



David Irvine with a Fish of the Month Submission - It's steelhead season again in Pulaski. Despite the cold, wind, and some rain we were successful in landing four of these in two days using egg sacks and egg sack simulator flies. We were guided by Kevin Margosian who we met originally through TU.



Paul Kalac with another Fish of the Month Submission - Look what a trout stream in Saratoga Co. NY can produce – a 22” brown! If only more anglers practiced catch n’ release year round. When trout have the opportunity to distribute themselves on a stream, I believe the food sources on our Saratoga county streams can grow excellent holdovers. #12 Rusty Spinner during a Hendrickson spinner flight. Sorry about the beached shot, the release went well. I started a “MeetUp.com” group to promote catch n’ release fly fishing on the Kayaderosseras. Here it is, if you would like to promote it in the newsletter or wherever. If you feature the picture of my catch, please do. It’s the whole point behind my love of the Kayaderosseras—catch n’ release fly fishing. <http://www.meetup.com/Kayaderosseras-Creek-Fly-Fishers-for-Catch-and-Release/>



Jim Boyle with a beautiful W. Branch Delaware brown and the final Fish of the Month Submission - If we had followed conventional wisdom regarding the low water conditions on the West Branch of the Delaware River Jeff Bull and I would have cancelled or tried to reschedule our mid-May fishing trip with our friend and guide, John Sweeney. Fortunately we've both learned from experience that some days it pays not to follow the crowd. We were rewarded with a great day of fishing and fellowship in wonderful weather. P.S. I was told that Jeff landed a bigger fish but there is no supporting evidence. 8-)

Clearwater Currents
The Official Publication of the Clearwater Chapter of
Trout Unlimited
17 Sutherland Drive Watervliet, NY 12189

Issue No. 15-05

May, 2015



*America's Leading Coldwater Fisheries Conservation
Organization
Promoting Habitat for Wild Trout and Salmon
Trout Unlimited Has Been Fighting for Coldwater Fisheries
Conservation for 56 Years*

Join us before each meeting at 6:30pm for a tying demonstration. Meetings begin at 7:30pm, the third Monday of each month (except Banquet month, July and August), at the Albany Ramada located on Watervliet Avenue Extension off Exit 5 of I-90 (Everett Road).

Upcoming Events

May 18 Chapter General Meeting - **Andrew Meyer** from Hudson River Estuary Program/NYS Water Resource Institute at Cornell University who will discuss his ongoing work on the Hudson and its tributaries – 6:30pm start with a guest fly tier and featured speaker at 7:30pm

June 27 Battenkill Cleanup – 9am at Rt 313 Rest Area

August 15 Battenkill Cleanup

September 26 Battenkill Cleanup

Board of Directors/Staff

President	Scott Parker	894-4661	ExOficio	Heath Clayson	573-6008
Treasurer	Ken Waldie	573-4793	Treasurer	Ken Waldie	573-4793
Youth	Bart Chabot	393-9918	Trips	Bob Mead	399-9000
Conservation	Roy Lamberton	872-2217	Newsletter	Mark A Brown	mrbrownie6@gmail.com
Education	Doug Howard	399-8566	Secretary	Brad Mohr	482-4645
Stream Research	Art Coleman	399-5550	Programs	Heath Clayson	573-6008
Quartermaster	Bill Cosgrove	766-2405	Flea Market	Bob Mead	399-9000
Schoharie	Ed August	295-7663	Membership	Ron Boutin	453-9843
Trout/Classroom	Ron Dorn	842-2593	Membership	Dick Hermida	399-6272
Video Library	Richard Atkinson	377-8249	Youth	Mike Walchko	234-4192
Battenkill	Greg Cuda	587-1189	Banquet	Jessica Galasso	716-913-5550
Board Member	Glenn Kuhles	869-0817	Banquet	Bill Cosgrove	766-2405
Website	Bill Wemple	384-0014	Publicity	Bill Wemple	384-0014
Disabled Angler Program	Bart Chabot	393-9918			

Clearwater Chapter of TU PO Box 9686 Schenectady, NY 12309
www.ClearwaterTU.org

Clearwater Chapter General Meeting

Chapter General Meeting is scheduled for May 18th at the Albany Ramada off exit 5 of I-90 and will feature **Andrew Meyer** from Hudson River Estuary Program/NYS Water Resource Institute at Cornell University. Andrew is the Shoreline Conservation Specialist for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary Program, in partnership with the New York State Water Resource Institute at Cornell University. He works on aquatic connectivity projects, watershed outreach and open space projects relating to the many communities of the Hudson River Estuary. Andrew grew up in Orange County, NY, and has a Master's degree from the University of Colorado.

