



Muddy Matters

**TROUT
UNLIMITED**

The Newsletter of the Muddy Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

February 2006

Next Meeting March 15, 2006; 7 p.m. at the Collinsville Fish & Game Club.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Underway Now - North Branch Phase-1

Project began and buffers need planted.
(see inside for details on how to help)

February 15, 2006 - General Meeting
7:00pm at the Collinsville F&G Club

Feb. 24-26, 2006 - York Outdoor Show
See inside for Schedule

March 8, 2006 - F&BC Stocking
C&R FFO Area. Meeting at 11:00am
at the Muddy Creek Forks
We need alot of help for this one!

March 15, 2006 - General Meeting
7:00pm at the Collinsville F&G Club

April 2, 2006- PATU Regional Meeting

April 16, 2006 - Trout Season Opener

April 22, 2006- PATU EXCOMM

April 19, 2006 - General Meeting
7:00pm at the Collinsville F&G Club

Make some time to lend a hand at the numerous riparian buffer plantings to be scheduled for the North Branch Phase-1 Growing Greener project. We will require lots of volunteer help planting trees and seeding the banks as the project takes shape Get involved, Volunteer!

Get the new 2006 Patch Featuring Castle Fin Station at the York Outdoor Show or call an officer if you cannot make it to the show.

Presidents Message

I am back for two more years as the chapter's president, and would like to thank all the past officers, directors and members for their dedication and support toward the TU mission. I am looking forward to successfully completing some of the projects we have been working on and scheduling more for the future. I am especially anxious to see the complete construction on the Growing Greener projects on the North Branch & at Woodbine. I am also looking forward to completing the restoration projects at the Cooperative Nursery and on the Steve Knopp property in 2006.

I would like to welcome our new VP, Billy Boyd, who has been instrumental in keeping MCTU on the move as a director. Bob Shaffer continues to do a great job as Treasurer/Secretary. MCTU has an opening for a director for a one-year term. I would like to have someone step forward and fill this final position. Welcome to new directors Dustin Boyd, Jim Bucher & Tom Dube. All have been active in chapter events and projects. Also thanks to Maurice Chioda and Christian White for their continued support and enthusiasm in the directorship roles. With your support and leadership MCTU will continue to succeed with the TU mission.

It is that time of year to support the efforts of the Cooperative Nursery, which stocks 7,000 trout for the Muddy Creek Watershed. The Trout Fund letters and decals have been mailed. The contributions received from the Trout Fund are what finance the operation at the Cooperative Nursery. Raising and stocking the 7,000 trout would not be possible without the donations to the Trout Fund. If you know of other anglers who enjoy the fishing on Muddy Creek, they too could be contributors to the Trout Fund. Contact MCTU with name and address and they will be sent the Trout Fund packet.

There is a limited supply of 2006 decals available. So if you need additional decals, please let us know when you send your donation. Some folks put the decal on vehicles or rod tubes, but some may want one for a collection. Also for those collecting the decal, past years decals are available in limited supplies.

The 2006 limited edition collectable patch (CASTLE FIN STATION) is now available. Also available in limited quantities are the 2005 collectable patch (Muddy Creek Forks), and in very limited quantities, the 2004 15th anniversary collectable patch (Brown Trout). These patches are easily sewn on vests or travel bags. Don't miss out on each year of these collectable patches. Once they are sold out they are history.

Spring is just around the corner and cabin fever will be getting you antsy, so come join us on a pre-season stocking or other spring project. Enjoy the fresh air and camaraderie.

MUDDY PROUD!

Ronald Heuston

**MCCTU Chapter 575
Executive Staff**

President: Ron Heuston 244-1851
Vice Pres: Billy Boyd 244-7388
Sec/Treasurer: Bob Shaffer 246-4512

Directors:
(3) Maurice Chioda 747-5613
(3) Christian White 767-4562
(2) Jim Bucher 371-0327
(2) Tom Dube' 741-6914
(1) Dustin Boyd 244-7388

(One) 1-year position open - *Volunteer!*

Co-op Membership Chairman:
Steve Francis 862-3485

Co-op Nursery Manager:
Jan Pickel 382-4402

Grant & Incubator Program Coordinator
Ron Heuston 244-1851

Environmental Chairman
Maurice Chioda 747-5613

Riparian Buffers
David R. Pickel 741-6020

Dirt & Gravel Roads
Tom Dube' 741-6914

Water Quality Specialist:
Bill Stanley 755-4144

WAY Representative
(*Vacant*) *Volunteer!*

Stocking Coordinator
Maurice Chioda 747-5613

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster
Maurice Chioda 747-5613

Newsletter Support Staff
Ron Heuston - Contributing Editor
Bob Shaffer - Contributing Editor
Bill Boyd - Mailing
Roger McWilliams - Mailing

www.muddycreektu.homestead.com

Muddy Matters is a publication of Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited, chapter no. 575.

