

Lateral Lines

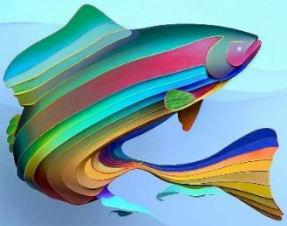
The Monthly Magazine of Winchester Trout Unlimited
Chapter #638

If the early bird catches the worm, I'll sleep until there's bacon. -- Anonymous

April 2025

Volume 30, Number 4

WINCHESTER
TROUT UNLIMITED



CHAPTER #638

Celebrating
30 Years of
Lateral Lines

Winchester TU Meeting

Thursday, 3 April 2025, 7:00 PM
Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge,
Lake Frederick, VA

Winchester TU Priority Waters Meeting

Thursday, 3 April 2025, 6:00 PM
Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge,
Lake Frederick, VA

Project Healing Waters Monthly meeting

Wednesday, 9 April 2025
Agenda to be announced later
RSVP Required

BarFly

The next Winchester TU BarFly
Wednesday, 16 April 2025
7:00 PM at Escutcheon Brewing Co.
142 W. Commercial Street, Winchester

For complete calendars, please see
Page 7 for Winchester Project Healing Waters
and
Page 15 for Winchester Trout Unlimited



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Bill Prokopchak, Newsletter Editor
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Winchester TU 2025 Speaker Schedule - May 2025

Mark your calendar now and plan to hear this presentation.

Brian Peeler:
Fly Fishing
for Muskie
on the
Shenandoah



Join Winchester Trout Unlimited on 1 May 2025, at 7:00 PM

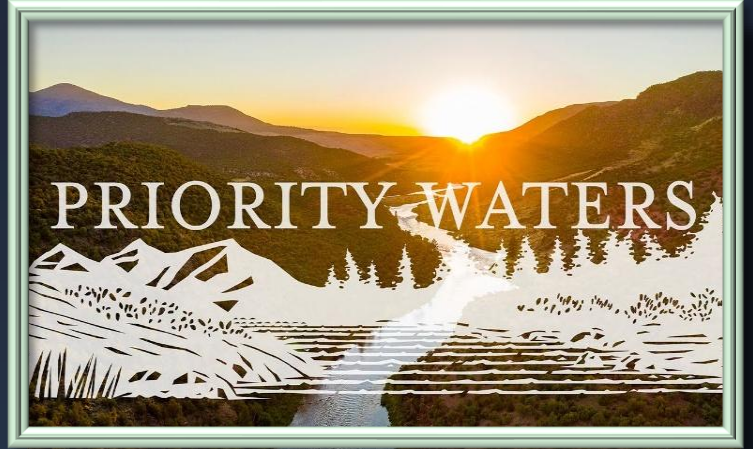
"Fly Fishing for Muskie on the Shenandoah" with featured speaker Brian Peeler, [Rivergoat Outfitters](#), at Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick, VA.

Our featured speaker Brian Peeler is the owner/operator of [Rivergoat Outfitters](#), based out of Front Royal, The Canoe Capital of Virginia. He grew up in Fairfax County fishing the Occoquan Reservoir, Pohick Bay, other local bodies of water and regular trips out to the South Fork of the Shenandoah River. While in attendance at VMI, Brian targeted smallmouth bass on the Maury River and chased northern pike and walleye as a camp counselor in Minnesota. In 2012 he found himself stationed with the Army in Alaska and learned to fly fish and tie through the Anchorage chapter of Project Healing Waters. Since then, Brian has worked to become a well-rounded angler and strives to apply techniques from both disciplines to learn and solve problems on the water. Currently, you can find him guiding primarily on the South Fork and Main Stem of the Shenandoah chasing smallmouth and musky.

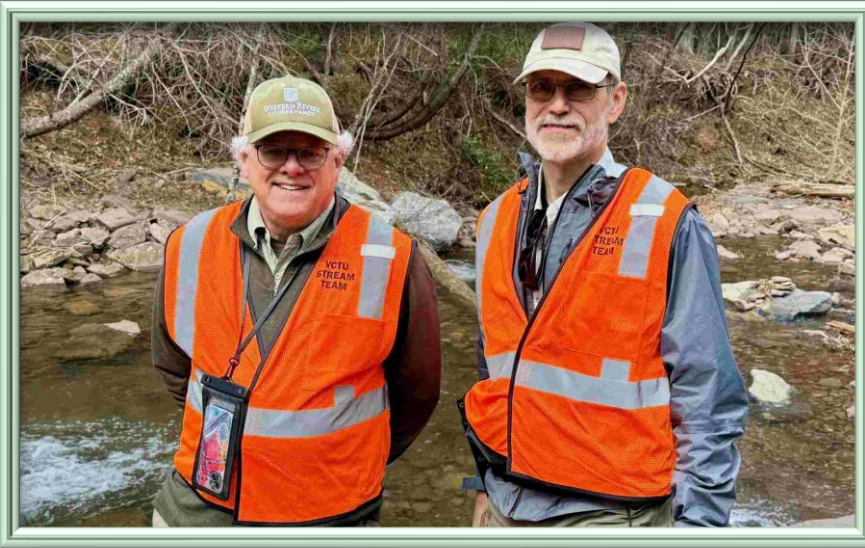


Winchester TU Priority Waters: In a Three-Point Stance for the Season Ahead

by Michael Lawler Smith
photos by Tedd Gimber



The Priority Waters team convened its regular meeting at 6:00 PM, 6 March 2025, an hour before the regular monthly Chapter meeting. Michael Makufka chaired the quorum that included Tedd Gimber, Mike Hart, Stan Ikonen, John Prescott, Luke Robins, and Mike Smith.



