



Susquehanna Ripples

Newsletter of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited #044

February 2015

Meet Representatives from the Fish and Boat Commission

Join us at our next Chapter meeting on February 11, 2015 at the First Presbyterian Church of Williamsport in the Fellowship Hall, 102 East 3rd Street, Williamsport.

Commissioner Eric Hussar and Waterways Conservation Officer Emmett Kyler of the PA Fish and Boat Commission will be there to update us on the Commissions goals and plans and what is new for 2015, as well as answer any questions that you may have.

WCO Kyler has attended many of our meetings in the past and is always full of information.

Commissioner Hussar was sworn in as a Commissioner in October 2014 and this will give you a chance to meet with him and learn about the goals and direction of the Commission.

The meeting is open to the public and hope to see you there.

TU National Meeting Coming to Scranton

For the first time in 25 years, TU's National Annual Meeting is coming to Pennsylvania on Wednesday, September 16 through Sunday, September 20, 2015. It will be held at the Center City Hilton Hotel and Convention Center in Scranton.

Mark your calendars and set these dates aside so that you can attend. This is a tremendous opportunity for all of us to be part of. More information about the meeting will be given in the future as we get it or you can check the PA Council website. (<http://www.patROUT.org/>)

Fly Tying Class to be held

The Chapter will be holding its annual fly tying class from February 10, 2015 through March 17, 2015. The class will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall, 102 East 3rd Street, Williamsport. Parking is in the rear of the Church along Mulberry Street.

There is no charge for the class and all materials and tools will be provided. If you have your own vise and tools, you are more than welcome to bring them to use.

We are asking you to pre register for this class by sending an email to Bob Baker at boblbaker@comcast.net or by calling him at 570-337-1279. We will need your name, address, email address and what type of instruction you will need (beginner, intermediate, or advanced).

Thank you all for your interest in the past and for making this class a success!! We are also in need of instructors. Please consider sharing your skill with a fellow angler.

Bill Worobec
A Dedicated Conservationist



Bill has been an avid fisherman throughout his life and has been a member of Trout Unlimited since 1972 . We are very fortunate to have him as a member of our Chapter.

He was appointed to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in June 2006 as a Commissioner of the Fifth District (in which Lycoming County is situated). During his time as a Commissioner, he held the positions of Vice President and President. His term as Commissioner ended in the in the fall of 2014.

During his lifetime, Bill has always worked to improve the fisheries of Pennsylvania. One of his many accomplishments was his work on Big Bear Creek.

“Over the years, Bill became dismayed by the continual loss of wild trout habitat. Although there are numerous reasons for the decline of our wild trout fisheries, he held the belief that one of the most common pollutants is excessive sedimentation. In 1991 Bill decided to take action. He began collecting geomorphic data on Big Bear Creek with the intent of restoring its wild trout capacity while at the same time creating a model that would become a teaching and learning tool for others. In 1996 with the help of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protections, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and many private donor’s, the restoration project was begun.”*

That same dedication and commitment that he had for Big Bear Creek continues through today and was evident during his time as Commissioner. He has continually dedicated himself to educating others while working to increase the quality of our fisheries and to give anglers more opportunities.

Pennsylvania has some of the best trout streams in the Country and because of his efforts, we will continue to have them.

Everyone at the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited wants to thank you Bill for your efforts, your dedication, and your commitment to the fisheries of Pennsylvania. You have set an example for all of us and we look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

*taken from the September 2005 Susquehanna Ripples and written by Don Bastian.

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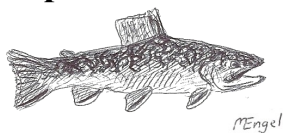
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Recipe of the Month



The Ice Fisherman's Breakfast

Here's the perfect starter to a long day in an ice shanty.

Though we tend to reach for the bacon or sausage, fish and eggs are a classic breakfast combination in many places around the world, and for good reason: They're great together. Even greater, of course, when the fish was just moments ago dancing on the end of a jigging rod.

