

# Tertiary Treatment

The Newsletter of the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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## Three-year Spring Creek habitat project wraps up

Work completed on three Spring Creek locations in July marks the end of an expansive, three-year, Trout Unlimited-led habitat improvement project on our home water, Spring Creek.

The habitat project was a joint effort between the Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Clearwater Conservancy, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Five areas of the stream were targeted, including Fisherman's Paradise, Spring Creek Park in Houserville, McCoy Dam near Bellefonte, an area near Route 550, and a stretch near the Penn State sheep farm in Houserville. Mud sills, rock vanes, and rock walls were installed. Fish habitat was enhanced or restored, and bank erosion was abated. New trees and

re-seeding of grass was also included.

The funding for this comprehensive project included one \$5,000 TU National Embrace-a-Stream grant, a \$178,000 grant from DCNR, a \$60,000 grant from National Fish and Wildlife Federation, \$25,000 from the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, and \$6,000 in SCTU Chapter funds. The

Fish & Boat Commission also provided substantial in-kind services in the form of project plan-



ning, project design, project permitting, and in-stream labor and equipment. With

in-kind contributions from the Fish & Boat Commission, volunteers, and donations from local businesses, the project easily exceeded \$500,000 in total project benefits.

Many TU volunteer hours went into this project as well as some volunteer help from high school students looking for community service work, and college student volunteers from related environmental subject areas. These young people are the TU members of the future. Everyone involved was hardworking and enthusiastic, and the result is truly amazing.



**Above and left: Volunteer Sarah Small sinks a pin by hand while the heavy equipment goes to work at Spring Creek Park in July.**

**Below: Volunteers at Fisherman's Paradise.**



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Founded in 1973, the 350-member Spring Creek TU is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Spring Creek watershed for the benefit of trout and other species.

### Officers

**Judi Sittler, President**  
jlsittler@comcast.net

**Bob Eberhart, Secretary**  
rje1@psu.edu

**Rick Van Horn, Treasurer**  
rickvanhorn@hotmail.com

**Chris Haser, Vice President**  
brookiebrown@comcast.net

### Board Members

**William Brusse**  
wcbusse@gmail.com

**Ron Shealer**  
ronshealer@yahoo.com

**Dick Stevenson**  
res4@psu.edu

**Bob Donaldson**  
rbdonald@comcast.net

**Jay F. Lynch**  
jlynch@meiser-earl.com

**Jim Purtell**  
jmp@goh-inc.com

**Chris Hennessey**  
c.hennessey@comcast.net

## PSU's Greg Hoover to headline at September membership meeting

Don't miss our September membership meeting when Greg Hoover will present, "A Flyfisher's Entomology: Some Conversations I've Heard in Fly Shops Across the US".

While we know Hoover, an entomologist in Penn

State's Cooperative Extension group and the faculty adviser to the PSU Flyfishing Club, as our local "bug expert" he is also nationally recognized as an authority on aquatic entomology and is in high demand as a speaker at con-

ferences and fly fishing shows where he generously distributes his knowledge of insects, especially those of interest as food for trout.

Come hear what Hoover has to share at the Comfort Suites Hotel in State College at 7:30 p.m. Sept. 2.

## Trout in the Classroom training comes to Centre Co.

Pennsylvania Trout Unlimited held a Trout in the Classroom Program Partner Workshop June 27 at the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission Stackhouse facility at Fisherman's Paradise.

Essentially a tutorial on who to run a successful Trout in the Classroom effort at the chapter level, the event drew TU members from across the Commonwealth.

Trout in the Classroom is a national, conservation-oriented environmental education program for elementary, middle, and high school students.

Through the school year, students raise trout from eggs to fry and then release them into approved cold water streams and lakes. The act of raising, monitoring, and caring for young trout fosters a conservation ethic within participating students and promotes an understanding of their shared



**Right: SCTU President Judi Sittler with PATU intern Emily Gates at the Trout in the Classroom training session.**

**Above: Gates and PATU's Amidea Daniel discuss setting up a trout-rearing tank.**



water resources.

SCTU member Stu Silver attended the full day session to learn more about this worthwhile program while chapter President Judi Sittler attended the second half of the day.

Instructors were Deb Nardone, Emily Gates, and Amidea Daniel.

Spring Creek TU currently sponsors one Trout in the

Classroom teacher, Ron Shealer, in the State College Area School District. Ron is also an SCTU board member.

The SCTU board would like to add one teacher per year from area schools and is looking for ways to generate the \$1,200 needed for each set up.

After the initial expense, \$200 a year supports the maintenance and materials.

# First Cast camp a hit once more

Spring Creek TU and the Centre Region Parks and Recreation turned out a promising crop of fly anglers in July with another successful Trout Fly Fishing Camp for Youth (aka First Cast).

Held July 12 to 23, and taught by Mike Lyle, the class is aimed at introducing area youngsters in grades 5 to 8 to the sport of fly fishing.

Our TU chapter provides funding and volunteer mentors to help staff the camp.

Through classroom and on-the-water instruction, the youngsters learn to cast, tie, read water and catch fish.

Thanks to Centre Region Parks and Rec (especially Molly Hetrick), instructor Mike Lyle and the many Spring Creek TU volunteers!



Dan Shields gives some casting instruction at Tussey Mountain pond, above.



A successful angler at The Paradise.



Above: Mike Lyle introduces the campers to the tying bench at Millbrook Marsh. Below right: PFBC staff show the results of some electrofishing.



## SCTU on Facebook! Check in for announcements, more photos

The Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited is tapping the power of social networking with our very own Facebook page.

Our page will serve as a sort of interactive newsletter.

We'll be posting event notices, photos and other information on the page.

TU members and friends of the

page can make comments and even have discussions on the page.

To view our Facebook page, you must have a Facebook account, which you can arrange at facebook.com.

Once you have an account, search for Spring Creek TU and



become a fan of the page!

Updates will automatically show up on your Facebook

newsfeed.

The page will feature announcements and content that does not fit in the newsletter, such as photos from our many events