

Winchester Trout Unlimited

(October 3, 2019)

7:00 pm Call to Order At Lord Fairfax Community College

9 members attending

This was the annual joint meeting of the Northern Shenandoah Audubon Society and the Winchester TU Chapter.

Speaker Lisa LaCivita PhD.

Our own Lisa LaCivita presented her research on “Frogs of Frederick County VA” The talk was titled “What are they telling us”? And “Why we should care”

- There is a connection between frogs and fish and birds. ie water quality and food.
- Streams in Frederick County are all “headwater streams” that flow into larger bodies of water. Because they originate here, we are therefore responsible for maintaining the quality of these streams before they could pollute larger water bodies downstream.
- Her focus was primarily on two types of frogs: The Spring Peeper and the Gray Tree Frog. Both are about 1-1 1/4 inch in size.
- Because frog eggs are deposited in water and the tadpoles mature in that water, the tadpoles are susceptible to water quality.
- Lisa concluded that the high number of frog observations she collected indicates the water quality in the county is generally high.
- Her challenge is that Riparian improvement and maintenance must continue to maintain this high level of water quality.

Projects:

1. Red Bud work session **October 12th at 9am** at Red Bud Run. There is a gate entering the field on the north side of Redbud. If you arrive late, the gate will be shut, so be sure to shut it after you enter. Work location area is up-stream from the gate. Look for trucks. .

Education:

1. **TIC** Lisa LaCivita
 - Lisa--Egg delivery and distribution date is Tuesday 10/8. Volunteers are needed to gather rocks from Red Bud Run and take the eggs to individual schools. Contact Lisa if you can help. Meet in the Stephens City Martin’s parking lot at 10:00 am.

On-Going:

1. **Project Healing Waters**
 - The last gathering of Vets at the Leetown Hatchery will be on 10/25/19. Contact Phil Stevens if you are able to help.
2. Bar Fly (Gene) Wednesday 10/9 at Escutcheon Brewery at 7:00.
3. The Holiday Party is scheduled for 12/15. More details to come.

New Business:

1. FWAM (Fish with a Member)
 - Erie Steelhead trip is scheduled for the week of 11/3-11/8
2. The November meeting will be held at Lord Fairfax Community College. The Audubon Society will be meeting with us. Dr. Lisa LaCivita will be presenting a talk on her thesis about frogs.

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 pm

Submitted by Fred Boyer