



# Muddy Matters

**TROUT  
UNLIMITED**

*The Newsletter of the Muddy Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited*

**Summer/Fall 2010**

**Next Meeting September 15, 2010; 7:00 p.m. at the MCTU Cooperative Nursery.**

## **Upcoming Chapter Events**

### **Sept 15th, 2010 - General Meeting**

7:00pm Cooperative Nursery

### **Sept. 18th, 2010 - Workday at the Co-op To prepare for the Openhouse 9am-Noon**

### **Sept. 25th, 2010 - MCTU Open House 11am - 4pm. Tours, Food, Raffles! See the Article inside for details.**

### **October 12th, 2010 - C&RFFO Area Stocking by the PF&BC.**

### **Oct. 20th, 2010 - General Meeting 7:00pm Collinsville F&G Club**

### **Nov. 17th, 2010 - General Meeting 7:00pm Collinsville F&G Club**

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## **Get the 2010 Collector Patch featuring Orson Run**

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***Approved Trout Waters are open to  
fishing with a three trout limit From  
Labor Day - March 1, 2011.***

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## ***What would you like to see the Chapter do in the future?***

***You can be a part of the decision  
making process by volunteering  
some of your time and skills in a  
leadership role. Or volunteer for one  
of the many committees that remain  
open. This is your chapter, be an  
active member in our success.***

***Come to the meeting Sept 15th  
and throw your hat in the ring.***

## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

Can you believe it, Summer is over already. Seems like just yesterday we were shoveling 2 feet of snow to stock fish over the winter. So far this summer we have had a record number of dates with temperatures in the 90's. Wow, that may be good news for the beach combers but not for raising trout. The good news is that the 500 trout we held over this summer are doing fine although we did have a relatively small die off due to a power outage at the Nursery. In short order, we were notified by our friend in the neighborhood but by the time we had someone on the scene the power returned. We lost about 15 fish over the next week. It gave us pause and an opportunity to explore our emergency response plan. Gary Wolford, who notified us of the outage, continues to be a concerned and engaged neighbor. Thanks Gary!

As I said this was a hot summer, after a period of five consecutive days in the 90's and night-time temps in the 70's I decided to check on the watershed and its trout. It was not a pretty picture. I took temperatures at 22 locations and found that even the best locations like Rambo Run were 70 degrees or above. While I only saw one dead trout, I did find over 100 resting in the cool flows of Spencer Run at the Fly area. Spencer was 70 degrees. The main creek was 80 degrees. Far too warm for trout. In fact This gave me some contrast to ponder the reports I had heard and experienced for myself earlier in the spring. As several members and guests of the website communicated, the catch rates of wild trout vs stocked trout in the watershed was tremendous this spring. This after a winter that seemed to not give up many trout at all with wild characteristics. However, once the season started the catch rates of wild trout soared into the 30-60% range. That's right, up to 6 in ten trout caught were streambred. I can remember just ten years ago if you caught a handful of wild trout over the season you were fortunate. These reports left us very excited and encouraged about the future. Then the heat wave came. It will be very interesting to see what the fall catch rates will be for the Muddy Creek Watershed. I cannot wait for the temps to cool so I can begin camppling the streams.

Since the last time we talked so much has happened, I will try to highlight it here. We raised and stocked over 7,000 trout, Planted over 1,300 plants in Felton contributing 200+ hours to the stream project there, updated our plant nursery by planting over 450 white oak acorns, installed a cross-rock vane at the Nursery to replace the jack dam. This project was a partnership including the PF&BC who donated the stone and helped us get the permits, Ecostruction, LLC who provided the heavy equipment and expertise to build the structure properly and Gary Wolford who donated his back-hoe services that helped us with the clean up and grass planting after the project was finished. In addition MCTU volunteers got a chance to roll rocks, get dirty and come away with a real sense of accomplishment.

After a year like this we earned a break. So with the property cleaned up we decided to have an Open House as our venue for the WAY Watershed Weekend on September 25 th. The primary goal is to thank the landowners who graciously open their land to fishing and help us with our conservation mission. This event will also give us an opportunity to display our accomplishments and our appreciation to the volunteers by sharing a day of camaraderie. So mark your calendar and don't miss the Open House on September 25th. We hope to see you there.

