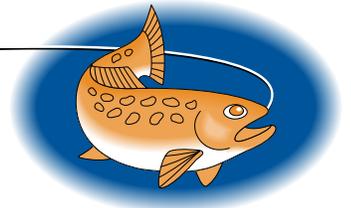


TROUTLINE



www.nvatu.org • The Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited • May 2015

MAY MEETING



DETAILS

May 7, 2015
6:45 p.m. Fly tying demonstration
6:45 p.m. Boy Scout Merit Badge group
7:30 p.m. Chapter meeting

WHERE

Flame Room of Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center Street, SE, Vienna.

GETTING THERE

Chain Bridge Road (123) becomes Maple Avenue in Vienna. Turn south on Center Street. Continue on Center Street past the athletic field on the left; note the fire station on the left at the intersection with Cherry Street. Turn left on Cherry Street and park behind the building. Go in the side door at the corner of the building and proceed up the stairs to the meeting room.

MAY PROGRAM

William Heresniak: Trophies on a fly rod.

MAY CALENDAR

2: FWAM trip to Jeremy's Run (VA)
9: Fly Fishing Merit Badge
7: Chapter meeting
8: (Friday) FWAM trip to Rapidan (VA)
14: Board Meeting
30: FWAM trip to East Branch Antietam Creek (Waynesboro, PA)

WHAT'S COMING OFF

WILLIAM HERESNIAK

Fly Fishing for Trophy Trout

William Heresniak of Eastern Trophies Fly Fishing returns to tell us how to catch huge fish at May's Northern Virginia TU Chapter meeting. Come learn about techniques, tactics, and streamer fly patterns

that put larger trout and smallmouth into your hands. Eastern Trophies offers trophy streamer patterns for Trout, Smallmouth and Musky on their website www.eastertrophies.com.



William Heresniak with a trophy musky will talk trophy trout at the May chapter meeting.

Honoring New Members

We would like to welcome aboard our newest members! We look forward to seeing you at our Chapter events.

Michael Albritten, Vienna, VA
Jacob Allison, Ashburn, VA
Eric Bush, Centreville, VA
Carl Cannon, Arlington, VA
Luke Chiodini, Broadlands, VA
Charles Ellsworth, Alexandria, VA
John Garland, Fairfax, VA
Timothy Good, Alexandria, VA
Brian Hawke, Alexandria, VA
Debbie Heiser, Gainesville, VA
Carroll Kisser, Alexandria, VA
David Lee, Fairfax, VA
R Lheureaux, Alexandria, VA

Marcus Luczak, Herndon, VA
D McClellan, Alexandria, VA
Joseph Mikrut, Clifton, VA
Charlie Miller, Woodbridge, VA
Raj Patel, Lovettsville, VA
Leland Pickering, Springfield, VA
Hank Pitcher, Falls Church, VA
Richard Smith, Vienna, VA
Michael Szoka, Leesburg, VA
Sean Uhl, Alexandria, VA
John Wozney, Springfield, VA
Stefano Young, McLean, VA

TRIP 1

Jeremy's Run VIRGINIA

When: May 2, 2015
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: Whenever
Meet: Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

The first May trip will be to Jeremy's Run. We will go in from the bottom. The only license required is the basic Virginia freshwater license. Keep your eyes peeled for insects on the ground, in the air and more than random rises. There should be good quantities of Blue Winged Olives, dark Caddis, and some smaller stoneflies.

Try using a dry fly pattern with a trailing shuck or an old tattered fly fished in the surface film. Both species are prone to hatching stillborn and these make easy targets for the fish. You should also find sizable quantities of ants and beetles. The insect to look for the most is ants. A #18 parachute Adams is the best cure for fussy fish.

Bring plenty of water along because Jeremy's Run requires a long hike- at least 4 miles round trip. Short rods, 5x or 6x tippets, and hip boots will be all you need to fish this stream. The terrain is very steep, so pack light. Comfortable wading boots suitable for hiking make for a better day.