Ingredients

- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup cornmeal
- 2 Tbsp. vegetable oil
- 2 Tbsp. butter, plus 1 more for eggs
- 4 perch fillets
- 4 eggs

Directions:

1. Pour the buttermilk into a shallow bowl, and in another bowl or plate, combine the flour and cornmeal with generous dashes of salt and pepper.

2. In a cast-iron skillet, heat the oil and butter over medium heat. While the oil is heating, dip the fillets, one by one, into the buttermilk, then dredge them in the flour mixture, shaking off any excess. When the oil is hot, lay the fillets in the oil and cook until browned, about 3 minutes per side.

3. Remove fillets to a plate, and cover loosely with foil. Reduce the heat to its lowest setting, and if needed, add an additional pat of butter to the pan. Crack the eggs into the pan and cook, slowly until the whites are completely set and the yolks have just started to thicken. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and serve beside the fillets.

<http://www.fieldandstream.com/articles/fishing/2014/02/recipe-ice-fishermans-breakfast>
Article by Jonathan Miles

PFBC Approves Pine Creek Re-Designation

At the recent meeting of the PFBC Commissioners, they approved the designation of a 2.8 mile section of Pine Creek in Lycoming County, from the confluence of Slate Run downstream to the confluence of Bonnell Run, as a Catch and Release All-Tackle Area. The area is currently designated as a Delayed Harvest Artificial Lures Only area. The changes will take effect upon publication in the PA Bulletin.

Proposal to Change DHALO regulations

The Commissioners of the PA Fish and Boat Commission recently entertained a proposal that would allow anglers to keep trout caught in the DHALO regulated streams to the Saturday before Memorial Day, the minimum size would be lowered to seven inches, and anglers could use bait or artificial lures during the harvest period. The creel limit would remain at three fish.

In addition, kids under the age of 16 would be allowed to use bait year-round in these areas.

This proposal would allow for more fishing opportunities and would hopefully "encourage more anglers, especially kids, to fish these areas and will make it easier for families to fish together."

The proposed changes will be published as a notice of proposed rulemaking in the PA Bulletin for a 60-day public comment period. If adopted on a final rulemaking, the amendments would take effect on Jan. 1, 2016. More information can be obtained from the PFBC website at <http://fishandboat.com/reg398.htm>

Mentored Youth Fishing to Expand in 2015

Responding to angler requests for more fishing opportunities, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission that it will be expanding the Mentored Youth Trout Days program in 2015 to include all trout waters stocked by the PFBC and managed under Commonwealth inland regulations. The last two years the mentored youth were limited to certain bodies of water. With this change, more opportunities will be given to the youth by allowing them to fish in more places.



The Undertaker

Hook: Mustad 36890 Salmon Hook Size 4

Thread: Black 8/0

Wing: Black Bucktail

Beard: Black Bucktail

Thorax: Three Peacock Herls

Butt: Green/ Red Floss

Tag: Silver Round Tinsel

The Undertaker was created by Mr. Warren Duncan. It was originally designed for New Brunswick Atlantic Salmon. Over the years it has also proven to be a great steelhead pattern. The color combination triggers reactions from the Atlantic Salmon and steelhead. This fly should be fished using the traditional swing method.

This fly is especially useful on dark, cloudy days. It's dark wing also shows up well in stained water.

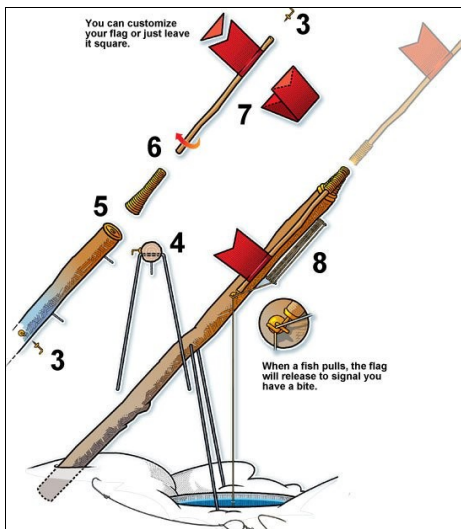
<http://www.perfectflystore.com/undertakerinfo.html>

Make an Ice-Fishing Tip-Up

Tip-ups are a perfect way to fish during the ice fishing season. By using tip-ups, you can fish multiple holes at the same time and it allows you to sit back and relax and enjoy the beautiful winter day.