Priority Waters team members Luke Robin (l), and Tedd Gimber suited up for their recent stream barrier assessment training. Barrier assessment is one of the partnership tasks the team has committed to in its formal agreement with the Forest Service.

The team has acquired “TidbiT” data loggers and will deploy two in Mill Run and three along Little Passage Creek. One of the Little Passage sites will be above Strasburg Reservoir, another at an existing Forest Service test site, and a third to be determined later.

Quarterly pH and dissolved oxygen readings will be taken at the same sites Forest Service has used to provide continuity in the database. The team will be given key access to Forest roads under seasonal gate closure.

Tedd Gimber indicated he would attach essential information tags to the data loggers should they be accidentally discovered by hikers or other outdoor recreationists. The tag would indicate the devices are part of an ongoing TU/FS study and request that the device be replaced to its original location.

If it had been dislodged by a flood event, the tag would also have a “please call #.”

Since internal communication is vital to long-term projects such as Priority Waters, Tedd Gimber has established for the group a Google Drive for site maps and photographs. He will also explore setting up a Google Groups page for team dialogue. The team also hopes to schedule a field visit with the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests’ staff hydrologist in the not too distant future.

In its first order of business the group discussed its work day schedule for 2025, and identified the following field days: 8 April, 8 July, 9 September and 18 November.

Each date is a Tuesday, and these were selected because of the convenience for the team and the likelihood of only limited forest usage, thus helping assure better stream access. The team will deploy its temperature loggers on its first field outing 8 April 2025.

Chair Makufka reiterated that the team’s field endeavors in 2025 will focus on assessment of barriers and stream crossings, temperature, pH, and dissolved oxygen collections at the sites where historic data is available.

Additionally, the team will note overall stream conditions and photo-document sites that may require immediate attention or repair.



The data loggers will be attached to bricks and submerged in portions of streams where they will attain accurate data while still being unobtrusive and difficult to see.

**“Priority Waters”
continues on the next page.**

Priority Waters -- continued

In other actions the team agreed to continue to provide updated articles for upcoming issues of **LATERAL LINES** not only to keep all chapter members fully apprised but also to serve as a standing invitation to encourage potential new team members.

Mike Makufka indicated he would approach the chapter's webpage manager to see if a priority waters link could be added to the site and request the newsletter editor to list the team's forthcoming meetings and field days.

The team's next scheduled meeting will be at 6:00 PM, Thursday, April 3, an hour prior to the regular monthly chapter meeting. All interested chapter members are invited to attend.



The Priority Waters team will deploy "TidbiT" model data loggers in the two project streams."



Winchester TU Priority Waters 2025 Calendar of Field Days

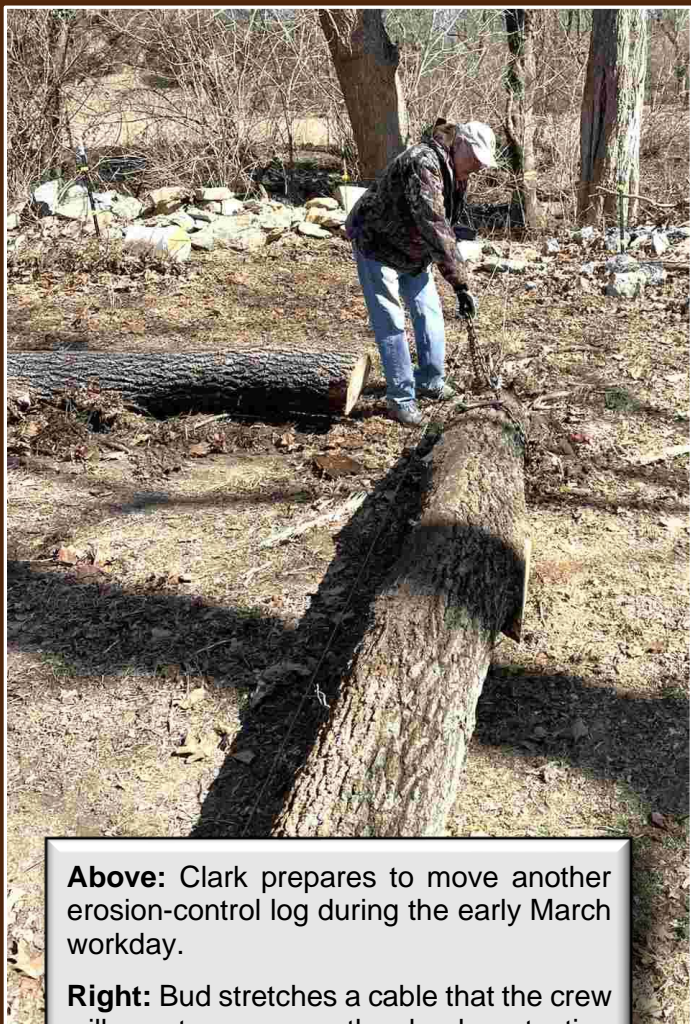
courtesy of Mike Makufka

Tuesday, 8 April 2025

Tuesday, 8 July 2025

Tuesday, 9 September 2025

Tuesday, 18 November 2025



Above: Clark prepares to move another erosion-control log during the early March workday.