TRIP 2

Rapidan River VIRGINIA

When: Friday, May 8, 2015
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: You decide
Meet: Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

The second trip will be to the Rapidan River. Make sure you have a current Virginia license, National Park stamp not required. This is a catch and release only stream. Spring is officially here. The flowers and trees are in full bloom. I see the leaves as a blessing. Not only do they provide critical shade, but if I happen to get my fly caught in a tree it will likely tear free from a leaf instead of wrapping around a branch. It is always best not to use your rod to horse it free. This puts more stress on your rod than a fish ever can. Instead of hauling back on the rod when you get hung up, grab the line in front of the rod and pull gently. If the leader breaks, it was going to break anyhow. I have seen graphite and bamboo rods broken by trying to horse it free. Usually this doesn't happen as a result of some sort of defect in the rod, but rather damage caused by a previous incident like a hook dig in the tip section. Nothing ruins a day of fishing like a broken rod.

A size 14 or 16 Mr. Rapidan or Royal Wulff should fish very well. Blue Wing Olives are still out and you will find some Sulphurs and March Browns. The insect I look for is ants. The trout love them and if you tie them right they are highly

visible and durable. I don't know what it is about ants that make trout go nuts. If I see them on the trails or trees or even in a mound, I immediately tie one on. Hare's Ears and Prince Nymphs always work well, but there is something about a splashy and voracious take on an nta dry fly that is addictive. If you like dry fly fishing, this is probably the easiest time to match the hatch. Bring some water along because you will be doing quite a bit of hiking. You will want to carpool. The road getting in is rough and unforgiving. Arrive early at the Dick's parking lot so you can secure a ride in a truck or SUV. Short rods, 5x or 6x tippets, and hip boots will be all you need to fish this stream. The terrain can be steep at times, so I suggest packing light and bringing water to keep you hydrated.



is a spring influenced creek. The terrain is fairly level and is an easy walk for people of all ages and the trails are well marked. The average trout (stocked) in Antietam Creek is between 12 and 16 inches. The stretch we will be fishing is partially delayed harvest/catch and release. There are signs posted to let you know. Regarding flies, of notable mention are ants and beetles. Elk Hair Caddis and stimulators also work. If you need to fish deeper, switch to Hare's Ear nymphs and Copper Johns without a strike indicator as it spooks the fish. If you do spook the fish, they return to normal behavior within minutes. So sit still and study the pool while giving the fish time to calm down.

A shorter rod helps due to the tree canopy. There are a few places where you need a very gentle cast. You can get away with hip waders for most of the stream. Wet wading isn't totally out of the question, but it is spring fed and will get a little chilly.

TRIP 3

East Branch Antietam Creek PENNSYLVANIA

When: May 30, 2015
Depart: 8 a.m.
Return: You decide
Meet: Vienna Community Center Parking Lot

THIS IS A SELF-GUIDED TRIP
 The East Branch Antietam Creek

MAY FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

Clouser Minnow



Originator: Bob Clouser, fly shop owner and guide, created the Clouser Minnow in 1987 to catch smallmouth bass on the Susquehanna River. The original Clouser pattern was tied with bucktail and krystal flash; but it can be tied in a variety of color and material combinations to represent almost any bait fish. The barbell eyes attached on top of the shank cause the hook point to ride—lessening the chance of snagging the bottom. The krystal flash and/or flashabo extending

beyond the end of the hair “body” adds to the allusion of tail movement. The Clouser Minnow will catch trout, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and a variety of saltwater fish.

Techniques to be learned:

- Attach barbell eyes
- Using bucktail and krystal flash/flashabo to form a body

RECIPE

Hook: Mustad 3407, Tiemco 811S or equivalent in sizes 2/0 to 10

Thread: 3/0 monocrad, color to match back, black 6/0 will be fine

Eyes: Lead or other barbell eyes
Body: Traditionally a mix of three bucktail colors: white for the belly; olive, green, yellow, chartreuse or blue for middle; and a dark color (black or brown) for the back; with Krystal flash and/or flashabo in the center and/or on the sides extending past end of the tail
Head: Tapered thread; may be finished off with epoxy
Fishing Tip: Fish like any streamer; cast to a likely spot and let it sink to near the bottom. Take a few strips, let it sink again—repeat.

Park Biologist on Stocking TIC Brookies

David Demarest, Shenandoah National Park Acting Fisheries and Wildlife Biologist had the following to say about stocking Trout In the Classroom (TIC) fish:

“As for trout in the classroom fish, they should not go in any streams that border the park. If there is a way to put them in cold stream project waters (like Big/Little Spring), or other waters in Loudoun/Fairfax that would be great. We're still working through

the genetics research project and trying to figure out what is going on. There are four small groups of streams that break out as clades (species that are considered to share a common ancestor) different from not only themselves and “Shenandoah” fish but range wide brook trout as well. The Rush (actually everything north of the Hazel River) the geneticist calls the native Shenandoah strain. Really odd stuff.

I'm not just concerned about muddling genetics, but transfer of disease to the wild populations from stocking “unknown” fish. Enteric redmouth and bacterial kidney disease are both really hard on brookies and are directly linked to streams that have been stocked not just currently but in the past 40 years as well.

If you all have a historian who has any info on fishing clubs around the park prior to about 1940 I'd love

to talk to them...

As a side note, a few large brown trout showed up in the lower Rapidan last fall. Please let me know if any of your members catch any this spring/summer. If they become established it has the potential to really turn that world class brookie fishery upside down. Currently, we're trying to figure out how to deal with this on a catch and release stream.”



Volunteers Needed for May 9 Merit Badge Class

NVATU is conducting its Spring Fly Fishing Merit Badge Program on May 9, 2015 at the Riverbend Park Nature Center from 8 am to 4 pm. Some of our members have already signed up to help, but we need more. We like to have at least two instructors for each of the following modules:

Casting: Dave S
Entomology, Trout Food: Steve M
Fly Tying: John H
Knot tying: Marilyn

Fishing: All
Videos, Water and Pizza: Jay L

In addition to the above modules, we need volunteers to work with Orvis, LL Bean, Dicks, Urban Angler and VA GIFD to acquire donations, hand out materials, and assistance during the day. Please submit your name and your module of choice to Bill Errico at dadoopman@hotmail.com. At 6:45pm, before the May 7 NVATU monthly meeting, Bill will provide a status update for all volunteers.

New NVATU Merchandise

New merchandise is now in stock—T-shirts with the TU logo on the front and the NVATU logo on the back. The T-shirts are available in three colors: white, indigo, and prairie dust and in all sizes from small to XXL. NVATU Lapel Pins; these are great for hats, gear bags, and yes...lapels. We have a fresh supply of leaders in stock: 3X, 4X, 5X, and 6X in 7.5-, 9-, 12-

and 15-foot lengths and many preconfigured for single and double droppers. As always, we have several styles of baseball hats—canvas with different colored brims, dungaree, and solid color cotton. The NVATU Fishing trip guide book is also available, as are coffee travel mugs. Stop by the ATM on your way to the next meeting and help support the chapter by purchasing some new logo items.

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CONSERVATION CALENDAR

Unless otherwise noted:

• **Chapter meetings:** Vienna Volunteer Fire Station, 7:30 p.m.

• **Board Meetings:** Century 21 Office, 6631A Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA, 7:30 p.m.

29: FWAM trip to Yellow Breeches (PA)

Poem from a Stream Sampling TIC Student

I've sat on my butt for too long ...
There's a whole world I've never seen.

How can we live our lives.

If our eyes are stuck to screens?

When our butts are being over-used?

Plants, animals, ants and vines.

We walk by them most of the time.

Never looking at what we see.

WHAT THE HECK HUMANITY!

Just to recap today, don't sit on your butt all day.

—Elaine Hughes,

South County Middle School

JUNE

4: Chapter Meeting
6: FWAM trip to Lower Rapidan (VA)

11: Board Meeting
27: FWAM trip to Big Hunting Creek (MD)

JULY

2: Chapter Meeting
9: Board Meeting
11: (2nd Sat due to holiday) FWAM trip to Rapidan for Smallies
25: FWAM trip to Big Spring Creek (PA)

AUGUST

1: FWAM trip to Rappahannock (VA)
6: Chapter Meeting
13: Board Meeting



TU website:
www.tu.org

Virginia Council of TU website:
www.vctu.org



Recycled and Recyclable



MEMBER ALBUM



Reston Kids Fishing Day: Palmer Kasprowicz is all smiles with a nice Rainbow.