



Centre Region of Governments OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

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July 28, 2015

Mr. Robert K. Vierck
President - Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited
299 Nimitz Avenue
State College, PA 16801

Dear Mr. Vierck:

During its July 27, 2015 meeting, the General Forum of the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG), in Centre County, Pennsylvania unanimously voted to support the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited (SCCTU) application for Trout Unlimited's "GOLD TROUT CHAPTER AWARD."

The Centre Region COG is a voluntary association of College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, and Patton Townships and the State College Borough. It was formed in 1969 to jointly provide public services including, but not limited to: parks and recreation, fire protection, refuse/recycling collection, land use and transportation planning, building code administration, a library, a regional nature center, and emergency management services. The COG's 150 square mile service area has about 95,000 residents. The Centre Region COG is governed by the General Forum, which is comprised of all 32 elected municipal officials of the six participating municipalities. Within the Centre Region, there are two streams, Spring Creek and Slab Cabin Run, which are classified as high quality cold water fisheries.

The municipal officials in the Centre Region COG have an enduring commitment to preserving and enhancing the quality of the Spring Creek Watershed through actions such as the adoption of a regional Comprehensive Policy Plan, Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan, well and borehole ordinances, and the conservation of wetlands surrounding the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center and the drafting of municipal ordinances to protect water well recharge areas and riparian buffer zones.

The SCCTU public education efforts, stream bank stabilization work, and stormwater improvement projects support and compliment the Centre Region COG's actions to improve the water quality conditions in the Spring Creek and Spruce Creek watersheds. There can be no higher confirmation of the success of this collaboration by considering that the Centre Region's population has increased by over 50% during the last forty years; at the same time that water quality in Slab Cabin Run has improved to the point where the stream has been upgraded to a high quality cold water fishery status, which is a designation given to less than two percent of the waterways in Pennsylvania.

The General Forum is pleased to recommend that the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited be selected for the "GOLD TROUT CHAPTER AWARD."

Sincerely,

Nigel Wilson, Chair
Centre Region COG

Serving the Townships of College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris, Patton, and the Borough of State College