Right: Bud stretches a cable that the crew will use to move another bank-protection log. Bud stands beside the massive sycamore that Terry felled for safety reason many years ago.

Bud on the Run:
March 2025 Reports
The April workday will be
5 April 2024 at 9:00 AM.



"Bud on the Run" continues on the next page.

Bud on the Run

-- continued

22 March 2025 at Redbud began as we hoped --- sunshine, not cold, gentle breeze --- just right for three old guys and one older guy anxious to play in Redbud Run at Wayne Seipel's ranch after several weeks of delay. Boyer; Fish; new guy, Bob Edmonds; and Bud navigated the south gate near the old mill house and assembled for preliminary stories at the piles of rock on the bank overlooking the famous giant sycamore log and Sycamore Falls.



Above: Fred uses the post driver crafted by the late Dave VanBenschoten to secure a bank protection log.

Left: John (I) and Bud use old-fashioned leverage and muscle power to move the log into place.

Below left: Having done this many times over the years, Fred (I) drives yet another T-post.

photo by Bob Fish



The target for the day was to finish work on the two stream bank protection logs installed at the make-up session on 8 March 2025 by locking them into place and then filling in the small space between the logs and the bank with rocks. A newly acquired long handle for an old, heavy-duty, 10-lb. sledge hammer easily helped drive the 6'-steel fence posts at each stream-side end of the two logs through some hard stream bottom to a proper depth.

While Fred and Bud swung the sledge, Fish and Edmonds began the process of moving rocks from the large rock piles we have accumulated along the top of the bank over the past several years to appropriate sites so that we can carefully move the rocks down the banks.

Then, another step in the process, had Fred wiring the logs to the fence posts with help from Edmonds and Fish.

With Fred already in the stream, the other three of us by chain-ganged most of the rocks down to Fred who placed the rocks appropriately to fill in the gap between the logs and bank to protect the steep bank from excessive erosion.

**“Bud on the Run”
continues on the next page.**

Bud on the Run -- continued



All of this was performed with a minimum of muttering until the end of the effort when we ran out of rocks, having filled only about 2/3 of the length of the two bank protection logs. Wayne Seipel had arrived by this time to add another dimension to our commentary.

There was substantial discussion about all the rocks left at the nearby warehouse construction project which were buried when landscaping was performed. We need some reconnaissance to locate more rock piles ----- . Any suggestions anyone?

Left: Bud (l) and the new man, Bob Edmonds, prepare to deliver rocks to the newly constructed erosion-control structures on Redbud Run.

photo by Bob Fish

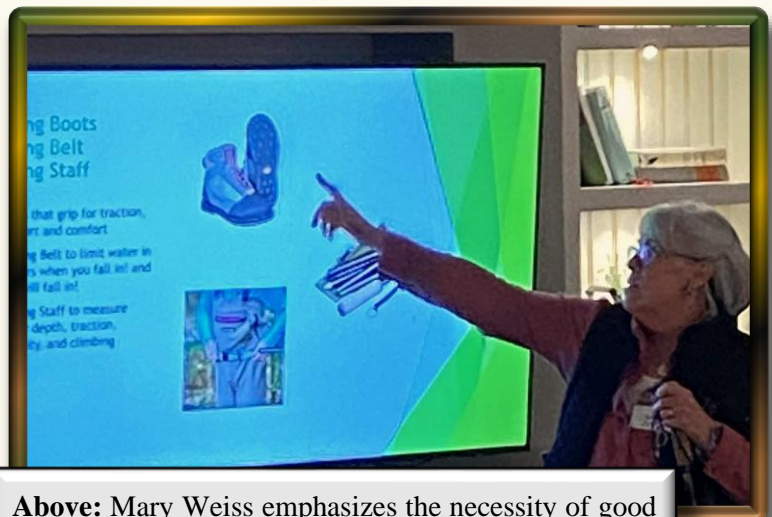


WINCHESTER HEALING WATERS PREPARES FOR SPRING FISHING

by Wayne White

With the start of Spring fishing, the Winchester Healing Waters program is now focusing its monthly meetings and training on core fly-fishing education, casting instruction, and fly-tying in anticipation of its upcoming outings.

“Safety first, safety always” was the theme of Mary Weiss’ water safety briefing, which kicked off the monthly meeting at the Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick, on 12 March. Her presentation featured safety tips for proper sun and weather protection, such as polarized sunglasses, sunscreen, a small first aid kit, checking stream flows, packing extra clothes, and letting someone know where you will fish.



Above: Mary Weiss emphasizes the necessity of good waders and the use of a wading belt and a wading staff during her water safety presentation.