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 by emailing our website.

muddycreektu@suscom.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

**York Outdoor Show
February 24-26, 2006**

MCTU will again host a booth at the York Outdoor Show. This year will see some changes in how the show is run. The Izzak Walton League will still be the sponsor of the show but they have contracted Lee Trade Shows to manage it. The show dates have been reduced to three days; Friday Saturday and Sunday. Show hours are as follows.

Friday Feb 24 Noon until 8 PM

Saturday Feb 25 10 AM until 8 PM

Sunday Feb 26 10 AM until 3 PM

We were fortunate to have plenty of volunteer help to cover the schedule. Unfortunately our old spot has been eliminated, we are just down the aisle closer to the main gate. We will have collectable patches, featuring the new 2006 patch Castle Fin Station, and of course; hats, flies and trout fund buttons for our fund raising. We will also have some photos of the North Branch Project (before and after) for you to take a look at. We hope to see you there.

Admission on Sunday is free if you attend the non-denominal Church service held at 10AM in the seminar room.

Stocking Help Needed March 8th

The F&BC will deliver the spring trout stocking allocation to the C&RFFO on March 8th. As you know, this is the most labor intense stocking along Muddy Creek. We need over a dozen willing volunteers to help bucket the fish over the hill at Bruce to perform the float stocking. We will need the volunteers for only an hour or two from between noon and 2:00pm.

Following the "bucket brigade" in Bruce, the truck will make its way down to Owad Road and we'll float stock from Bridgeton to Woodbine and below using a tractor and wagon. We will need help all along the way. If you can help with this stocking, Contact Maurice

Fly Fishing Merit Badge

In January four chapter members conducted a fly fishing merit badge course for BSA Troop 47 in Dallastown. During the four-week course the scouts were instructed on proper fishing knots, equipment and stream behavior of trout. WCO Patrick Ferko talked about fishing regulations and angler behavior regarding the "leave-no-trace" code. Ron Heuston gave aquatic insect instruction. (the bug talk) and Fred Bridge lead the instruction on fly tying where all nine students tied two types of flies, some tied up to four. In the spring we will complete the requirements by teaching casting and actually fishing for and catching two species of fish with a fly rod.

**Growing Greener
North Branch Phase-1 Update**

The North Branch Project is taking shape nicely. With nearly half of the distance complete, sloppy weather has slowed the progress. Over a dozen rock structures and log vanes have been installed, Bank grading and sloping for increased use of the flood plain are completed as the structures are installed. Channel reconstruction in the Thompson meadow is the current stage taking place. You really have to see this project to believe it. It is remarkable how much spawning habitat has been created while stabilizing the banks through natural channel design.

In late January a small crew from our chapter planted live stakes of willow and dogwood in the upper reach of the project. Mild weather allowed for easy planting. Over the next few months we will be planting the balance of the stabilized project with native trees and shrubs. Some plantings will take place during the week and some on weekends to allow for maximum volunteerism. We are looking forward to your support with our planting commitment toward the project. Contact Maurice or Ron with your availability to volunteer. We can't do it alone.

Co-op Nursery Report

The co-op nursery has been faring very well over the winter. Mild temps have allowed feeding to continue at normal levels. Prior to the recent winter blast, January mortality results were zero. December only had a few, thanks to the feeders and their diligence over the winter.

We are looking for a steady feeder on Mondays through May. Donate a little time each week to help feed the fish. It is a rewarding experience.

We did donate 500 brook trout to the Collinsville Fish & Game Club's Co-op Nursery in early January. As well, we also did a winter stocking of another 350 rainbow trout and 155 brook trout between Bridgeton and Woodbine and below Woodbine to beyond Orson Run. This winter stocking allowed for some fine fishing during some of the milder temperature days. The irony is, while expecting to catch the newly stocked fish, anglers have found more luck with the fall-stocked holdover browns and resident fish from the prior spring stockings. The open water continues to be open to fishing until February 28, when trout stocked waters close for the 2006 stocking to be completed.

Kudos Korner

Special thanks to these members who Volunteered during recent projects.

And to the regular Nursery Feeders:

Dave Pickel, Jay Dietz, Maurice, Dean Snyder, Ed Keener, Bob Shaffer, Jan Pickel.