To make a tip-up, you will need:

- Tape measure
- Saw
- Drill
- Screwdriver
- Sandpaper
- Glue
- Pocketknife
- 2 L screws
- 2 Finish nails
- Spring doorstep
- Metal coat hanger
- Bright-colored felt or cloth
- Braided fishing line and snelled hooks
- 1 3/4-inch x 22-inch dowel or straight branch
- 10-inch dowel or straight branch that fits into the end of the doorstep spring



Putting the tip-up together

1. Cut the dowels to length and sand smooth.

2. Drill pilot holes, then hammer in the finish nails about two inches from the base of the spring doorstep and four to five inches apart.

3. Screw both the L screws in place as shown.

4. Drill a snug hole for the coat hanger, push it through and bend to shape.

5. Screw the spring doorstep to the end of the large dowel.

6. Screw the small dowel into the end of the spring doorstep.

7. Glue on the flag.

8. Tie the braided fishing line off around one nail, and wrap about 25 yards of line around both nails. Add a snelled hook.

Know your Ice for Safety

There are many things that can affect the thickness of ice. Things like time of year, water depth, rocks, logs and other items in the water, air temperature, underground springs and location.

The color of the ice can be an indicator as to how safe the ice is to be on. Remember this is only a guideline and you should always check the thickness of the ice to determine safety.

Clear or blue ice is strongest and safest ice to be on. Make sure it is at least 4 inches to safely support one person.

White, opaque or snow ice is half as strong as blue ice. Opaque ice is formed by wet snow freezing on the ice creating another thin layer of ice on top of the existing ice. This can create air pockets.

Grey ice is unsafe. The grayness indicates the presence of water.

Light gray to dark black ice means melting ice. This ice is thawing and slushy. It may seem thick at the top but it is melting at

the center and base. Most prevalent in spring and may be brown in color. This can be caused by plant tannins, dirt and other natural materials that are resurfacing from thawing.

Chapter Website

In 2014, we had 3,397 visitors to our website. Of those visitors, they represented 20 different Countries from around the world as follows:

3334 from United States
15 from Philippines
13 from Canada
5 from France
3 from Japan
2 from Kenya
2 from Spain
2 from Italy
2 from the United Kingdom
2 from Georgia (Russia)
2 from Australia
2 from Russia
1 from Indonesia
1 from South Africa
1 from Ghana
1 from Togo
1 from Germany
1 from South Korea
1 from Vietnam
1 from Chile

How did people find our website?
The top referring sites in 2014 were:

patrout.org
facebook.com
flipboard.com
susquehannagreenway.org
tu.org

World Ice Fishing Championship XII

The World Ice Fishing Championship will be held on March 23 - 29, 2015 in Kuopio, Finland. This is the 12th Championship and fishing will be on the lake of Kallavesi.

What to do if you fall through the ice

Even if you prepare and take all the safety precautions that you can, there is no guarantee that an accident will not happen. As with any accidents, the most important thing to remember is to stay calm. I know that this is easy to say now but in an emergency, if you are not calm, the situation can become much worse.

