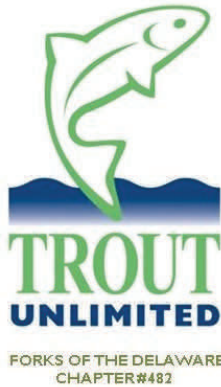


Forks Forum



Check out the web. No, not the one at the bridge that you look at to see what's hatching. I mean the world wide web.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, September through June, 7:00 p.m. at Stockertown Rod & Gun Club, Lefevre Road, Stockertown.

Forks of the Delaware 4th Annual Pig and Corn Roast

Save the date

Date:
Saturday, September 12th, 2015

Location:
Riverside Bar and Grill
5801 South Delaware Drive
(On the Delaware - 6 Miles North of Easton, PA)

More details to follow

PUBLIC WELCOME!

For Tickets or More Information

Contact:
Thom Beverly -
kbeverly@rcn.com

Joe Baylog -
baylogj@gmail.com

Forks of the Delaware Future events

May 30th and May 31st
ArtsQuest - "Step Outdoors Lehigh Valley"

Saturday: 10:00—5:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00-4-00 pm

TU will be offering a participating program featuring a fly tying demo, a gear talk and fly casting for the public. This is the first time Arts Quest is holding this event so it is new to all of us. For more information on the event

<http://www.steelstacks.org/stepoutdoors>

June 3rd "Fishing on the Bushkill"

We will be meeting on the Bushkill Creek in the upper "catch and release" parking area along Edgewood Avenue for an evening of fishing. Equipment and instruction will be provided for beginners. Please come and join us. Hopefully, the fish will be cooperative.

June 6th "Northampton county youth day"

The Stockertown Rod and Gun club will host a day to introduce many different outdoor activities such as archery, shooting and fishing as well as some educational activities to our local boys and girls. Our chapter will also provide a macro-invertebrate class and teach the kids to tie flies that imitate the insects. We will also provide fly casting and fly typing demonstrations. It's a great time to meet members within the chapter and help out our youth develop a love for the outdoors.

Inside this issue:

Upcoming Programs &	1
Presidents' message	2
Past Activities and Events	3
Bushkill Restoration	4

The 2014-2015 Officers and Board of Directors

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Websites

National TU www.tu.org

State Council www.patrou.org

Report an Incident

To report a chemical spill or other environmental emergency, call the PA DEP Northeast region headquarters at 570-826-2511.

To contact Law Enforcement at the Southeast Region office of the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, call 717-626-0228 or 855-FISH-KIL

President's Message

Hello fellow anglers,

Wow, what a busy spring we have had. I want to give an update on our proposed stream improvement project. We will have some additional information posted on our website very soon. Right now our focus has been on gaining land-owner permission to access the stream to have the work completed.

Once that is accomplished, we plan on hiring Urbani fisheries to do the survey and design work as well as permitting. Our attention will then turn to finalizing peripheral items such as access paths and educational singe. Finally we hope to be ready to apply for a PA DEP growing greener plus grant by late fall and then it's cross your fingers time.

A couple items that are coming up very quickly that you should be aware of. Step outdoors Lehigh Valley at Arts quest is May 30 and 31st we can really use a hand with this so if you can spare a few hours, please contact Brian Wagner. June 6th is Northampton County Youth day at Stockertown. We have been helping host this for a long time and I know we could also use some help with this event. And our last chapter meeting of the season is June 3rd—we'll met at the Edgewood Ave access and have our annual Sulphur outing. We encourage everyone to bring a guest that has an interest in learning to fly fish and we will do our best to help them get started in the sport. Please bring waders if possible as these are always in short supply.

Locally the word is rain or lack of it. It sad to see the shape of our local waters at this time in May. Hopefully the next few weeks will bring some needed relief. I pretty much totally missed the early hatches again this year. But I understand the Sulphers are already popping and maybe I'll have a chance to get out there.

I hope everyone has a great summer

Best,

Joe

Check out the Forks of the Delaware Chapter #482 Trout Unlimited Page on Facebook

www.forkstu.org



Past Events and Activities

March 6th— Fly Tying night

The Fly tying night at Jacobsburg Environmental Educational Center was a very interesting and successful event for Forks of the Delaware TU. We had a very good turn out and many very accomplished fly tyers demonstrated their craft to all who attended. A special thanks should go out to the Jacobsburg environmental center staff for allowing us to use this great location for our night of fun.

March 14 — Forks of the Delaware, Monacacy, Little Lehigh and Hokendauqua Chapter's of Trout Unlimited Spring Event

The March 14th Spring event was a huge success. The total attendance was approximately 120 adults and children. **Guest speaker, Will Daskal**, founder of **WILD TROUT UNIVERSITY FLY-FISHING SCHOOL**, gave a presentation titled **"UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF THE CATSKILL'S BEAVERKILL RIVER & WILLOWEMOC CREEK—ONE OF AMERICA'S BEST TROUT FISHERIES!"**, which appealed to all the attendees. Thanks again to Will for his efforts and sharing his experiences of some of the most beloved fishing areas within the Catskills of New York.

