

# MUDDY MATTERS

The Newsletter of the Muddy Creek Chapter #575 of Trout Unlimited

TO CONSERVE PROTECT AND RESTORE THE MUDDY CREEK WATERSHED.



Spring 2013 Issue

## From the President's Desk



It drains one hundred and thirty seven square miles into the Lower Susquehanna River just 23 nautical miles upstream of the Chesapeake Bay. That is the Muddy Creek Watershed, according to the "Muddy Creek Watershed Conservation Plan".

"To conserve, protect and restore coldwater resources in the Muddy Creek Watershed". That is the mission statement of Muddy Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

So how does our volunteer TU Chapter go about the business of conserving, protecting and restoring all those miles of streams in our watershed? Well, realistically it's not ALL going to get restored in our lifetimes. It's done the best we can one small piece with one large grant (money) at a time. It's also done one small piece at a time with volunteer hours and little money. Volunteers spending hours surveying sections of streams, rolling rocks, cutting live stakes, planting trees, shrubs and maintaining a native plant nursery.

I've been shown areas along our small tributaries that have been planted with shrubs by our chapter maybe ten years ago. Stream banks that were once subject to erosion and water once exposed to direct sunlight that raises temperatures to intolerable levels for coldwater species. Now the shrubs are mature providing shade and serving as a "riparian buffer" which is so essential in providing a filter for nutrients and pollutants. The Pine Run Project will be an excellent opportunity for you to help serve our mission statement. Our Chapter is committed to provide man hours to plant trees and shrubs along the stream. As of this writing the contractor is nearing completion of stream structures. Details of the project are elsewhere in this newsletter. So when the call comes for your help please consider volunteering whatever hours you can. This is your chance to help restore that one small piece in our watershed. It's for our future generations.

For anyone that has been fishing during the fall and winter, Muddy Creek has been fishing well. The PAF&BC stocking of rainbows in the FFO area last October provided decent fishing all winter. The FFO was stocked on February 19 with trout from PAF&BC with a mix of browns and bows. I saw a few little black stoneflies on the water on a warm day in early February so hopefully the fish will get turned on to these bugs soon. Look elsewhere in this newsletter for stream stocking information from our nursery.

A full slate of activities are slated for our Chapter this spring. As mentioned previously there will be streamside plantings along the Pine Run Project. Also, opening day food stands, a fishing day for the visually impaired from ForSight Vision and our Spring Fling outing at Allegro Vineyards. Please consider volunteering for these events. We need your help.

Kind regards,

Fred

## Upcoming Events

**March 20 - General Meeting**  
Collinsville F&G Club - 7pm

**March 30 - Opening Day of Trout Season in SEPA Region**  
Volunteer at a Food Stand

**April 17 - General Meeting**  
Sugar and Spice Restaurant in Brogue- 7pm. PRESENTATION by Mitch Blake from TU National on Marcellus Shale

**May 4 - ForSight Vision Fishing Event**  
Handicapped Area - 10am.

**May 15 - General Meeting**  
Cooperative Nursery - 7pm.

**May 18 - MCTU Spring Fling at Allegro Vinyards.** Volunteer for a committee or support the chapter by attending.

**June 19 - General Meeting**  
Lions Pride Restaurant - 7pm  
Dinner at 6 pm.

**July 17 - General Meeting**  
Cooperative Nursery - 7pm.

**C&R FFO AREA OF MUDDY CREEK WAS STOCKED FEBRUARY 19TH.**

**REMEMBER: FROM MARCH 1 THRU OPENING DAY APPROVED TROUT WATERS ARE CLOSED TO FISHING.**

**STREAMS NOT ON THE STATE STOCKING LIST ARE SUBJECT TO NO HARVEST DURING THIS PERIOD.**



## Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited Chapter 575 Executive Staff

**President:** Fred Hess 650-6556  
**Vice Pres:** Billy Boyd 244-7388  
**Secretary:** Ron Heuston 244-1851  
**Treasurer:** Bob Shaffer 817-9746

**Directors:**  
Trent Bentzel 244-4898  
Brita Runkle 244-0715  
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Glenn Dasher 755-0189  
Maurice Chioda 747-5613

### Committees Grant & Incubator Program Coordinator

Ron Heuston 244-1851  
**Environmental Chairman**  
Maurice Chioda 747-5613  
**Riparian Buffer**

Scott Runkle  
**Water Quality Specialist**  
(Vacant) Volunteer!