<i>Fall PF&BC Stocking</i>	<i>Incubator Planting</i>	<i>Fly Fishing Merit Badge</i>
Rich Englar	Maurice	Fred Bridge
Ron Heuston	Josh Warner	Ron Heuston
Bob Miller	Dave Pickel	Dave Pickel
Dylan Miller	Bill Stanley	Maurice
Dean Snyder	Jake Romig	WCO Ferko
	Ron Heuston	

Winter Co-op Stocking

Rich Englar
Ed Keener
Fred Bridge
Bill Stanley
Maurice
Bob Paulsgrove

North Branch Project Live Staking

Ron Heuston
Maurice
Jim Kiern &
son James
Dustin Boyd
Steve Francis

*See your
name here by
volunteering
for a chapter
project or
stocking this
spring.*

Streamside Incubator Report

In December we planted over 100,000 brown trout eggs at three sites. The eggs began hatching in late December and the hatch percentage was phenomenal this year. The refrigerators were loaded with fry when we checked them. Good wet weather and great flows contributed to the success. Special thanks to the volunteers who, each year, make this program possible. Their dedication can be appreciated on stream by releasing the small "wild" browns.

MCTU Plant Nursery

MCTU has started a plant nursery over the fall months. Dave Pickel was integral to this project. Once the trailer is removed from the site, we plan to construct gravity-fed watering beds to make the maintenance during the growing season more efficient. We've already started over 200 hickory and oak trees from seed. We've also begun to harvest live stakes of silky dogwood and willows for nursery stock. We could use a few more hands cutting live stakes and potting them.

We intend to use this stock on future planting projects to help defray the cost of purchasing trees and shrubs from commercial nurseries. We have a tremendous amount of planting coming to us in the next few years with all the projects scheduled. If you would like to contribute some time during the week, or on weekends contact Maurice. We need to harvest live stakes during February and early March so act now if you can help.

New Headquarters At Nursery

The nursery headquarters is beginning to take shape. Construction began inside the shed on the co-op nursery grounds. Shelving has been installed according to the floor plan design. Once the walls are up, we can begin wiring for electricity. We are hoping to have it ready for spring stockings.

We are in need of a steady feeder for Mondays through May, starting immediately. Volunteer to help feed and tend to the fish at the Co-op Nursery and be a part of this rewarding program.

PA FLY FISHING FAIR

**CARLISLE EXPO CENTER
MARCH 11 & 12, 2006**

SHOW HOURS

Saturday March 11, 9am - 5pm

Sunday March 12, 9am - 4pm

**Support these Businesses that
Support our Chapter**

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Jim Bucher
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February 2006 - Muddy Matters York Outdoor Show Issue! In This Issue:

-  ***North Branch Phase-1 Update***
-  ***York Outdoor Show Schedule.***
-  ***Co-op Nursery Report.***
-  ***Live Stake Harvesting for MCTU Plant Nursery.***
-  ***Streamside Incubator Report.***
-  ***Help Needed to Stock the C&R FFO Area March 8th.***

Catch & Release FFO on Muddy Creek

Beginning January 1, 2006, the DHFFO on Muddy Creek converted to Catch & Release, Fly Fishing Only. The rules are basically the same except there is no harvest allowed. This is part of the PF&BC regulations change to consolidate some of the many special regulation categories. Give winter and early spring trout fishing a try. Results are best during the afternoon when the stream warms a few degrees. Water temps in the mid 40's are ideal for this time of year. Anglers are having luck with wooly buggers, nymphs and san juan worms. Look for stoneflies in the sunny sections for some exciting dry fly fishing.



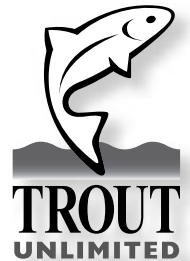
The 2004 15th Anniversary MCTU Patch "Joe Muddy"*

Now \$10.00.

Buy the complete set or continue your collection with the 2005 patch featuring...
"The Forks"



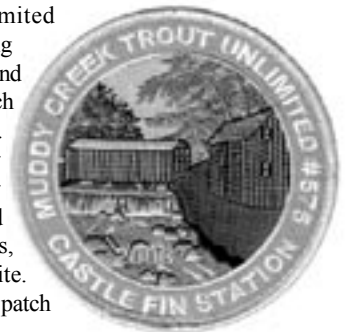
...and for 2006,
"Castle Fin Station"
 (shown below)
 Get all three for \$20.00
 *very limited supply.



***"Conserve,
 Protect,
 Restore"***

MCTU 2006 Collectors Patch

Muddy Creek Trout Unlimited has committed to continuing the collectable patch fund raiser. This years patch features "Castle Fin Station". Get your 2006 patch for \$6.00 at the York Outdoor Show, Opening Day Food Stands, Chapter meetings, and on our web site. Visit our web site to see the patch in color or to place an order.



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