

Some of the things that our Chapters does with youth include:

- ❖ We are currently working with 3 school districts who have fly fishing clubs. We have supplied materials and tools to them to aid in fly tying
- ❖ We have provided rod building materials to a high school fly fishing club to allow the students to build their own rods and then provided casting instruction and on stream assistance while fishing
- ❖ There are a number of schools that are involved in Trout in the Classroom, and we assist them in any way that we can and provide funding to them as needed to update or replace equipment. Each spring, we accompany those schools and students out to a stream for the release of the trout fingerlings and provide on stream insect identification instruction
- ❖ We participate in Field Days in the spring with the elementary schools introducing them to fishing and fish identification
- ❖ We have a fishpond for kids that we take to our events. It is simply a blue tarp that we place on the ground (the water), and we put laminated fish (several pa species) on the tarp. The kids then use a fishing pole (a piece of bamboo with yarn attached to it and Velcro on the end as the hook) to try and catch a fish. Each fish has Velcro on its mouth so all they have to do is get the Velcro from the rod to touch the Velcro on the fish, and they have caught a fish. After catching one, we take them over to one of several posters and help them identify the fish they just caught. After identifying it, they practice catch and release and put the fish back in the pond and try to catch another fish. This is a big hit at events
- ❖ We have an annual fly-tying class and have instruction specifically for kids
- ❖ Kids are invited and encouraged to submit pictures, stories, drawings, and anything they want to our monthly newsletter. Our newsletter is issued 8 times a year having the kids submit things has been a big success. The kids get to show up their catch or write about a favorite memory and it gets put into our newsletter and posted on our website and Facebook page.
- ❖ We have kids and family fishing events to introduce fishing. We provide casting instruction and on the water assistance
- ❖ We have merit badge counselors for the boy scouts so that the can earn their fishing related merit badges