**WAY Representative**  
Ron Heuston 244-1851  
**Co-op Sponsor Chairman:**  
Steve Francis 862-3485

**Co-op Nursery Manager:**  
Jan Pickel 382-4402  
**Communications Chairman**  
Maurice Chioda 747-5613

**Webmaster**  
Dustin Boyd

**Newsletter Support Staff**  
Maurice Chioda - Editor  
Copywriting - Fred Hess, Bob  
Shaffer, Ron Heuston, Brita Runkle  
Bill Boyd - Mailing labels  
Fred Hess - Folding and Mailing

**www.muddycreektu.org**

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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 email [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**

## Chapter Project Reports Around the Watershed

by Ron Heuston

### Stream Projects Pine Run

Pine Run is currently under construction and may be completed within the next few weeks. Fencing is being installed at the present time with riparian buffer to follow as weather permits. MCTU is required to supply plants and volunteer services to plant the buffer for this project.

The Runkle's have entered the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. CREP will fund the fencing and plant material for the buffer, as well as installation of fencing. Also MCTU is responsible to monitor the project twice a year for three years.

Volunteers will be needed for planting the riparian buffer and for the monitoring.

An email blast will be sent out as work days are scheduled.

### Owad Road Project

Construction can not begin until after June 15<sup>th</sup>, due to trout stocking beginning for this season. Construction dates will be posted as they become available.

### North Branch Muddy Creek Phase-1

The week of February 25<sup>th</sup> ARRC will begin the project repairs and maintenance.

MCTU will be required to replant the disturbed areas as well as a few areas that need supplemental plantings. Also there is one final monitoring to be completed to close out MCTU requirements for this project.

Once again an email blast will be sent out to as work days become scheduled.

### Stream Side Incubators

The fall of 2012, 100,000 eyed brown trout eggs were received from the Huntsdale Fish Hatchery. The quality of eggs seemed to off a bit this years with approximately 15% were bad eggs. So we had approximately 85,000 good eggs to start with. However the hatch rate was approximately 85%. Which put approximately 72,250 fry into the Muddy Creek Watershed. Thanks to all the volunteers and landowners who once again made this program successful.

### ForSight Vision Fishing Event

The fishing event for the visually impaired is scheduled for Saturday May 4, 2013.

Fishing event to begin at 10:00am at the Handicapped Area at Elmer & Pat Sueck's property on Kennedy Road along Tom's Run.

Volunteers will be needed to help these folks enjoy a great day of fishing. MCTU will be providing lunch and drinks for this event, so volunteers will be needed to man the grills.

MCTU will provide the bait and fishing gear for our guests to use, so volunteers should bring what ever equipment and gear they may have available.

This is a great event for MCTU as it gives these folks the opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and the thrill of fishing. The things we often take for granted means a great deal to these folks and their families. By giving a few hours of time, you can make a difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate.

## Opening Day Food Stand Volunteers Needed

by Bob Shaffer

Opening day food stands have proven to be a very profitable fundraiser for the club over the years, and we would like to continue that tradition. On March 30<sup>th</sup> We will be running our usual stands at High Rock and Woodbine. If we get enough volunteers, we also plan to operate a stand at Muddy Creek Forks.

Our presence on opening day not only provides some additional revenue to help

cover the costs of feeding and raising 7,000 fish, it also helps us educate anglers and landowners on our mission in the Muddy Creek watershed.

Help is needed to operate the stands, prepare food items and sell patches, hats, t-shirts, buttons, etc. You don't have to be there all day; volunteering for 2-3 hour intervals is usually all that is necessary. Last year we had donations of chili, cookies and soft drinks which helped

reduce our costs. Anything you are able to contribute is always appreciated.

This profitable chapter event is an enjoyable time for those who don't want the on-stream hassle of opening day!

Help will be needed from 6:30 am until 2 pm. Contact Bob Shaffer 717.817-9746 or [bshaffer412@yahoo.com](mailto:bshaffer412@yahoo.com) if you can volunteer for a few hours during this worthwhile event.

## MCTU Patch Fundraiser Help Needed

Don Jones has been in charge of selling patches for the club since the beginning of this fundraising effort in 2004 and has helped raise thousands of dollars through this effort.

We are searching for someone to assist Don and eventually take the lead in this fundraising activity. Don maintains a list of businesses that have sold patches for us

in the past as well as the individuals who have purchased from him. We also maintain an email list of collectors who have purchased through our website. Our customer lists will be available to assist you in this effort.