Left: Jim White (l), Program Assistant Lead, describes a dry dropper rig to volunteer Kurt Koller at the monthly meeting.

photos by Wayne White

Mary also covered the importance of using a wading staff when fishing in moving water, some basic first aid treatments, and removing an embedded hook. Project Healing Waters policy requires a volunteer guide for each participant, and for both, a wading staff is needed. Mary and her husband, Burr Tupper, have led fly-fishing instruction for Trout Unlimited at the national and local chapter levels and are now developing a fly-fishing program of instruction and training for Winchester participants.

“Winchester PHW”
continues on the next page.



EST. PROJECT 2005
HEALING WATERS

WINCHESTER PHW -- CONTINUED



Above: Jackson Dierberg (r) gives extra pointers to new volunteer Eric Bailey on the casting grip during the casting clinic.
photo by Wayne White

Right: Dave Harrelson (c) explains some critical techniques for thread-wrapping foam to participants Warren Dundenbostel (r) and Erwin Casto at the fly-tying session at Jake's Bait and Tackle, 22 March.
photo by Michael Lawler Smith

Below: A sample of Warren's foam beetle flies he tied at Jake's.
photo by Wayne White



Despite some breezy weather, Jackson Dierberg continued his casting instruction clinic for participants and volunteers on the lawn at the Shenandoah Lodge at the recent monthly meeting. The extra evening hour of daylight allowed him to help participants with their casting techniques and develop the coaching skills of our volunteers who work with the new fly anglers. Jackson, a Virginia DNR Conservation Officer, and former Orvis casting instructor is developing the casting program and leading the casting clinics to prepare participants for upcoming fishing outings and develop volunteers as better casting coaches.

At Jake's Bait and Tackle on Saturday, 22 March, Winchester participants and volunteers tackled several trout fly patterns. The session allowed for much one-on-one instruction on the details of some new creations. We want to thank our volunteers for their time and expertise in furthering the fly-tying talents of our Veterans. We also want to thank Jake's staff for supporting our program and allowing us to use their facility for our classes.



For a tutorial on tying the Zebra Midge, go to Tight Line Productions
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFAIXG_78Z4

For instructions on setting up a dry dropper rig, go to
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tN9hUG12h7k>



WINCHESTER PROGRAM UPDATE APRIL 2025



The Winchester Project Healing Waters program will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, at the Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick.

The meeting will include fly-tying, a casting clinic, and planning for upcoming local, Regional, and National Destination Trips.

A few of the new Winchester Healing Waters Program T-shirts are still available as part of our continuing fundraiser with Jake's Bait and Tackle. This special offer features Dan Soper's original artwork of a Brook Trout that Charles "Doc Smith" caught. The Brookie is displayed on the back under a banner, "Shenandoah National Park." The T-shirt is \$23.99, and \$2.00 for each sale will be donated to PHW.

The following fly-fishing activities and events, tentatively scheduled for 2025 and subject to change, are for our veterans' ongoing education and skill development.

April

9 – Monthly Meeting

11 - 13 – Outing at Virginia Elks Youth Camp with Fredericksburg PHW (Overnight trip limited to five participants and five guides)

16 – 18 -- Virginia Region Wild Trout Trips, Shenandoah National Park—Heather Wright (Participant) and Doc Smith (Guide) will attend.

26 – Massanutten TU Beaver Creek Invitational (Ottobine, Virginia) Erwin Casto has been selected to participate.

May

3 -- Fishing Outing at Lake Neff, Izaak Walton, Winchester. This is open to all participants and volunteers.

4 – Beaver Creek Outing – Limited to four participants and four volunteer guides.

7-9 -- Virginia Regional Fishing Outing—Back Creek, Bath County. Karen Trueblood (P) and Mary Weiss (Guide) will attend.

14 – Monthly Meeting

17 – Leetown Fishing Outing, Kearneysville, WVA. This is open to all participants and volunteers.

22 – Winchester Rotary Club Healing Field of Honor – Community Outreach

28 – Rose River Farm, Syria, Va. – Limited to six participants and six volunteer guides.

June

31 May – 3 June -- Tomahawk Ranch, Warm Springs, Va. Overnight trip with Quantico Program. Limit one participant and one volunteer guide.

8 -- Beaver Creek Outing – this is limited to four participants and four volunteer guides.

11 – Monthly Meeting

18 – Shenandoah National Park Youth Fishing Day – Community Outreach

Additional information and updates about these activities and events will be published in *Lateral Lines* at <https://winchestertu.org/>.

Updates and post-activity information will be posted on Facebook at **Winchester Project Healing Waters**.

