



The Ripples



Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044

January 2012

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FLY TYING COURSE TO BE OFFERED

Susquehanna TU is pleased to announce that it will be offering an eight week fly tying course to the public beginning on January 31, 2012 and extending through March 20. Sessions will be on Tuesday evenings between 7:00 - 8:30 PM at First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, rear 102 East Third and Mulberry Street in Williamsport. There will be no cost for the course which will include instructive manual, tools and materials used during the sessions. Instructors will include notable local tiers. Both beginners and intermediate skill tiers are welcomed.

Anyone interested in taking the course or having questions should contact Ed Blackburn at 433-4489 (esblackburn@comcast.net) or Bob Spencer at 547-2094 (bes12@windstream.net) by January 18, 2012.

Annual Watershed Summit to be Held In January 2012

You are invited to Susquehanna Chapter Trout Unlimited's annual meeting of area watershed associations and conservation organizations. Presentations will be made concerning each organization's accomplishments and activities during 2011, and the upcoming plans for 2012. Please come and learn about the volunteer efforts that the groups perform to preserve and enhance our area streams and watersheds. The meeting will be held at the First Presbyterian Church of Williamsport in the Fellowship Hall (rear of 102 East 3rd Street, Williamsport) on January 11th at 7:30 PM. For more information, please visit our website at SQTU.org.



Winter Fishing For Trout

Trout are a favorite cold-weather quarry. They often stay more active in colder water than other game fish. A warmup of even a few degrees can put the trout into a feeding mode.

Some trout streams come from springs that have constant water temperatures. These types of trout streams are called limestone spring creeks. These are great cold-weather trout fishing spots. The central part of the state has many limestone streams. These streams stay warmer than other kinds of streams called freestone streams.

Freestone streams may also have smaller springs feeding them. Fish may move toward these warm spots. You can locate these springs when there is some ice covering the water. The water will often be warm enough to prevent the ice from covering the spring.

Fish won't fight the current when the water temperature is low. They will be found where the current is slow. Deep holes and big pockets are ideal winter holding spots for trout.

The simple rule is to fish slowly and deeply in the winter. One exception to this rule is when it's bright and sunny. Fish may move into shallow water to soak up the sun's rays.

If you're using bait, minnows or wax worms fished on a plain hook, you can do very well. Fly anglers may want to fish nymphs or streamers. It takes an especially warm day in the winter to catch trout on dry flies. (PA Fish and Boat Commission - Winter 2005 - Play)

Opening day of trout season is April 14, 2012

Spring Creek Canyon Opens

On September 30, 2011 Spring the Creek Canyon Cooperative Management Coalition unveiled a jointly managed environmental area of 1,800 acres in Benner Springs, Pennsylvania. The canyon is now jointly managed by Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, the state Department of Corrections, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and The Pennsylvania State University and Benner Township. Originally closed to the public as a part of the Department of Corrections' Rockview State Correctional Institution is now open to hikers, hunters and anglers.

For anglers this provides access to a stretch of water from the Benner Springs Hatchery downstream to the Fly Fishermen's Paradise. The new parking lot and extended trails provide easy access to these new waters for some. Actually many would sneak in although technically off limits in the past.

The new waters on Spring Creek are a great addition to some of the finest trout waters in Pennsylvania. I really enjoyed the new stretch as I felt I was a little more removed from the population of Happy Valley. Red squirrels, hawks and the canyon take you off the road and connect you a little closer to nature.

Reprinted from <http://www.paflyfish.com/smartsection.item.242/spring-creek-canyon-opens.html>

More Information can be obtained at <http://www.SpringCreekCanyon.com>

The Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be having a program on the history of the Spring Creek Canyon by Bob Hazelton. The meeting will be on January 5th at 7:30 PM at the Comfort Suites hotel in State College. Click on <http://www.springcreektu.org/> for details.



Welcome New Members

George Eby

Nicholas Goff

Denis Hoak

Herbert Stratton

Dennis Swift

At the present time, the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited has 179 members

Mandatory cold weather life jacket wear

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission passed a new regulation at its September 27, 2011 meeting. This regulation takes effect November 1, 2012 and states:

“a person shall wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD or life jacket) during the cold weather months from November 1st through April 30th while underway or at anchor on boats less than 16 feet in length or any canoe or kayak.”



Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited
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We wish you and your family a very Happy New Year and a year full of great fishing and memories

Upcoming Events

January 11, 2012

Monthly Meeting - The Watershed Summit

January 31, 2012

Fly Tying Class

February 7, 2012

Fly Tying Class

February 8, 2012

Monthly meeting - Fish Commission ??

February 14, 21, and 28, 2012

Fly Tying Class

March 6, 13, and 14 2012

Fly Tying Class

March 14, 2012

Monthly Meeting

Chapter meetings

Held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and are open to the public and begin at 7:30 pm.

Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church of Williamsport in the Fellowship Hall, 102 East 3rd Street, Williamsport. Parking is in the rear of the Church along Mulberry Street.



<http://www.reusableart.com/v/fishing/>