Chapter Wins TU National Gold Trout Award

With nearly 400 chapters in the country to choose from, the Gold Trout Award is presented to the most outstanding. The award represents the highest ability to reach the mission of Trout Unlimited: Conserve, protect and restore the nation's coldwater fisheries. This year our Spring Creek Chapter was awarded this honor. The following is an excerpt from the award ceremony:

"The Spring Creek Chapter's conservation and angler science activities this year are more than enough to earn accolades: Over 1.5 miles of riparian habitat planted, 13 in-stream structures built, water quality monitoring, and redd counts and angler surveys totaling more than 4,500 volunteer hours and valued at over $210,000. However, behind all of that conservation activity are the myriad ways the chapter reaches into the community. The chapter is constantly hosting events and activities, including their robust Veterans Service Partnership program where hundreds of veterans have experienced the power of both healing and community thanks to SCCTU. The Spring Creek Chapter is firing on all cylinders and growing by the day."

"The chapter is deeply humbled and honored with the awarding of the Gold Trout to our chapter," said President Robert Vierck while accepting the award. "Trout Unlimited is a major national conservation organization that is dedicated to the conservation of Spring Creek's coldwater fishery and watershed."
our coldwater fisheries and has an unbelievably positive effect on our environment. The substantial accomplishments of our chapters across the country have an unbelievable impact and our membership, volunteers and partners are deeply appreciative of this award.

To read more about the award and SCCTU accomplishments read [click here](#) to read an article by Mark Nale published in the Centre Daily Times on October 16th.

The full awards brochure that shows the inspiring work of the other award winners is here: [TU National Awards](#)

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**Dedication of the Duck Pond Plaque and Tree Planting Commemorating the 1977 Removal of Thompson Run From the Duck Pond**

In October of 1977 Joe Humphreys and the Spring Creek Chapter organized a project to rechannel Thompson Run out of the Duck Pond. The effort included G.O. Hawbaker, other local businesses and the Penn State Office of Physical Plant. This event was memorialized in a dedication in May.

Since the dedication, the Penn State Office of Physical Plant and SCCTU have had numerous work days repairing the dike that separates Thompson Run from the Duck Pond. The work is scheduled to be completed next Spring.

[Click Here for Centre Daily Times Feature Article](#) about the history of the "Duck Pond" and Thompson Run.

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The Penn State Office of Physical Plant and SCCTU Members hard at work on the cleanup.
First Annual Get Outdoors Family Fishing Picnic is a Success

Over 300 people joined us at Tussey Mountain for the Chapter's first annual Get Outdoors Family Fishing Picnic. Our 40 hardworking volunteers manned stations with activities for every age - toddlers through adults.

Stations included:

- Toddlers only area
- Fly tying
- Casting
- Fishing
- Aquatic insect identification
- Enviroscape stormwater runoff education model (manned by one of our youngest volunteer educators see the video here: Explaining the Enviroscape)
- Scavenger hunt - thank you to Kate Lemon for all her organizing!
- Canoeing and kayaking with Tussey Mountain Outfitters.
- YMCA with Jamie SanFilippo and her youth group
- And a day long cookout!

Thank you to all the sponsors that helped make the day a success:

- Chamber of Business and Industry of Centre County
- Centre Daily Times
- ClearWater Conservancy
- Collegiate Pride
- Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds
- Harris Township
- Leadership Centre County
- Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
- Otto's Pub and Brewery
- State Representative Kerry Benninghoff
- Tussey Mountain
- Tussey Mountain Outfitters
- Womens Anglers

PA Fish and Boat Commission 150th Anniversary Celebration And Central Region Office Dedication

SCCTU partnered with the PA Fish and Boat Commission to celebrate PFBC’s 150th Anniversary and the dedication of their new Central Region Office. The event highlighted Fishermans Paradise with site history, fishing, casting, a hatchery open house, and a tour of the visitor center.
Executive Director John Arway took the event as an opportunity to announce an agreement with SCCTU to provide combined maintenance services at Fisherman's Paradise.

**Jim Lanning elected PATU North Central Region Vice President**

Jim Lanning, Chairman of the SCCTU Veterans Service Program and our Conservation Committee's logistics manager has been elected to serve as the Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited's Vice President for the North Central Region. Jim will also be acting as the PATU VSP Coordinator. Congratulations Jim!

**Y Trout Release Day**

Another successful year of the Y Trout program ended with a great day of fishing at Whipple Dam State Park and the release of all brook trout raised this year.

The program is a partnership between The YMCA of Centre County and SCCTU to raise brook trout at the YMCA and teach the community about conservation. The smiles seen show that it was another successful family outreach event.

Thank you to the YMCA staff and SCCTU volunteers who made the event possible.

**Strategic Plan Approved by Board of Directors and Available**

The SCCTU Board of Directors facilitated by Ford Stryker, developed and approved a strategic plan for the chapter. The plan is available by clicking here

**Upcoming Meeting, Speakers and Events**

We have a great lineup of speakers for 2016. Join us the first Thursday of each month, 7:30pm, at the Comfort Suites Inn, 132 Village Drive, State College, Pa 16803
The following is a list of general meeting speakers and other events in the area:

November 3  Dr. Robert Carline "Spawning Behavior of Trout in Lakes and Streams"
December 9  Holiday Party location to be determined
November 13  Veterans Service Program at Fisherman's Paradise
November 20  Redd Count - Spring Creek Park