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Barbara's Books

Compiled by Barbara Gamble

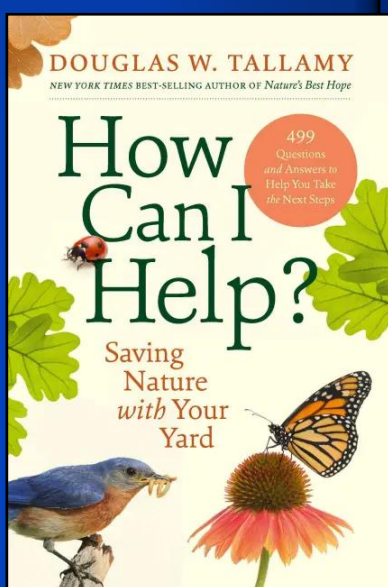
How Can I Help? **Saving Nature with Your Yard**

Authors: Douglas W. Tallamy
Hardcover: 376 Pages
ISBN-10: 1643264710
ISBN-13: 978-1643264714
Publisher: Timber Press
Publication Date: 8 April 2025

In *How Can I Help?*, Tallamy tackles the questions commonly asked at his popular lectures and shares compelling and actionable answers that will help gardeners and homeowners take the next step in their ecological journey. Topics range from ecology, evolution, biodiversity, and conservation to restoration, native plants, invasive species, pest control, and supporting wildlife at home.

Tallamy keenly understands that most people want to take part in conservation efforts but often feel powerless to do so as individuals. But one person can make a difference, and *How Can I Help?* details how.

Whether by reducing your lawn, planting a handful of native species, or allowing leaves to sit untouched, you will be inspired and empowered to join millions of other like-minded people to become the future of backyard conservation.



“Doug Tallamy tackles the issues that bedevil anyone interested in a healthy garden and healthy planet: biodiversity, native plants, invasive species, pest control, wildlife, and more... His answers are always thoughtful, useful, and based on research and experience.” —*The American Gardener*

Doug Tallamy is a professor in the Department of Entomology and Wildlife Ecology at the University of Delaware, where he has authored 107 research publications and has taught insect-related courses for 44 years. Chief among his research goals is to better understand the many ways insects interact with plants and how such interactions determine the diversity of animal communities.

Among his awards are the Garden Club of America Margaret Douglas Medal for Conservation and the Tom Dodd, Jr. Award of Excellence, the 2018 AHS B. Y. Morrison Communication Award, and the 2019 Cynthia Westcott Scientific Writing Award. Doug is author of *Bringing Nature Home*, *Nature's Best Hope*, and *The Nature of Oaks*; and co-founder with Michelle Alfandari of HOMEGROWN NATIONAL PARK®. Learn more at HNPARK.org.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers

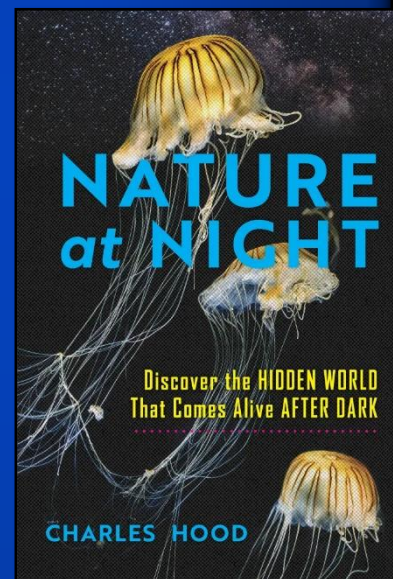
Nature at Night: **Discover the Hidden World that Comes Alive After Dark**

Author: Charles Hood
Hardcover: 320 pages
ISBN-10: 1643263137
ISBN-13: 978-1643263137
Publisher: Timber Press
Publication Date: 29 April 2025

While old tales warn us that danger lies waiting in the dark, there is actually an abundance of thriving, colorful life. Solar winds brighten the sky with Northern and Southern Lights. In the desert, elegant datura blooms at night, enticing moths to help with pollination, while in the Rockies grizzly bears make a meal of the insects to sustain them during hibernation. In the ocean, night-feeding dolphins chase nocturnal squid which have made a vertical migration to the surface. In the jungles, jaguars hunt by moonlight while night monkeys swing safely through the trees.

Experienced naturalist and photographer Charles Hood captures it all, sharing his nocturnal adventures all over the world, with insight, wit, and over 240 stunning photographs. Open your senses to this darkened world, which is strange yet familiar—and more beautiful than you ever imagined.

“Hood is an enthusiastic advocate of participating in citizen science and provides guidance for amateur explorers. Perceptive and witty, with beautiful color photos throughout, this book will inspire readers to observe and explore the night.”
—*Booklist*



Charles Hood is a naturalist, adventurer, and poet. He has also been a factory worker, a ski instructor, a dishwasher, and a nature guide in Africa. Nature study has taken him to all fifty US states, eighty countries, and the South Pole.

Along the way he has been lost in a whiteout in Tibet, contracted and survived bubonic plague, and published 20 books and over 800 photographs. His essay collection *A Salad Only the Devil Would Eat* was named the Nonfiction Book of the Year by the editors of *Foreword* book review. He lives in the Mojave Desert with two kayaks, two mountain bikes, two dogs, and 5,000 books.

Sources: amazon.com and the publishers



Tech on the Water:

by John Prescott
with Mike Gioielli



StreamGage.us

During my retirement, I've been spending more time working on improving my fishing skills. I've learned a great deal from my fellow TU chapter members, and part of my daily routine includes reviewing the TU's Community Forum Digest. On this lively platform, experienced anglers and beginners alike share their insights, advice, and stories. This invaluable resource has not only fueled my interest but also connected me with a community that encourages learning and camaraderie.

