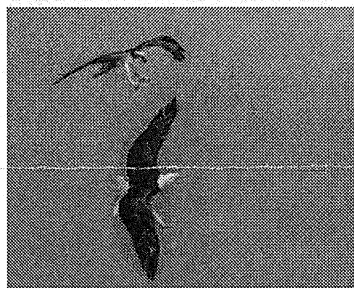


TULLY TALK

Another Opening Day is behind us, and I hope that many of you were able to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather. As COVID numbers continue to reduce our chapter has begun meeting in person. In March, we gathered stream-side for coffee and donuts along the Tulpehocken at Red Bridge Pavilion. We had a nice turn out, met some new faces, and even saw an Eagle and an Osprey tango in the sky. Thank you to all of those who joined us in the chilly weather, I hope to see more faces as the weather begins to warm up.



Osprey and an Eagle take flight in the sky along the Tulpehocken creek, near Red Bridge Pavilion.

Speaking of seeing more faces... We'll be having our regular monthly meetings at Chef Alan's in West Reading again on the third Wednesday every month at 6pm starting in April. Please check the website or our Facebook page for details each month.

Many of you may know about our extensive Trout in the Classroom program in Berks County. There are over 30 schools with the TIC program and teachers are in need of help on their release days. If you're interested in helping please reach out, we have teachers across the county who could use extra hands.

There are a lot of exciting things happening. We've added tree deflectors to the Tulpehocken, a project lead by Ed Ulmer with assistance from the Army Corps of Engineers and other chapter members. If there are other creeks that you feel could benefit from a natural deflector or another restoration please reach out.

We're working with the Berks Conservation District to get involved in some additional stream restoration projects around the county as well, if you are interested in getting involved the chapter would your help to work on local stream improvements.

Lastly, I'd like to invite you to meet up with other regional chapters at the Fly Fishing Film Tour in Phoenixville on April 14 at 6pm. There will be great films on fishing, raffles, prizes and so much more. Don't miss out — this event has sold out in the past. We look forward to seeing you there and hope to see you at more chapter events in 2022!

Tight lines and stay safe.

TCTU Officers and Board

President - Brenda Bittinger
Vice President - Mike McLaughlin
Treasurer - Ed Ulmer
Secretary - Open Chair

Board Members -

Chris Meyer
Cathy Curran-Myers
Benjamin Klopp
Tom Ham

We Need Membership Involvement in these areas:

Education / Trout in the Classroom
Finance Committee
Programs Committee
Resource Committee
Social Committee
House Trustee

Chapter Mail

P.O. Box 91, Shillington, PA 19607
tullygram@comcast.net
www.TullyTU.org

 Tulpehocken Creek Trout Unlimited

 Tulpehocken150

Feel free to tag us! #tullytupa

If you're not receiving emails, please contact: b.bittinger@gmail.com and we'll get you on the list!

EVENTS

April - F3T in Phoenixville & General Meeting
May - Breakfast on the Tully
June - General Meeting
July - Casting Competition & BBQ
August - General Meeting
September - Eco 5k
October - General Meeting



Join us on April 14, 2022 at 6pm in Phoenixville at the Colonial Theatre. You can buy tickets at: <https://flyfilmtour.com/buy-tickets/>



TREE DEFLECTORS IN THE TULPEHOCKEN WITH THE ARMY CORPS

BY: ED ULMER, TREASURE

The Tulpehocken Chapter has been involved in many projects to improve the Tulpehocken Creek during the last 45 years. Rock deflectors have been installed in many locations. Most recently, three boulder deflectors were installed a few years ago near the confluence of the Cacoosing and Tulpehocken Creeks. Their purpose is to push water away from the bank. This reduces erosion, adds oxygen to the water, cools the water, and eventually, dredges a deeper channel. All of this being good for trout, other organisms, and ducks in particular.

So, tree deflectors are a cheap way of achieving these goals. Trees also add nutrients for the macroinvertebrates that trout eat. I worked with Brianna Treichler from the Army Corps of Engineers to plan the tree deflector project. Brianna was very helpful with the research into permits and safety issues. The volunteer lumberjacks attended a safety course with the Army Corps taught by Nate Freiwald. We learned a lot of good safety practices, and recommend a safety course to anyone who needs to use a chainsaw.

We started by identifying spots for deflectors about two years ago. My daughter, Katie, a TU Teen, helped get the GPS locations, and did the first site visit. The location is in the Tulpehocken, below the stilling basin. We tried to find suitable trees between the existing stone deflectors. We considered the difficulty of cutting and safety. We also considered things like habitats for owls and butterflies, and scheduled around opening day for trout season, as required by the Fish & Boat Commission.

Our first scheduled date was snowed out, so we rescheduled for March 19. Thunderstorms were predicted, but the weather was great. Our Lumberjacks were Al Williams and Mike McLaughlin, our VP. Kurt Shearer and I were the cable guys; wearing waders and cabling the trees to the stumps. Kurt had a lot of tree cutting knowledge from his work at the Game Commission. As it was, we did not need to go into the water. The dam operator had dropped the flow for us, to help with water safety, too. The Army Corps was represented by Jonah Eckert who was a great help. The Army Corps provided materials and the chainsaws. It all went well. We may add more tree deflectors at some point, or in other creeks. A great thank you to all who participated!

Do you know of another area in a local stream that could use a project like this? Please let us know, contact: Brenda at b.bittinger@gmail.com or info@tullytu.org

Tully Stocking Schedule

We're always in need of stocking help. If you're interested in helping to stock, please contact Kirk Baumener at (484) 878-9195. The next stocking date is 4/28.