He'll be sharing information from the projects that we've been doing to identify and fix aquatic barriers in the Hudson River Estuary watershed. We have two projects that help to identify and prioritize dams and culverts that are needlessly disconnecting our streams.

Meeting starts at 6:30pm with a guest fly tier and at 7:30pm our featured speaker. As usual meeting is free and all are welcome.

Annual Ausable Trip Information – Last Call!

Bob Mead

Our annual Ausable trip to the Hungry Trout will be May 29, 30, and 31 this year. Cost will be \$214 per person and you are responsible for your own gratuities, the same as the last two years. Includes two night stay, 2 breakfasts and one dinner off the menu. Please email me at rmead1@nycap.rr.com or call me at [518-399-9000](tel:518-399-9000).

GO WITH THE FLOW **Fly Fishing and Mindfulness Seminar**

May 30th, 2015

Ladies, Join us for a one day seminar where you will learn scientifically proven, simple techniques to manage stress and increase feelings of well being and calm, as well as introductory fly fishing skills on a beautiful central New York stream. These experiences blend together beautifully, as fly fishing asks us to be in the moment, and fully aware of our experience. We will also be enjoying a custom-prepared lunch in a beautiful setting. This introductory seminar promises to be deeply enriching and revitalizing. "Come join us as we explore together the potential for beauty, renewal, connection, and growth inherent in every trip to the stream." For further details and to register contact Nicole at: NicoleChristina.com, Nicolesgarden@gmail.com, 315-426-8330, BreatheTasteSavor.com or Vicky at: victorialn63@gmail.com, 315-748-6951

Supported by NYS DEC

*Ron Urban, Chairman
NY Trout Unlimited*

Fish of the Month 2015 Contest in Full Gear

Mark A Brown

The Chapter's Fish of the Month Contest is already in its sixth year having crowned **Rich Atkinson, Noe Mead, Jim Berry, Bill Bach, Ron Boutin, Brad Mohr** and for 2014, **Jim Boyle**, as winners in its first seven years.

The contest is open to all members (except me!) and family members of Chapter members and is not necessarily based on the biggest fish, but the quality of the fish, story behind it and picture quality all make up a winning entry. Simply send a photograph to me at my email address at mrbrownie6@gmail.com or contact me via email for my mailing address if you have a Polaroid or 35mm shot. As the entries come I'll publish them in the newsletter and select a winner at the March Banquet when the winner will get a dozen hand tied flies or something else really nice as a prize.

Good Article from New York Times

Ron Urban

Here's a brief but comprehensive piece by James Prosek about fly fishing and trout. Drawings and a video even.

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/04/19/sports/trout-fishing-a-taut-line-to-our-past.html?emc=eta1&_r=0

Trout in the Classroom Volunteer Needs

Ron Dorn

Date	Day of Week	School	Location	Stream	Time
4/22/15	Tuesday	Voorheesville Elementary	At the School	Vly Creek	10:45 AM
5/2/15	Saturday	Niskayuna		Alpau Creek	
5/3/15	Sunday	Niskayuna		Lisha Kill	
5/7/15	Tuesday	Amsterdam High School	Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	
5/8/15	Friday	Bethlehem Children's School		Vly Creek	
5/12/15	Tuesday	Cohoes	Barnerville Road, Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	11:00 AM
5/13/15	Wednesday	Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake Stevens Elementary School		A tributary of the Sacandaga	11:00 AM

5/14/15	Thursday	Gloversville High School	Gloversville, NY	Cayadutta Creek	10:00 AM
				Staff a table at the Greenfest highlighting TIC for grades 1-5?	
5/16/15	Saturday	Bethlehem's Children's School Greenfest			10:00 AM
5/19/15	Tuesday	Ravena Coeymans Selkirk Pieter B Elementary School	Bridge Street Stream Crossing	Coeyman's Creek	10:00 AM
5/20/15	Friday	Eagle Elementary School, Bethlehem	South Bethlehem Park	Coeyman's Creek	10:30
5/21/15	Thursday	Green Island Heatley Elementary School	Barnerville Road, Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	11:00 AM
5/26/15	Tuesday	Schenectady Middle School, 1121 Forest Rd., Schenectady, NY 12303	Barnerville Road, Cobleskill	Doc Shaul's Spring	10:30 AM
5/27/15	Wednesday	Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake Middle School	Saratoga Spa State Park	Geyser Creek	11:00 AM
Unknown	Friday	BOCES Saratoga			TBD

I am looking for volunteers to help with fly casting, fly fishing, getting students into and out of waders, and sampling for benthic macroinvertebrates. We are planning on the dates in the attached spreadsheet, but with spring weather, we may have to adjust a date here and there.