During one of these morning reviews, I discovered StreamGage -- a website that offers up-to-date information on the waters I often fish. I reached out to Mike Gioielli, who introduced the TU community to StreamGage, and he was generous enough to provide detailed information about the site. I frequently fish for smallmouth on the Shenandoah, so I get river conditions sent to my email. Mike provided some recent screenshots for Cedar Creek.

StreamGage - Realtime Stream Info, Daily Reports, and Condition Alerts

This hyperlink will take you to the StreamGage website. [HTTP://streamgage.us](http://streamgage.us)

If the above hyperlink does not work for you, here is the complete website address
<https://streamgage.sunergonsw.com/Features/Watersheds.aspx>

Please note that StreamGage is NOT an iPhone or Android app. At this time, it is only available as a website.

STREAMGAGE

REALTIME DATA FOR US RIVERS

SELECT LOCATION

VIRGINIA

FREDERICK

ALL WATERSHEDS

CEDAR

USGS# or DWR site (optional)

FILTER BY CONDITIONS

STEADY FLOWS

DISCHARGE (CFS):

WATER °F:

TURBIDITY (NTU):

SEARCH RESET LOGON

SITES: 1

SORT BY: Stream

(Click for Detail)

CEDAR CREEK NEAR WINCHESTER, VA

COUNTY/STATE: Frederick, Virginia	WATERSHED: CEDAR CREEK
FLOWS:	ALTITUDE: 646
DISCHARGE: 151 CFS 2/8/2025 8:45 PM	TURBIDITY (NTU): -
WATER °F: -	GAGE DEPTH: 2.65 2/8/2025 8:45 PM

VERSION: BETA-2025-01-15
© 2025 - SUNERGON SOFTWARE - WWW.SUNERGONSW.COM

StreamGage displays real-time stream information from the US Geological Survey (USGS) and the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR). The user can locate streams by **State, County, Watershed** and/or Stream or **Station Site #** and filter by **Flows, Water Temperatures, Turbidity, or Flow conditions** (Ice, etc.)

Each Stream Flow page displays data for each Stream including:

- Graphs for Stream flows (CFS), Water Temperatures (F), Gage Depth, Turbidity (NTU) for the past 7, 14, 30 days, 6 months or 1 year

Please note that not all USGS river gauges record all data all the time. StreamGage can only report the data it gets from USGS.

- A link to the online Google map.

- Links to the official station reporting sites from USGS and the Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR)

- Current real-time weather conditions and a 3-day weather forecast from OpenWeather including High/Low temperatures and wind speeds

Other features include:

- Ability to save favorites (Logon required)
- Daily stream email reports for "Favorites"
- Email and text alerting based on flows, temperatures, turbidity, or flow conditions
- Trip logging

"Tech on the Water" continues on the next page.

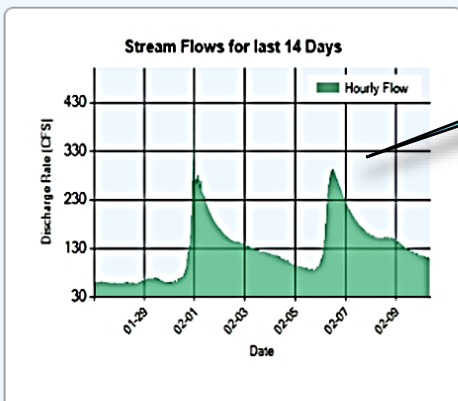
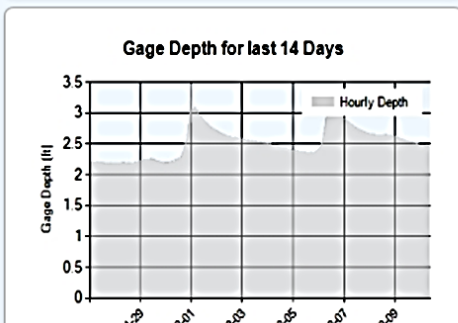
Tech on the Water: StreamGage.us -- continued

STREAMGAGE SEARCH HELP

CEDAR CREEK NEAR WINCHESTER, VA
 FLOWS FOR LAST: 14 days

STATE/COUNTY: Virginia/Frederick WATERSHED: CEDAR CREEK
 FLOWS: **Steady** ALTITUDE: 646.2
 DISCHARGE: 108 CFS at 2/10/2025 8:45 PM GAGE DEPTH: 2.47 ft as of 2/10/2025 12:00 AM
 WATER TEMP: - AIR TEMP: 30.2°F at 2/10/2025 10:15 PM
 STATUS: TURBIDITY: -
 TYPE: ST USGS SITE: 01634500
 DRAINAGE AREA: 102 DATA SOURCE: US Geological Service

Favorite Alerts

StreamGage displays stream flows for your choice of watersheds.

Monday, February 10, 2025

Expect A Day Of Partly Cloudy With Clear Spells

HIGH TEMP: 43°F LOW TEMP: 27°F
 HUMIDITY: 37% PRESSURE: 1030 HPA
 SUNRISE: 7:10 AM SUNSET: 5:44 PM
 WIND: NW @ 10 MPH WITH GUSTS UP TO 17 MPH

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

The Day Will Start With Partly Cloudy Through The Late Morning Hours, Transitioning To Snow

HIGH TEMP: 33°F LOW TEMP: 28°F
 HUMIDITY: 86% PRESSURE: 1028 HPA
 SUNRISE: 7:09 AM SUNSET: 5:45 PM
 WIND: SE @ 4 MPH WITH GUSTS UP TO 7 MPH

StreamGage displays weather data for your choice of locations.