When an adult falls through the ice, they have between 2 and 5 minutes to get out of the water before hypothermia sets in (lose coordination and strength). If you do fall through the ice, remember the following:

- Many people think that the heavy winter clothing will cause you to sink, this is not always true. The heavy clothing can trap air causing you to float.
- If you are under water, look up to try and find the hole by looking for contrasting colors.
- Use ice picks to help get out of the water. Place the picks on the ice and use them to pull yourself out of the water. Make sure the ice picks are in the ice firmly and kick your feet to get out of the water and onto the ice.
- Once out of the water, roll away from the hole in which you fell. This will spread your weight out on the ice and may prevent your from breaking the ice and falling in again.
- Head back to shore the same way you came in.
- Once on shore, take off your wet clothing and get warm (sit in your vehicle with heat on high)
- Call for help or go to the nearest emergency room for treatment

Instructions for making Ice Claws



Get two 4" pieces of wooden doweling the size of a broom handle or a little larger. Whatever material you select, it should float in case you drop the claws while struggling.

Drive a stout nail into one end of each dowel. This should be a hardened 16 penny or larger concrete nail.

Use a file to sharpen the nail heads to a point.

Drill a hole into the opposite end of the dowels and tie a length of rope through the hole so a pick is on each end "jump-rope" fashion. You may also drill a hole in the ends alongside the nails so the nail on the other pick can nest in the hole, keeping both points covered.

Keep the picks in your pocket for quick emergency access if you or a companion do break through. It is preferable to wear them around your neck for easier access.

NORTH AMERICAN ICE FISHING CIRCUIT



"The North American Ice Fishing Circuit is a corporation established by fishermen, for fishermen. The mission of the NAIFC is to advance the sport of ice fishing in North America by providing the highest level of competition, education, and product promotion."

NAIFC Tournaments are multi-day, premier fishing events. The

NAIFC Tournament Series season begins in January and lasts through March, with the NAIFC Tournament Series Championship Invitational held the following December. Each season consists of several regional qualifier events held in several states across the ice belt.

The NAIFC Tournament Series has a broad competitor base and offers an even playing field. NAIFC Tournaments are truly the hard-water equivalent to big time bass and walleye tournaments held during the open-water months. However, despite the growing sophistication of NAIFC competitors, these events remain approachable for newcomers. There is an unmistakable common-folk quality to the sport of ice fishing that seems to attract hard-working people who naturally like to help others excel in the sport. It is common for elite ice competitors who have spent years honing their skills and developing new techniques to pass their knowledge on to enthusiast ice anglers. This simply does not happen anywhere else in competitive fishing, and our sponsors recognize the value in the opportunities this creates.

The NAIFC Tournament Series consists of five to seven qualifying tournaments. Each qualifying tournament is a three-day event and has a maximum of 150 two-person teams.

The NAIFC Tournament Series Championship Invitational is a three-day event. The size of the field for the National Championship is set at 75 two-person teams.

<http://www.naifc.com/>





Susquehanna Ripples
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The Mission of the Susquehanna Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to work to conserve, protect and restore Central Pennsylvania's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds

Upcoming Events

February 10, 2015
Fly tying class to be held

February 11, 2015
Chapter Meeting with
Fish Commission

February 17, 2015
Fly tying class to be held

February 24, 2015
Fly tying class to be held

March 3, 2015
Fly tying class to be held

March 10, 2015
Fly tying class to be held

March 11, 2015
Chapter Meeting

March 17, 2015
Fly tying class to be held

March 17, 2015
Project Healing Waters
and final Fly tying class
to be held

March 31, 2015
Project Healing Waters
class to be held

April 8, 2015
Chapter Meeting

April 11, 2015
Mentored Youth Fishing

April 14, 2015
Project Healing Waters
class to be held

April 18, 2015
Opening day of Trout

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



**Neil Grandgeorge
Gerald Potson
Frederick Rankinen**

**Our membership currently stands at 225 Members and
2 Youth Members**

Chapter meetings

Held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month and are open to the public and begin at 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church of Williamsport in the Fellowship Hall (unless otherwise noted), 102 East 3rd Street, Williamsport. Parking is in the rear of the Church along Mulberry Street.

No meetings are held in May, June, July, August or December