Ron Dorn
[518-598-8789](tel:518-598-8789)

DEC Expands Public Fishing Access in Bethlehem

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has acquired almost 7,000 feet of public fishing rights along the Onesquethaw Creek, including a 1,375-foot access trail and a new angler parking area on Rupert Road in the town of Bethlehem, DEC Commissioner Joe Martens announced today.

"I'm very pleased to make this announcement as this acquisition will significantly improve public access to the Onesquethaw Creek," Commissioner Martens said. "The Onesquethaw Creek provides excellent fishing opportunities and is one of the premier trout streams in the area. We invite anglers of all backgrounds and abilities to come down and enjoy this new fishing access site."

"The collaboration between DEC and Bethlehem town staff, along with not-for-profit organizations like Trout Unlimited has provided a valuable asset for the town and the region," said Bethlehem Town Supervisor John Clarkson. "Fencing and other improvements were made available through good old fashioned low-key cooperation among the staffs and it's a big win that we now have safe and legal public access to this great fishing location."

The easements provide permanent public access to the Onesquethaw Creek for fishing and include a footpath that provides access to the creek. In addition, crews built a new angler parking lot on Rupert Road next to the town of Bethlehem's transfer station. Anglers can also park in the South Bethlehem town park on county route 53, as some of the newly acquired public access sites are within the park. The public fishing areas are spread out over 1.6 miles of the stream within the town and are marked with DEC signs.

DEC acquired the access sites from the town of Bethlehem and a private property owner for about \$21,000, using funds from the Environmental Protection Fund.

Last year, DEC sampled portions of the stream in the vicinity of the newly acquired fishing access sites and found multiple year classes of Brown Trout ranging from three to 17 inches. DEC stocks the creek each year with about 1,200 Brown Trout 1.4 miles upstream of the new public fishing areas. The public is reminded that public use for activities other than fishing is not allowed without landowner permission. Anglers should limit access to the stream banks, respect private property and carry out what is brought in.

Future Onesquethaw Creek restoration and improvement projects are being planned by the Clearwater chapter of Trout Unlimited, with additional financial support being provided by the CSX Corporation and the Lafarge cement company. Governor Cuomo's NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative is an effort to improve recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women and to boost tourism activities throughout the state. This initiative includes streamlining fishing and hunting licenses, reducing license fees and providing Adventure Plates for license holders.

A significant component of the NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative is the improvement of access for fishing and increasing hunting opportunities in New York State. NY Works has dedicated a combined \$22 million in funding for fish hatchery repairs and more than 50 new land and water access projects such as boat launches, hunting blinds, trails and parking areas.

In addition, over \$6 million has been invested over the past five years in developing new and renovating existing boat launches. The 2015-16 budget provides an additional \$8 million for state land access projects and an additional \$4 million for the state's hatcheries in NY Works funding. This year's budget also created a new capital account which along with federal Pittman-Robertson funds will be used to manage, protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat, and to improve and develop public access for fish and wildlife-related recreation.

Editors's Note: plenty of Clearwater TU'ers, Roy Lambertson, Jim Boyle and the staff at DEC to name a few, put a lot of time and effort to make this happen – thanks guys for making this a reality!

Water Quality Sampling Volunteers Needed!

DEC is actively recruiting people to conduct water quality sampling in streams and rivers for the 2015 [Water Assessments by Volunteer Evaluators \(WAVE\)](#) summer sampling season. WAVE data is used to augment the work of the DEC Stream Biomonitoring Unit, which samples streams and rivers across the state to create an inventory of stream water quality. This data may be included in federal and state water quality reports and will help target professional assessments and local restoration or conservation efforts in areas where they are most needed. More information is in the [press release](#). This year, WAVE training sessions are being offered in the Seneca/Oneida/Oswego, Allegheny, and Upper Hudson River basins. Local Coordinator and basic WAVE training sessions are scheduled for May and June at locations in Warrensburg, Warren County (May 8), Newcomb, Essex County (May 15), Ithaca, Tompkins County (May 22), Jamestown, Chautauqua County (May 28), Syracuse, Onondaga County (June 5), Salamanca, Cattaraugus County (June 11), Waterloo, Seneca County (June 19), **Ballston Spa, Saratoga County (June 26)**.

For more information or to register for a training session, contact WAVE Coordinator Alene Onion by email: wave@dec.ny.gov.

Patricia A. Sheridan

EPA Region 2

Edison, NJ

732-321-6780

sheridan.patricia@epa.gov

Department of Environmental Conservation Officially Opens New Grout Brook Fishing/Parking Access Site Site is one of 12 New Fishing/Parking Access Sites Completed in the Region

DEC Regional Director Kenneth Lynch today officially opened the new Grout Brook fishing/parking access site in the town of Scott (Cortland County). The site is one of 12 new fishing/parking access sites the DEC is completing in the region with \$120,000 in NY Works funding from the State. Upon completion of the opening, attendees took a short field trip to review the work completed to date at the City of Syracuse Docks on Skaneateles Lake.