STREAMGAGE

MY ALERTS
 New Alert

ACTIVE?:
 ALERT: **CEDAR CREEK FLOWS BELOW 120 CFS**
 STATION: CEDAR CREEK NEAR WINCHESTER, VA
 ALERTTYPE: **Flows**

WHEN FLOWS: MINIMUM: < 120
 CONDITIONS: MAXIMUM: 0
 DELAY HOURS: 12 LAST SENT: 1/1/0001 12:00:00 AM
 START DATE: 1/15/2025 12:00:00 AM END DATE: 3/15/2025 12:00:00 AM
 SEND TO: Email EMAIL: Support@sunergonsw.com
 MOBILE:

StreamGage will display alerts based on the criterion you set. In this example, the angler set an alert for when the water level dropped below 120 CFS on Cedar Creek.



My Trout Fly Box

The Blue-Wing Olive (BWO)

article and photos
by Burr Tupper

The May Fly (Baetis) plays an indispensable role in the diet of trout. Trout eagerly feed on the May Fly in all stages of their life cycle (egg, nymph, dun, and spinner). The Blue Wing Olive hatches in Virginia and the East Coast run from March through October. The best hatches tend to be on overcast cloudy days. They tend to be in areas where the current is mild thus making it easier for the trout to see.



BWO dun which we will be tying in this article is characterized by its slender body, delicate wings, and distinctive olive coloration.

Fishing the BWO dun

Presentation Methods for Blue Wing Olive Fly are critical in attracting the attention of the fish and convincing them to strike. There are several effective presentation methods. One popular method is dead drifting. This is where the fly is cast up stream up stream and allowed to drift naturally with the stream, mending often. Another method is the twitch, pause and retrieve. This mimics the movement of an emerging fly. A slow retrieve is most effective in most cases, but when the trout are very aggressive in their feeding a faster retrieve will have more success.

A 5X or 6X longer leader (12') will provide greater success due to the small size of the fly and will also provide a much gentler presentation to the trout.



The Blue-Wing Olive

In this article we are going to focus on the BWO dun fly patterns. However, if there is a BWO hatch you could also fish nymph patterns such as gold ribbed hares ear, pheasant tail and a Copper John to name a few.

The BWO dun which we will be tying in this article is characterized by its slender body, delicate wings, and distinctive olive coloration.



Blue Wing Olive Fly Dun Pattern Variations

The BWO is very popular with fly fisherman and has been modified in many ways to adapt to the various conditions and preferences. Some of the more popular versions are Parachute Adams, Klinkhammer, and CDC Blue Wing Olive. While I prefer fishing streamer and nymphs all three of these dry fly patterns are in my fly box.

CDC Wing Olive Fly

The CDC BWO incorporates CDC (Cul de Canard) feathers. The CDC feathers are derived from feathers found near the preen gland of ducks which are known for their water resistance and buoyance. They help provide a very lifelike appearance to fish.

**“My Trout Fly Box”
continues on the next page.**

4



My Trout Fly Box -- continued

Materials List

- Hook – Size 14 - 22
- Thread – Olive
- Wind – Cul de Canard (CDC)
- Tail – Coq de Leon feathers (3-5 barbules)
- Body – Olive dubbing or Olive thread (I use thread and taper it.)
- Hackle – Medium grey Rooster hackle (2-3 wraps behind the wing and 1 in front)

PS – The Klinkhammer and Adams Parachute were featured in previous articles in Lateral Lines

5



Tying the BWO

1. Place hook in the vice and tie-on olive thread and tie in a small number of Coq de Leon barbules at the bend of the hook for tail.
2. Build a tapered body with the thread and finish slightly behind the eye of the hook,
3. Tie in 2-3 CDC feathers with the stem facing rearward. Make sever wraps in front of the CDC feathers to secure it in an upright position.
4. Tie in hackle behind the CDC feathers.
5. Make 2-3 wraps of the hackle behind the CDC feathers and 1 wrap in front of the CDC feathers.
6. Tie off the hackle securely and cut the thread after whip finishing. I cut the hackle barbules off underneath the fly so that it floats close to the water imitating a recently hatched Dun.

6



Winchester TU Monthly “BarFly” Events

Wednesday, 16 April 2025, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, 21 May 2025, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, 18 June 2025, 7:00 PM

The Winchester Chapter of Trout Unlimited (WTU) will be gathering at Escutcheon Brewing in Winchester to offer anglers and **non-anglers** in our area the opportunity to learn about Trout Unlimited and to tie fishing flies.

Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial St., Winchester, VA



ANGLER REFLECTIONS



Costa Rica Adventure reflection and photos by Drew Patterson

Our first trip to Costa Rica was a great experience. The people and relaxed culture immediately improved our mood and outlook on the current world. While traveling between the Caribbean and Pacific, we enjoyed the warm, friendly locals who were sincerely interested in us and not just our tourist dollars. Like Belize, Costa Rica struggled during the COVID epidemic and is experiencing high inflation. So, while it's not a bargain destination, it is still affordable with a favorable US\$ exchange rate.