For more information about this vital fundraising activity please contact Bob Shaffer,

[bshaffer412@yahoo.com](mailto:bshaffer412@yahoo.com) or 717.817-9746.



## Free Membership For Women

TU National is currently offering free membership for women. You can join TU electronically at the link below.

Our Chapter currently has several women actively involved and we welcome more to join. So if you have any interest in our mission, now is the time to consider joining. You don't have to fish to be a member.

[www.tumembership.org/women](http://www.tumembership.org/women)

## My Healthy Stream Books Available

The chapter has purchased 40 "My Healthy Stream" books that were written and published by National Trout Unlimited and the Aldo Leopold Foundation. Chapters in the book contain information including: trout needs; keeping an eye on stream

conditions; bugs, frogs and water quality; riparian areas; planning for stream health and stream restoration techniques. While these books are targeted toward landowners, we found them to be a good reference and educational tool for all. The books

are free of charge for all interested landowners and \$5 to TU members. Email the chapter at [muddycreektu@comcast.net](mailto:muddycreektu@comcast.net) or call one of the officers to get your copy. Copies will also be available at the monthly membership meetings.

## Coop Nursery Report

by Fred Hess

After some mortality due to parasites on the trout's gills a fish count was conducted in early December. Fish count was approximately 7300 with very little mortality after that. Technicians from the CO-OP division of the PAF&BC got us through the parasite problem with several treatments of medicines. The trout are now very healthy looking and will provide nice sport this spring.

Again this year we have two stocking crews led by Fred Wilt and Jan Pickel. Emails and phone calls will be made prior to the stocking days. If you want to be called or involved with stocking trout from our nursery call Fred at 309-8098 and/or Jan at 870-3540. Helping with the stocking effort is a great way to learn the access in the watershed.

**HELP SUPPORT THE CO-OP**  
If you have not returned your sponsorship donation this year please consider doing so. Costs have been increasing and contributions have been decreasing. Lets try to reverse this trend and keep the Co-op Nursery running. Also consider an additional donation through the Trout Fund Letter. Contact an Officer or Steve Francis to help with funding.

## Spring Meeting Schedule

by Fred Hess

The March 20 meeting will be at the Collinsville Fish & Game Club. Fly Casting demos will be held if anyone is interested. We will have some rods there and you can bring your own as well. Fly tying demos can also be held if there is any interest. If you want to learn a certain technique or the basics of how to tie flies either call one of the officers or email the

Chapter and someone will bring fly tying equipment.

The April 17 meeting will be held at the Sugar and Spice Restaurant between Brogue and Collinsville on Rt. 74. We will meet in their back room. For anyone that wants to eat dinner, meet there at 6:00P. The meeting will start at 7:00P and will feature Mitch Blake from PATU. Mitch is the

Pennsylvania Marcellus Shale Field Organizer and will give us an update on the progress made by the volunteer water sampling being conducted in the Marcellus Shale Region. He will be our guest for dinner so come early if you want to meet Mitch and ask questions. Bring a friend, spouse or prospective member if you want as all are welcome to all of our meetings.

## MCTU Chapter Sponsors

**GROSS INVESTMENTS**  
26 West Orange Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
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Email: [don@grossinv.com](mailto:don@grossinv.com)  
Web: [www.gross-investments.com](http://www.gross-investments.com)

**Donald R. Gross, Jr.**  
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1101 Furnace Road  
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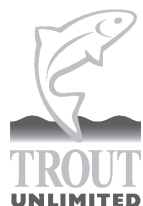
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On May 18, 2013 Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited will host its second annual Spring Fling. The event this year will take place at Allegro Winery. Event details are still in the works but will include a pig roast, demonstrations, and educational booths.

In 2012 the Spring Fling brought in about 65 people consisting of Trout Unlimited members, property owners, and conservationists. We are anticipating with the growing support of Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited and the new location, our outreach efforts will be doubled this year.

If you are interested in more details or to volunteer, please contact Fred Hess, (717) 818-9026.

Tickets for the event will be available in the coming months. Please consider supporting MCTU during the worthwhile event.

## 2013 Collector Patch - The Bruce

Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited is committed to continuing the collectable patch fund raiser. Our 2013 Patch boasts a scene of the The Bruce area of Muddy Creek on orange with gold trim. These can be

purchased for \$6.00 at Chapter meetings, and on our website.

Visit our web site to see the 2013 Collector Patch featuring The Bruce in color or to place an order.