Yours in Conservation,

Maurice

**MCTU Chapter 575  
Executive Staff**

**President:** Maurice Chioda 747-5613  
**Vice Pres:** Billy Boyd 244-7388  
**Secretary:** Ron Heuston 244-1851  
**Treasurer:** Bob Shaffer 246-4512

**Directors:**

(1) Christian White 495-8993  
(1) Gary Mink  
(2) Trent Bentzel 244-4898  
(2) Fred Hess 650-6556  
(2) Dustin Boyd

Two positions opening in October

**Co-op Membership Chairman:**

Steve Francis 862-3485

**Co-op Nursery Manager:**

Jan Pickel 382-4402

**Grant & Incubator Program Coordinator**

Ron Heuston 244-1851

**Environmental Chairman**

Maurice Chioda 747-5613

**Riparian Buffer**

*(Vacant) Volunteer!*

**Dirt & Gravel Roads**

*(Vacant) Volunteer!*

**Water Quality Specialist**

Bill Stanley 755-4144

**WAY Representative**

Ron Heuston 244-1851

**Stocking Coordinator**

Maurice Chioda 747-5613

**Newsletter Editor**

Maurice Chioda 747-5613

**Webmaster**

Dustin Boyd (website) 244-7388

**Newsletter Support Staff**

Ron Heuston - Copywriting  
Bill Boyd - Mailing labels  
Fred Hess - Folding and Mailing

[www.muddycreektu.org](http://www.muddycreektu.org)

*Muddy Matters* is a publication of Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited, chapter no. 575. Questions or comments about the content of this newsletter can be submitted through regular mail;

*Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited #575  
P.O. Box 211  
Dallastown, PA 17313*

Or by emailing our website.

[muddycreektu@comcast.net](mailto:muddycreektu@comcast.net)

Members may also contribute chapter related stories or articles to this newsletter by submitting them to the above addresses. This is your newsletter, help make it the best it can be. *Thank you.*

**Report Water Pollution**

PA Department of Environmental Protection  
717-705-4741 After Hours: 877-333-1904  
Report Fishing Regulation Violations  
PF&BC Waterways Conservation Officer  
SC Regional Office (717) 486-7087

**MCTU OPEN HOUSE  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2010**

The public is invited to attend an Open House sponsored by the Muddy Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited on Saturday, September 25 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Come out to see the recent renovations to the Chapter's Co-operative nursery grounds where we raise 8,000 trout that are stocked for the public in the Muddy Creek Watershed.

**Activities will include:**

Trout and Native Plant Nursery tours  
Aquatic life exhibits  
Trout egg incubator exhibit  
Fly tying demonstrations  
Fly casting demonstrations  
Stream improvement project tours.

Food will be available for purchase including hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, brauts and soft drinks. Chapter merchandise will also be available for purchase with a fly fishing rod raffle leading the fundraising effort

Our Committee, led by Fred Hess has made all of the arrangements for a great day. We will need to have plenty of volunteers to make this day a success. We are looking for folks to help man the grill and sell food, raffle booth attendees to manage the raffles and general membership greeters to help give tours and spread the message about MCTU to our guests that day. So please contact Fred Hess, Bob Shaffer or Ron Heuston if you wish to donate a few hours of your time toward this event. We hope to see a great turn-out. Be a part of it.

**BACK THE BROOKIE**

License plates to help protect the Native Brook Trout can be purchased for \$20.00 plus shipping from our chapter. MCTU makes \$5.00 per plate if bought from us. Contact Bob Shaffer for details. Help support MCTU and our state fish. **Back the Brookie!**



**STREAM SIDE INCUBATORS!  
Materials needed!**

*by Ron Heuston*

MCTU has several incubators to assemble and are in need of some Plexiglas or some other suitable material for the baffles. The Plexiglas baffles form a stream channel to direct water flows over and through the Whitlock Vibert Boxes that hold the eyed brown trout eggs. Once hatched the baffles provide a haven for fry to rest until the swimup stage before traveling over the baffles.

The installation of the Plexiglas is done by using silicon caulking on the edges of Plexiglas and setting into position in the incubators. This seals the Plexiglas and makes it possible to move the water throughout the incubator thus creating a zig-zag stream flow.

In the past we have used ¼ inch thick Plexiglas cut to 6 inch tall (walls), and to a length needed to accommodate incubator size. It may be possible that some other material could be used in place of the Plexiglas. Possibly some type of stiff plastic sheet material? We welcome your suggestions and ideas!

Please contact Ronald Heuston with any suggestions or availability of material and contacts. Phone 717-244-1851, email [heuy1955@aol.com](mailto:heuy1955@aol.com)

**RIPARIAN BUFFER PLANTINGS  
at NORTH BRANCH PROJECT**

MCTU fulfilled our commitment toward the Felton Boro Growing Greener II project. This 4,000' stream improvement project was our biggest riparian challenge to date. We contributed 218 volunteer hours on 5 dates in the Spring of 2010 where 28 individuals contributed to the planting of over 1,300 plants. Many of these individuals were present on three or four of the dates demonstrating a commitment that was well appreciated.

I would like to thank each and every volunteer who donated their time to help make this project a success. Your commitment to MCTU and cold water conservation is inspiring. I am happy to report that the plants are thriving along the banks of the North Branch of Muddy Creek in Felton, thanks to your efforts. Kudos to a job well done!

## CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN RED LION STREET FAIR

On August 21, 2010, MCTU once again participated in the annual Red Lion Street Fair. This is the third year we have provided a booth to educate the community about our mission to promote and enhance our watershed.

Dozens of visitors stopped by our booth to view the displays of stream improvements, trout stocking maps and Ron Heuston's insect collection. Several new memberships were obtained as visitors realized how the

activities we provide have impacted their interests.

In addition to promotion of our activities we also offered hats, patches, license plates and pins for sale to help with our fundraising efforts to support our mission. We also extended invitations to our Open House on September 25, to interested visitors.

Thanks to Ron Heuston, Glenn Dasher, Scott Runkle, Earl March, Billy Boyd and Bob Shaffer for donation of their time to make this promotion a success.

## PINE RUN PROJECT

*by Ron Heuston*

The Muddy Creek Chapter, Trout Unlimited is a partner/sponsor of the North Branch Muddy Creek Pine Run Project. Watershed Alliance of York is the grantee of this \$242,096.00 DEP funded, Growing Greener II Grant and controller for the project. The project is approximately 1,700 feet of stream reach involving five landowners. Located from Brownton Road north along Blouse Road in Windsor & Chanceford Township, Red Lion, Pa. The Department of Environmental Protection has approved the construction of the project. After a thorough competitive bid review process the construction contract has been awarded to Aquatic Resource Restoration Company from Seven Valleys, Pa.

The purpose of the project is to stabilize the banks to eliminate the erosion of 560 tons of soil per year from this reach of stream. To improve the water quality, install fencing, and to establish approximately 118,112 square feet of forested buffer. Aquatic Resource Restoration Company will be in the process of obtaining the proper permits, begin the necessary surveying and preparations before construction can begin.

Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited obligations will be to oversee the project, to ensure that construction meets the design requirements in the guide lines while maintaining the schedule within the time frame submitted. MCTU is also responsible for establishing the riparian buffer including the estimated contribution of \$4,500 in Plant material and another \$4,500 in volunteer labor. After project completion in 2011, MCTU will work with the landowners regarding maintenance and repair operations in addition to providing help with administrative duties and post construction stream monitoring.

This is an exciting project for MCTU because we have submitted grant applications several times for the restoration on Pine Run. Much of the reason MCTU was unsuccessful in prior attempts was due to the fact that the Muddy Creek watershed is not on the radar as "impaired" according to the DEP's 303d list of impaired streams. This is largely due to the presence of aquatic insects and that sediment was not a factor in the DEP's criteria for impairment. In 2008 prior to our grant application MCTU expressed concern over the condition of Pine Run and the tremendous sediment loads released during storm events. The DEP offered to do a windshield survey of Pine Run to address these issues. The DEP supplied a copy of the assessment results for our grant application which resolved the past issues allowing the grant to be awarded and project to be funded.

We are very grateful toward the Watershed Alliance of York (WAY) whose purpose is to help local watershed conservation groups by providing them the tools, technical support, and guidance to have successful water conservation projects. WAY is the Grantee for The North Branch, Pine Run project. This project would not be possible without the partnership with the Watershed Alliance of York.

All the partners involved are anxious and excited for the construction to begin and looking forward to the successful restoration of this reach of Pine Run. Stay tuned for information on how you can help.

## CO-OP NURSERY REPORT

In 2010 MCTU raised 8,000 brown trout to catchable size and stocked them in the watershed over 9 separate occasions. This year the mortality was extremely low allowing for nearly all of the 8,000 to reach the streams.

A decision was made to hold over 500 trout this summer. It was a challenge to say the least. With nearly a month of temperatures 90 degrees or above, the water temps in the nursery reached the mid to upper seventies several times. The feeders followed a strict regimen to control mortality and the trout survived the heat wave. These 500 trout will be stocked this fall, in both the FFO area and the open water, likely in late September and early October when temps moderate.

Thanks to all those who feed the trout regularly and that helped with the stocking of these trout. Your dedication and enthusiasm are appreciated.

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**Fall Issue 2010 - Muddy Matters  
 Volunteer and Landowner  
 Appreciation Issue**

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-  *Red Lion Street Fair Report*



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 Protect,  
 Restore”**



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*Chartered Financial Analyst*

**MCTU 2010 Collectors Patch**

Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited is committed to continuing the collectable patch fund raiser. Our 2010 Patch boasts a scene of an angler fishing the Orson Run trestle area on a red background for \$6.00 at Chapter meetings, and on our web site. We are nearly sold out of all other Patches. Visit our web site to see the 2010 20th Anniversary patch in color or to place an order.

[www.muddycreektu.org](http://www.muddycreektu.org)