Geographically, the country is diverse and beautiful. Wherever we were throughout the trip, there were mountains always in view. The scenery is largely influenced by the 18 current volcanoes and 220 volcanic structures which can potentially become active. The volcanic geography was visible wherever we traveled. From mountainsides to riverbeds, rugged shorelines to black sand beaches, the signs of volcanic activity (see photo below) are everywhere.



Along with the geography, we enjoyed most of the weather. While March is supposed to be a very sunny and clear month, our 1st week was sometimes cloudy and overcast in the mountains and along the Caribbean coast in the mid-80s. But our second week was sunny and quite hot (up to 108F) along the northern Pacific coast in the Guanacaste province where the sunsets were spectacular. See photo below.



Our trip included sightseeing while visiting natural reserves, botanical gardens, whitewater rafting, and hiking in a rain forest alongside an active volcano. We enjoyed lots of wildlife, including extraordinary trees and flowering plants, birds, frogs, crocodiles, sloths, snakes, and various monkeys. At one Caribbean location, we even woke to the sounds of howling monkeys every morning at 5:00 AM.

Drew's "Costa Rica Adventure" continues on the next page.

ANGLER REFLECTIONS -- CONTINUED

And finally, the fishing was great! I fished with a guide from Tarponville Lodge (www.tarponvillelodge.com) for two days along the Caribbean coast of Costa Rica and Panama. Since we could not locate baitfish during those two days, I had to resort to blind casting and trolling for tarpon, a technique I've never used in Belize or Florida. Although we sighted several groups of Tarpon moving along the shoreline, they were not feeding or interested in my flies.

While you can cast to Tarpon on the move, it's difficult to get a strike when they are not chasing baitfish. However, while trolling, I did connect with a large (80-100 lbs.) tarpon and enjoyed seeing it jump twice, clearing the water and showing it's full 5- 6' silver body. Unfortunately, setting a hook in a Tarpon's bone-tough jaw with 100+ feet of fly line and shock tippet is nearly impossible due to line stretch and water resistance. Nevertheless, it was great to see the Tarpon jump twice.



I did catch four nice Jacks ranging from 5 to 10 lbs. These Jacks made deep runs and fought really hard, much like King Salmon in the fall. Even on the 12-weight Tarpon rod, these Jacks proved they had "shoulders" and deserved respect.

We enjoyed one of the Jacks back at the lodge, and I gave the others to the guide to enjoy with his family.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dave J. Boyce, VA

Hooked 2 steel. Landed one yesterday. Only fish seen are in the tubes with loads of suckers. Rick Road Sterrettania Bridge and Girard Park bridge no Fish.

Fred B. Erie, PA



2025 Calendar of Events Winchester Trout Unlimited & Winchester TU Priority Waters

See also
<http://winchestertu.org/>

Thursday, 3 April 2025

7:00 PM – Winchester TU monthly meeting

Saturday, 5 April 2025 – Tentative Winchester Trout Unlimited Workday

9:00 AM – Redbud Run restoration work session

Bud will contact the “Redbud Regulars” with details about time and place.

Tuesday, 8 April 2025 – Winchester TU Priority Waters Field Day

Wednesday, 16 April 2025 – Winchester Trout Unlimited BarFly

7:00 – 9:00 PM – Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial Street, Winchester

Thursday, 1 May 2025

7:00 PM – Winchester TU monthly meeting

Saturday, 3 May 2025 – Tentative Winchester Trout Unlimited Workday

9:00 AM – Redbud Run restoration work session

Bud will contact the “Redbud Regulars” with details about time and place.

Wednesday, 21 May 2025 – Winchester Trout Unlimited BarFly

7:00 – 9:00 PM – Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial Street, Winchester

Thursday, 5 June 2025

7:00 PM – Winchester TU monthly meeting

Saturday, 7 June 2025 – Tentative Winchester Trout Unlimited Workday

9:00 AM – Redbud Run restoration work session

Bud will contact the “Redbud Regulars” with details about time and place.

Wednesday, 18 June 2025 – Winchester Trout Unlimited BarFly

7:00 – 9:00 PM – Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial Street, Winchester

Thursday, 3 July 2025

There is no Winchester TU monthly meeting in July

Tuesday, 8 July 2025 – Winchester TU Priority Waters Field Day

Saturday, ? July 2025 – Tentative Winchester Trout Unlimited Workday

Bud will contact the “Redbud Regulars” to schedule a July workday that does not interfere with the Independence Day weekend.

Wednesday, 16 July 2025 – Winchester Trout Unlimited BarFly

7:00 – 9:00 PM – Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial Street, Winchester

The opinions expressed in *Lateral Lines* are those of the individual authors and are not necessarily those of Winchester Trout Unlimited or Trout Unlimited National.

All water sports, including fishing, and stream restoration activities have inherent dangers. Participation in all Winchester Trout Unlimited activities is at the participant's own risk and participants agree to hold harmless Winchester Trout Unlimited and its members. A responsible adult must accompany all minors.

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