to teacher Danyelle Kaiser who organizes Environmental Day.



#### **Member Spotlight – Lynn Rebert**

Lynn Rebert is a lifelong resident of Adams County. Growing up in Arendtsville, Lynn attended Biglerville High School and went on to receive an associate's degree in Electronics from Williamsport Area Community College. He worked in the family business "Rebert's TV" for twenty years, and then in industrial maintenance and health care facility maintenance, until he retired.

As a young boy, he was introduced to hunting and fishing by his father, who took Lynn on fishing trips on the Susquehanna River to fish for catfish, yellow and white perch, and American Shad. Growing up, Lynn and his friends spent all their time fishing the Conewago Creek in Arendtsville. During summer vacations to the Delaware beaches, Lynn and his dad would catch plenty of flounder and sea trout, but the most fun was the two-to-four-foot sand sharks. "There was no question what was on the other end of the line when a shark grabbed your bait."

While he always fished with a fly rod, fly fishing didn't come until he was in college in Williamsport and frequented a local fly shop to talk to the owners about bugs, hatches, and styles of flies to use on Pine and Loyalsock Creeks.

In the early 90's, fly tying really kicked in full gear after salmon and steelhead fishing on the Salmon River in NY. Lynn has been going for weeklong trips to the Salmon River ever since.

Lynn got back into local trout fishing after he retired, just before Covid hit. He watched many videos on fly tying and expanded his supplies; he now ties all his trout flies. Along the way, he started Euro Nymphing, which he found to be a very effective and fun way to fish. Lynn recently had multiple 30-fish days on the Conewago Creek CROFFO section

While he has been a member of the ACTU chapter for a number of years, he never really participated in chapter activities. That also changed in 2021 when he began helping with stocking and stream projects. Now, Lynn is always quick to help with the chapter's youth and conservation projects. His focus project is "Trout in the Classroom" where he is the Adams County TIC Coordinator. Working with PA Fish and Boat and classroom teachers, we supply equipment, eggs, and training so the students can raise trout right in their classroom. Lynn hopes to grow the TIC program in Adams County and aid ACTU in expanding its youth and community involvement.

#### **Welcome to our New Members**

- ✓ Wayne Gallipo
- ✓ Mark Konick

- ✓ Paul Struble
- ✓ Robert Thompson

✓ James Wimms

#### **Kudos from Potomac Patuxent Chapter**

I would like to thank you and the Adams County TU chapter for all of the work that you have done on the Conewago. Because of your efforts, it is a great place for an outing. Potomac Patuxent Trout Unlimited



# Fishing With Members of Our Partner Chapter – Northern Virginia Trout Unlimited

Fishing with a partner day. Fourteen members of the two chapters trekked through the rain to participate in ACTU's first "Take a Partner Fishing Day". Lynn Rebert and Dean Simpson out fished everyone, landing ten trout each. After enjoying the fishing and camaraderie on the water, all gathered to break bread (pizza, actually) for lunch. Everyone agreed that partner fishing day should be held yearly to continue the long-term bond between the two chapters.



#### Springtime Trout Stocking in Adams County: An Angler's Delight

As winter loosened its grip and Pennsylvania's waterways began to thaw, anglers across the state eagerly anticipated the annual trout stocking by the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC). In 2025, the PFBC once again delivered a bounty of trout to Adams County, ensuring that our local streams and lakes are well stocked with trout for the fishing season.

The statewide Opening Day of Trout Season was Saturday, April 5th. Additionally, young anglers could have participated in the Mentored Youth Trout Day on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Each year, the PFBC stocks millions of trout across Pennsylvania, and 2025 is no exception. This year, approximately 3.2 million adult trout will be released into 691 streams and 130 lakes statewide. Adams County, with its scenic waterways, received over 27,400 of these prized fish. The average size of a stocked trout is 11 inches, with a weight of 0.58 pounds, making them a worthy challenge for both novice and experienced fishers.

Across the state, the PFBC also included 72,000 trophy-sized brood fish in this year's stocking efforts for those seeking an extra challenge. A number of these fish were stocked in Adams County. These 14- to 20-inch trout, raised in hatcheries for 2 ½ to 3 ½ years, offer a thrilling experience for anglers hoping to land a true prize. Approximately 70% of these large fish were stocked state-wide before opening day, with the remaining 30% to be added during in-season replenishment stockings.

Beyond providing excellent fishing opportunities, the PFBC's stocking program plays a crucial role in conservation. By supplementing natural trout populations, the commission ensures that Pennsylvania's waterways remain healthy and sustainable for future generations. Anglers are encouraged to practice catch-and-release techniques when possible, helping to preserve the delicate balance of aquatic life.

Stocking operations in Adams County began on February 28th, with volunteers gathering at designated meeting points to assist in distributing the fish and ended on May 6<sup>th</sup>. The stocking schedule is meticulously planned, ensuring that anglers have ample opportunities to reel in rainbow trout, brown trout, and brook trout.

Dave Swope, who is the Stocking Coordinator for the county and a Director of the Adams County Trout Unlimited chapter, has diligently led the stocking effort in the county since 1992. As the Stocking Coordinator, each year he assists in delivering the trout from the PFBC Huntsdale Fish Hatchery into the eight approved trout streams in Adams County. These streams are Middle, Toms, Bermudian, Conewago, Little Marsh, Marsh, Opossum and Latimore Creeks.

In coordinating such a large stocking program every year, the number of trout to be stocked in each stream section must be calculated and the means of stocking determined. On this latter point, trout may be put into streams by the bucketfull or put into a floating container and distributed over a long section of a creek by volunteers as the container floats downstream.

In addition to serving as the county's Stocking Coordinator, Dave also joined the McSherrystown Fish and Game Association in 1976 to assist in the PFBC Cooperative Nursery program, and he took over managing the trout nursery in 1992. This program is run in partnership with the Future Farmers of America Club at Fairfield High School and was the first in Pennsylvania with High School students. The fish nursery raises approximately 5,000 trout annually. The trout are stocked as a supplement in the PFBC in-season stocking program.

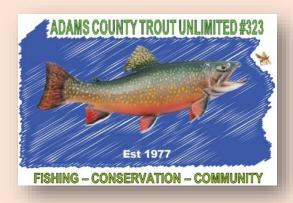
With the 2025 trout stocking near completion, Adams County anglers have been on the water pursuing their fishing adventures. Whether you're a seasoned fisher or a newcomer eager to experience the thrill of reeling in some trout, this year's stocking provides excitement, camaraderie, and plenty of memorable moments on the water.

So, grab your gear, mark your calendars, and prepare for another fantastic trout season in Adams County. Tight lines and happy fishing! Frank Kozak

## **Your Chapter Leaders**

- ✓ Frank Kozak, President
- ✓ Jerry Gladfelter, Secretary
- ✓ Bob Miller, Treasurer
- ✓ Buzz Dettinburn, Director
- ✓ Rick Franzese, Director
- ✓ David Kamsler, Director
- ✓ Dave Swope, Director
- ✓ Dave Zimmerman, Director

Contact Frank Kozak if you have any questions about the chapter or its activities, at <a href="mailto:fmkozak@gmail.com">fmkozak@gmail.com</a>.



Adams Anglers is a publication of Adams County Trout Unlimited, Chapter #323. Questions or comments about the content of this newsletter can be submitted via email to Frank Kozak at fmkozak@gmail.com.

Adams County Trout Unlimited is Guided by Three Tenets Fishing - Conservation - Community