April 1st—Atlas Dam Removal presentation by John Mauser

John Mauser gave a very informative and interesting presentation of the Atlas Dam Removal Project. The concrete dam measured 12-feet high and 600-feet long. Its removal restored access to 25 miles of aquatic habitat. Forks of the Delaware TU would like to thank John for his tireless efforts managing all types of stream restoration projects over the years with the Martins-Jacoby Watershed Association.

April 13th and April 25th — Stream Clean up

The Forks of the Delaware chapter would like to say Thank You to all the volunteers who came out and participated in our annual efforts to patrol and police sections of the Martins Creek and Bushkill streams. These annual stream events were well attended and help our members maintain good will with the adjacent property owners who allow us access to prime trout waters.

April 26—PATU Youth fishing day @ Wayne Harpster family farm

Once again our chapter sent kids to join Wayne Harpster at his dairy farm for a youth day of casting and fishing instructions with Joe Humphreys (FF LEGEND), entomology with Greg Hoover (PSU BUG GUY). This event was also attended by the Penn State University fly fishing students.

May 6th—'Bugs and Dogs'

The weather cooperated and the food and camaraderie was excellent as usual. Thanks to all the members who worked together to make this a great day. The event was well attended—over 35 members and their family enjoyed the festivities.

May 15th — Trout in the Classroom Release day

On May 15th Middle School age students, released their trout which they raised from eggs as part of the Trout in the Classroom program. The release was held at Jacobsburg Environmental Education Center (JEEC). The students participated in the day's events including macro-invertebrate sampling in the Bushkill Creek, a stream velocity exercise, fly casting and tying demo, birding and a nature walk. I would like to thank all of our volunteers, the JEEC educators, the Middle school teachers and the students who made the program possible. It was an educational and fun day.

This article was taken from "The Morning Call", written by Chris Potter pertaining to the Bushkill stream restoration project initiated by "The Bushkill Stream Conservancy" and "The Forks of Delaware Chapter of Trout Unlimited".

Forks supervisors hear plan to restore Bushkill Creek to health



Bushkill Creek health

CHRIS KNIGHT FILE PHOTO / SPECIAL TO THE MORNING CALL

Jim Seward, of Doylestown, gets some fly fishing in along the Bushkill Creek in Forks Township in this September 2014 file photo. The Bushkill Stream Conservancy and the Forks of the Delaware chapter of Trout Unlimited are proposing a trout stream restoration program along two miles of the creek.

By Christy Potter Special to The Morning Call

Groups want to restore water quality to Bushkill Creek

Two groups propose trout restoration for portion of Bushkill Creek in Forks Township.

In an effort to revive the Bushkill's glory days of cleaner water, easier public access and plenty of fish for the catching, the Bushkill Stream Conservancy and the Forks of the Delaware chapter of Trout Unlimited are proposing a trout stream restoration program on a nearly 2-mile section that runs through Tatamy and Palmer and Forks townships.

Kathy Altman, president of the Bushkill Stream Conservancy, and Joe Baylog, president of the Forks of the Delaware chapter of Trout Unlimited, brought a detailed proposal for the restoration to the Forks Board of Supervisors work meeting Thursday evening. Baylog, a lifelong Forks resident, said he became passionate about the Bushkill because of how much time he spent there as a child. "When I was a kid, the first day of trout season was great," he said. "All the kids, the families would be down there, and it was great. And that went on into the summer. And later we'd swim in it. But all that's changed. It's not great fishing anymore because fish can't survive in that."

The Bushkill's problems date some 200 years, during which time extensive development, 100-year floods and increased stormwater have negatively affected its health, Baylog said. While extensive projects have been done on the Bushkill over the past 30 years, problems still exist. The stream suffers from widening, poor conveyance of sediment and increased temperatures. High levels of silt have led to decreased macro-invertebrates — insects that are at higher levels in healthy streams — decreased fish spawning, and decreased habitat for forage fish. Baylog said the project would use bed manipulation to restore the deepest part of the channel while improving sediment transport and creating riffles, runs, pools and pocket water. He showed a video of a similar project done successfully on the Raritan River in New Jersey.

The project team has chosen Urbani Fisheries, a national expert on stream restoration, as the contractor and has held preliminary meetings with the state Department of Environmental Protection. The team also has raised \$20,000 to pay for design work and required permits. Baylog estimated the total cost of the project will be \$250,000, the majority of which would be covered by a state Growing Greener grant, should the program receive it.

"What we're really looking for from you is permission to do the project," Baylog told the supervisors. Tatamy already has agreed, and Baylog and Altman are meeting with the Palmer Township Board of Supervisors next week.

Altman said the project team hopes to have surveying work done finished summer, permits filed by September, grant application submitted in early 2016, and have the work completed sometime in 2017.

The access point in Forks is at Spring House, and Baylog assured supervisors that the project won't involve expanding any of the access points, just making them "a little more user-friendly."

"We want our communities and families to have the opportunity to enjoy a healthy stream," Baylog said.

The board will consider the matter at its May 21 meeting.

May all your fish be big
Have a Great Summer