"The completion of the Grout Brook fishing/parking area and numerous other sites throughout the region makes it easier for sportsmen and sportswomen to access the great fishing resources that we have in New York State," said Lynch. "Central New York has some of the best fishing spots in the state, and we appreciate receiving NY Works funds so that we can make these sites available to local anglers and those who visit the area."

DEC has completed ten new fishing and parking access sites in the region. Six of these sites include new signage. In addition to these projects, an accessible fishing pier will be completed at the southwest end of Skaneateles Lake by rehabilitating the City of Syracuse owned docks. This site will include a universally accessible canoe and kayak launch and accessible parking. A six-car angler parking area was completed at the site in 2014, and the remaining work is slated to be finished later this year.

DEC is working to complete several other sites that will improve access for sportsmen and sportswomen. These sites include: building an ADA-compliant observation platform/blind, trails, and a parking area for waterfowl hunting and observation at Three Rivers Wildlife Management Area; adding two ramps and a docking area on an existing structure to protect sensitive areas and adding another trail and canoe/kayak launch site at Deer Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area; and developing an ADA accessible platform for boat users at Redfield Island Boat Launch along the Upper Salmon River.

Governor Cuomo has expanded recreational opportunities for residents and tourists, positioning New York State as a recreation destination, connecting communities to state lands, and improving the quality of life. Governor Cuomo's NY Open for Fishing and Hunting Initiative is an effort to improve recreational opportunities for sportsmen and women and to boost tourism activities throughout the state. This includes streamlining fishing and hunting licenses, reducing license fees, improving access for fishing and increasing hunting opportunities in New York State. In support of this initiative, \$10 million in NY Works funding has been

dedicated to fish hatchery repairs and 50 new land and water access projects such as boat launches, hunting blinds, trails and parking areas.

Under the initiative, the 2015-16 Enacted Budget proposes an additional \$8 million for state land access projects and an additional \$4 million for the state's hatcheries in NY Works funding. The Budget also creates a new capital account which along federal Pittman-Robertson funds will be used to manage, protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat, and to improve and develop public access for fish and wildlife-related recreation.

Further information about Wildlife Management Area improvements can be obtained from the DEC Wildlife Office in Cortland at [607-753-3095 ext. 247](tel:607-753-3095); information regarding improvements to fishing access sites can be obtained from the DEC Fisheries office in Cortland, 607-753-309, ext. 213.

Hendrickson Hatch Tournament Update

Several members of the Clearwater Chapter have participated in Malone's Hendrickson Hatch tournament and done quite well over the past few years. The committee that puts it together has announced that there will be no tournament in 2015, but will instead change the format to a biannual schedule. See you in 2016! For more information see the website: <http://www.hendricksonhatch.org/>

Fly of the Month: Matt's Sulphur Emerger

'Tis the season to tie up some of your favorite sulphur patterns and this is a favorite of mine especially when working difficult fish. Plus I am sure if you tie you already have all the materials needed. To watch this fly tied online see the link at: <http://globalflyfisher.com/video/matts-sulphur-emerger> Hook: light wire curved shank hook #14 or #16 (DaiRiki 125 for example); Thread: yellow 3/0 thread and then brown 6/0 thread; Tail or Trailing Shuck: brown zlon fibers; Body: yellow thread built up and then topped with brown thread 6/0 touched dubbed with fine brown dubbing; Thorax: fine yellow dubbing; Wing: stacked caribou hair or fine deer hair would work.



Sunday, July 12th - Friday, July 17th



Kids Fly-Fishing Camp 2015

West Branch Angler and Resort
150 Faulkener Road Hancock, NY

Presented By: NYS Council of Trout Unlimited

Open to ALL Kids Ages 13 - 17
(acceptance limited to 12 students, contact us today!)

No Experience Necessary

All Skill Levels Accepted

Cost: \$450 and Includes Room, Board, All Equipment
Full or Partial Scholarships Available through Most NYS Chapters of TU

Expert instruction from guides and pros covering these topics and more:

Tying Skills	Casting	Reading Water	Entomology
Conservation & Ecology	Stream Restoration	Stream Etiquette	

Registration Deadline: May 15th We Look Forward to Meeting You!

Thank You to these Generous Sponsors:



Ron Urban:
ronsgonefishing@aol.com
845-339-5938

OR

Bob Mead
ramead@gmail.com
607-727-9500

For Further Information
and Application,
Contact: