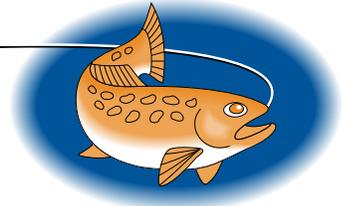


TROUTLINE



www.nvatu.org • The Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Chapter of Trout Unlimited • April 2016

APRIL MEETING



DETAILS

April 7, 2016
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 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.

APRIL CALENDAR

2: FWAM to Rapidan River (VA)
7: Chapter Meeting
8: (Friday) FWAM to Rose River (VA)
9: City of Fairfax Kids Fishing Day
14: Board Meeting
17: NVATU 2-Fly Contest in Sperryville
23: Vienna Kids Fishing Day
30: FWAM to Conewago Creek (PA)

WHAT'S COMING OFF

MARK FRONDORF

Riverkeeper to Address Clean Water Challenges

As the official Shenandoah Riverkeeper, Mark Frondorf, this month's speaker, is one of several dedicated pros in the Potomac Riverkeeper Network whose goal is to be the eyes and ears of the water, protecting the public's right to clean water in their rivers and streams.

Having guided on the Shenandoah and Potomac for almost 20 years, Mark's passion for the water, combined with his people and analytical skills, make him ideally suited to defend the Shenandoah against pollution and promote the recreational use of this beautiful river. Mark was the principal investigator and author of a government study that examined the ocean dumping of U.S. chemical weapons and



explored the full-range of issues, challenges and potential solutions to this complex problem. Former president of the Potomac River Smallmouth Club, he successfully lobbied both Virginia and Maryland officials to implement and expand catch and release regulations and he was

instrumental in getting the federal government to revise the Code of Federal Regulations to permit wade fishing on portions of the Potomac. Mark also served on the Board of Directors for the Mid-Atlantic Federation of Fly Fishers. He holds an M.A. from the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs.

Honoring New Members

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

Samuel Banks, Annandale, VA
Kayce Bonfield, Arlington, VA
Mike Costello, Woodbridge, VA
Joseph Dalby, Falls Church, VA
David Gleeson, Arlington, VA
Kyle Graser, Centreville, VA
Charles Greenough, Leesburg, VA
Tyler Ham, Vienna, VA
Keith Henderson, Occoquan, VA
Charlie Hurst, Arlington, VA
Will Hurst, Arlington, VA

Albert Johnston
Kelso Robert Kaufman, Alexandria, VA
Ted Leemann, Fairfax, VA
Joel Lyons, Dayton, VA
Amir Nejati, Stafford, VA
Owen Schwatka, Vienna, VA
Joseph Severini, Alexandria, VA
Brian Stebner, Herndon, VA
Eric Swedlund, Alexandria, VA
Bruce Vaughn, Arlington, VA
Dickson Young, Fairfax, VA

TRIP 1

Rapidan River

VIRGINIA

When: April 2, 2016

Depart: 8 a.m.

Return: Whenever

Meet: George Paine at Dick's parking lot in Fair Lakes

The first trip is to the Rapidan River. If the road to the middle section is still in bad shape we may fish the Rapidan/Staunton near Graves Mill near where the Rapidan leaves the Park.

Make sure you have a current Virginia license, and remember this is a catch and release only stream. Spring is officially here so there should be plenty of bug life. We've had better precipitation this year and as a result park streams are up for the moment.

You should find a variety of medium, and even some larger bug hatches. You can always do well with a size 12 Quill Gordon, or a size 14 or 16 Mr. Rapidan, Blue Quill, or Royal Wulff. As for insects, look for ants – big Carpenter Ants. Don't know what it is about ants that make trout go nuts. If you like dry fly fishing, the ant is probably the easiest hatch to match. There is something about a splashy and voracious take on an ant that is addictive. Even if nothing is rising, brookies will often hit a dry fly.

If you nymph, try a size 14 or 16 Hare's Ear, flash-back Pheasant Tail or Prince nymphs, fished deep and allowed to tumble along the bottom. A soft hackle fished on a swing will usually take fish.

Bring some water along because you will be doing quite a bit of hiking. You will very likely want to carpool if you own a car. The road to the middle section 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 some water to keep you hydrated. A backpack can slow you down, so if you can fit lunch and water in your vest or on your belt you'll be able to wade and fish more efficiently.



Park and wild Brook Trout are the target. We will be going to the lower park boundary. Please park as close to the park gate as you can. The land owner that shares this road has a bit of a temper and has been known to express himself freely with those he thinks are parking too close to his property. As always, be respectful of all land owners. Being a good fisherman means being a good neighbor as well. If you see some trash out it might earn you some points with him if you take the time to remove it. Carpooling also cuts down on the number of cars.

The Rose River is one of the streams that fall under the SNP Brown Trout removal program. In an attempt to return the Rose and other streams to pure Brook Trout streams, the SNP made it illegal to return any Brown Trout to the river. Any Brown over 7 inches must be harvested. Any Brown that is less than 7 inches must be discarded

away from the stream and trails. There are still some ill feelings about this regulation, but as conservationist and sportspersons we don't pick and chose the rules we follow.

Recommend light rods and short leaders for this stream. A 7' 4-weight rod is more than enough. If you decide to use a longer rod, select one with a mid or full flex. This will allow you to load the rod with as little as 6-8' of fly line extended beyond the tip. With clear water use the finest tippet material you can see. Casts are generally short, calling for a rod that can roll cast well. Like many of the Park's streams, the Rose is mostly pocket water. A shorter leader, 5-6' long with 18-24" of tippet material, works well for the shorter casts and drifts. The stream is shallow enough in most places that you can get away with hip waders if you have them. You should see hatches of size #12 and #14 Quill Gordons and March Browns, and possibly some #14 and #16 olive caddis. Ants and beetles (especially Harry Murray's deer-hair or foam beetle) always do well. A #14, #16, or #18 Blue-Wing Olive, Mr. Rapidan, or Wulff dry-fly patterns work well. Elk Hair Caddis and small Stimulators can also be quite effective.

TRIP 2

Rose River

VIRGINIA

When: Friday, April 8, 2016

Depart: 8 a.m.

Contact: George Paine

Return: You decide

Meet: Dick's Fair Lakes parking lot

This is the first Friday trip for 2016. This freestone stream runs through the Shenandoah National

APRIL FLY OF THE MONTH: DEMONSTRATED BY JOHN HADLEY

Mr. Rapidan Parachute



Originator: Harry Murray from Edinburg, VA. Designed through systematic trial and error to attract Brook Trout and is representative of a number of flies found in a

Shenandoah National Park or any brook trout stream. Visit Harry Murray's website and his fly shop/drugstore in Edinburg for the latest conditions on the Shenandoah Park Steams and nearby stocked streams.

Bring your vise, bobbin, tan or light color thread and stacker if you have one and tie a few of these flies; other materials will be provided.

Techniques to be learned:

- Tying in Moose Hair tails; precut, stack and glue butts to the lid of a medicine bottle to speed up tying
- Dubbing the body
- Tying in post of calf hair and other materials
- Tying in and wrapping parachute hackles
- Using two half hitches

RECIPE

Hook: Standard Dry Fly, TMC 100 #12-16

Thread: Tan 6/0, or 8/0 for #16 if you wish

Tail: Moose body hair

Body: #34 Fly Rite "Quill Gordon/Brown Drake Yellow" dubbing

Hackle: Grizzly and Brown

Wing/post: Yellow calf tail (optional pink or other bright color to improve visibility)

Fishing Tips: I use a size #14 and #16 fly, mostly in the spring when fishing for brook trout whether or not there is a hatch. Cloudy days are best in the spring and early summer. Approach a pool slowly and keep low. Cast first to a big brook trout that may be lurking in a prime feeding lane at the lip of

the pool. Next cast to the likely spots to the left and the right side of the pool, especially above large boulders, and then up to the head of the pool letting the fly drift through the entire pool. In a small pool, especially in low water conditions, you may only get one or two casts before the trout are spooked. In a larger pool you may be able to hook a couple before they are spooked. Keep casting if you are getting strikes but when they get shy, don't waste your time; just move onto the next pool. I'll cast into likely skinny water spots between pools but it is more luck than skill to pick up a small fish here and there, but that's better than just letting a possible hookup go by.

Fishing Derbies

There are two chances for kids to experience the fun of catching trout this month, as well as for NVATU volunteers to help out.

**Fairfax City's Fishing Derby
Saturday, April 9
Ashby Pond Conservatory
9817 Ashby Road, Fairfax.**

There will be three 45-minute fishing time slots: 9:30 am; 10:15 am, and 11 am, and pre-registration is required

Cost: \$5 per fisherman

Tickets: Limit of 6 per household are available on-line and at Sherwood Center, Green Acres Center or City Hall P&R office on 1st Floor. The kids should bring a fishing rod, bucket, plastic bag and ice. A limited number of rods will be available. Bait will be supplied.

**Vienna Fish Rodeo
Saturday, April 23
Wildwood Park (Wolftrap
Stream)**

700 Block of Follin Lane SE

There will be six 30-minute time slots: 10 am; 10:30 am; 11 am; 11:30 am; 12 pm, and 12:30 pm.

Cost: Free, but time-slot tickets are still required, limit of 6 per household.

Tickets: Available at the Vienna Parks & Recreation Office, 262-M Unit #4, Cedar Lane, Vienna, or call 703-255-6360.

The kids should bring a fishing rod, bucket, plastic bag and ice. Limited number of rods will be available. Bait will be supplied.



This Staunton River brookie was caught by Jim Brasell in March. It has been diagnosed, based on the photo, as having cataracts. They are extremely unusual in wild trout, but could be caused by the odd winter we have had. Please notify David Demerest, SNP biologist, at: david_demerest@nps.gov if you observe this condition in any other Park streams. Brown trout are apparently swimming up to the Graves Mill section of the Rapidan from the Conway River. Please report any browns you see in the Rapidan to David as well.



**Northern Virginia
Trout Unlimited
Lamiglas Rod Raffle**

- 9' 6-wt. Lamiglas G-1000 Graphite Fly Rod
- Lucky Winner will be drawn at our TU-Fly Event – April 17th, 2016, Turkey Mt. Fly Fishing Club, Sperryville, VA.
- All proceeds go to our chapter
- Cost is \$5.00 per ticket or \$20.00 for 5 tickets
- Go to:
<http://www.nvatu.org/new/node/269>
- Fill out ticket with name and phone number

Cut off your receipt and mail with a check to:

Treasurer NVATU,
PO Box 273
Herndon, VA 20172

Orvis Hosts Fly Fishing Classes

Orvis is hosting Fly Fishing 101 and 201 again this year. Classes are free and open to the public--kids are welcome when accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. This is a great way for fly anglers to introduce their spouse or significant other, boyfriend or girlfriend, son or daughter, into the sport rather than teaching them themselves. For FF101, all equipment is provided and the classes are held at the stores. For FF201, all equipment is provided; however, a fishing license

is required for all participants age 16 and older. All students receive a free membership to TU along with 3 great coupons for store purchases. Space is limited so anyone that wants to sign up should go to Orvis.com and select the store closest to them. On the store website there will be a link to the classes that takes you to a calendar, where you can register for a specific day.

All stores will have the following classes:

FF101
April: 23rd, 30th,
May: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
June: 6th, 11th, 18th

FF201
May: 1st, 15th
June: 5th

Each store will have additional dates for both FF101 and FF201, so check the store websites for details. All stores welcome experienced TU volunteers to help with both classes.

Additionally, some stores will be offering FF301 opportunities for those with their own gear and some experience. Again, check store websites for details: (<http://www.orvis.com/leesburg>). If there are any questions, I can be contacted by phone: 703.777.5305 or by email: retail-leesburgstr627@orvis.com.

Regards,
Scott Allen
Fishing Manager, Orvis-Leesburg

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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.

MAY

7: FWAM to Jeremy's Run (VA)

13: (Friday) FWAM to Rapidan (VA)

28: FWAM to East Branch Antietam Creek (Waynesboro, PA)

JUNE

4: FWAM to Lower Rapidan/Staunton (VA)

25: FWAM to Big Hunting Creek (Md)

JULY

9: (Smallmouth) FWAM to Rapidan (VA)

29: FWAM to Big Spring Creek (Pa)

AUGUST

6: FWAM to Rappahannock (VA)

27: FWAM to Yellow Breeches (PA)

SEPTEMBER

3: FWAM to Rappahannock (VA)

24: FWAM to Patuxent (MD)

OCTOBER

1: FWAM to White Oak (VA)

29: FWAM to Morgan Run (MD)

NOVEMBER

5: FWAM to upper Rose River (VA)

26: FWAM to Gunpowder (MD)

Scout Troup Needed

Bill Errico is looking for a scoutmaster who is interested in the merit badge. Please contact him at dadoopman@hotmail.com if you know one.



Recycled and Recyclable



MEMBER ALBUM



Jeff Silvan: Caught this Barracuda near Cayo Cruz, Cuba, on a needlefish imitation he tied.