

WINCHESTER
TROUT UNLIMITED



CHAPTER #638

Celebrating
30 Years of
Lateral Lines

The Monthly Magazine of Winchester Trout Unlimited
Chapter #638

Am I working from home or living at work?

May 2025

Volume 30, Number 5

Winchester TU Meeting

Thursday, 1 May 2025, 7:00 PM
Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge,
Lake Frederick, VA

Winchester TU Priority Waters Meeting

Thursday, 1 May 2025, 6:00 PM
Rachel's Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge,
Lake Frederick, VA

Project Healing Waters Monthly meeting

Wednesday, 14 May 2025
Agenda to be announced later
RSVP Required

BarFly

The next Winchester TU BarFly
Wednesday, 21 May 2025
7:00 PM at Escutcheon Brewing Co.
142 W. Commercial Street, Winchester

For complete calendars, please see
Page 5 for Priority Waters Field Days
Page 10 for Winchester Project Healing Waters
Page 13 for Winchester Trout Unlimited



In This Edition

Winchester TU Speaker: Peeler on Muskies -	Page 1
Brookie Release Day -----	Page 1
Priority Waters I: Into the Field -----	Page 2
Priority Waters II: Field Day Calendar -----	Page 5
Bud on the Run -----	Page 6
BarFly -----	Page 7
PHW I: "Hunting" Wild Trout -----	Page 7
Angler Reflections I: SNP -----	Page 9
PHW II: Calendar -----	Page 10
Angler Reflections II: Fishing with Josh ----	Page 11
Letters to the Editor -----	Page 12
Winchester TU Calendar -----	Page 13

Bill Prokopchak, Newsletter Editor
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Winchester TU 2025 Speaker - 1 May 2025 at 7:00 PM

Fly Fishing for Muskie
on the Shenandoah

with featured speaker
Brian Peeler owner/operator
of [Rivergoat Outfitters](#),
at Rachel's Kitchen,
Shenandoah Lodge,
Lake Frederick, VA.



Winchester TU Brookie Release Day
Volunteers Needed

Wednesday, 7 May 2025,
8:00 AM until 3:00 PM
Wilkins Lake in Jim Barnett Park
Winchester, VA

We will have stations set up for students to learn about fly tying, fly casting, bug identification, and the Discovery Museum will have a station. We need WTU members for each station and additional volunteers to help with general duties such as parking and taking photos.

To make this work, we need your help!

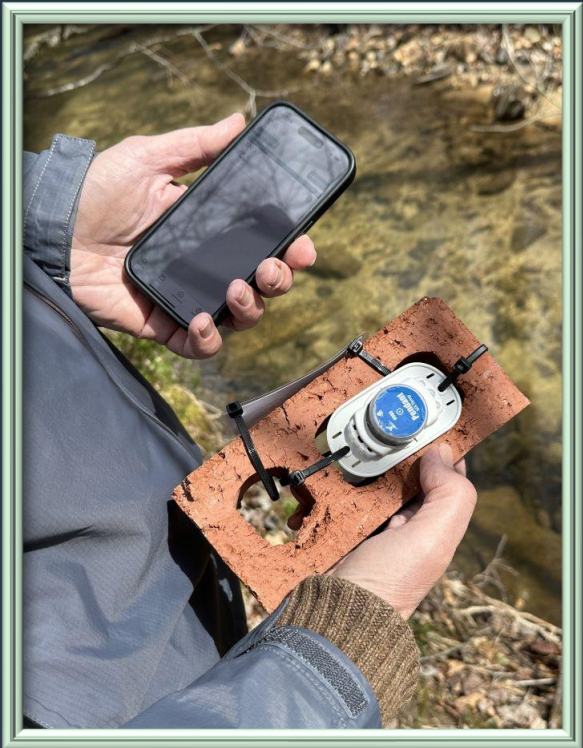
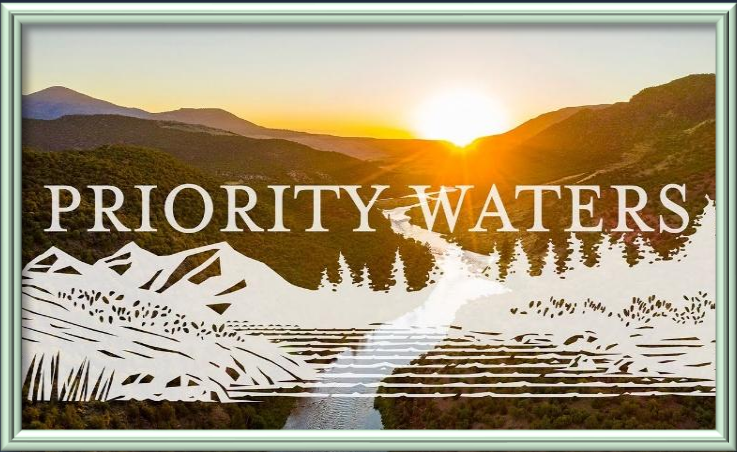
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Winchester TU Priority Waters: Into the Field

article & photos by Michael Lawler Smith



Above: Syncing the data logger with its software.

Right: Drew Patterson holds the brick-mounted data logger as Tedd Gimber prepares to cut an appropriate length of anchor chain.

Below: A pool in the headwaters reach of Little Passage Creek upstream from Strasburg Reservoir. The Priority Waters team deployed a data logger near the site where the Forest Service had gathered data in the past.



At the 2 April planning session, Tedd Gimber had shown how the data loggers would be fastened to bricks and chained to sturdy roots systems or logs at each site. When the crew arrived at its first destination (reached via unlocking a gated Forest Service road and fording a stream – which two 4WD trucks could cross but saw the one SUV vehicle parked for the duration), all were ready to pitch in to set the first recording device.

The first site mirrored an earlier location the Forest Service had used for data gathering in recent decades. It is upstream from the Strasburg Reservoir and offered relatively easy road access. All were impressed not only by the beauty of these headwaters, but by the impressive spring flow as well. Some of the crew did a bit of rock turning and disclosed some clinging mayfly nymphs and a caddis case or two. The first successful installation buoyed the group’s spirits – even as the snow flurries intensified in the mountain vale.

“Priority Waters” continues on the next page.

Priority Waters

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The next stop was a brief reconnaissance of the earthen dam that forms Strasburg Reservoir. For those unfamiliar with the area, the Strasburg Reservoir was once the water supply for the town of Strasburg. The reservoir is just over a century old; and at its time of impoundment, it held an estimated 25 million gallon capacity.



Above: Strasburg Reservoir may once again be put into standby use. The impoundment is over a century old. During the late 1990's to early 2000's, Forest Service and Virginia DWR had sought to establish a "put-grow-and-take" recreational fishery using a domesticated brook trout strain.

Left: The widely braided outflow from Strasburg Reservoir may pose summer thermal issues for downstream wild trout.

Lower left: Tedd Gimber (l) activates the data logger software on his phone as Drew Patterson prepares to set a Little Passage device in place.

Below: Dave Juth (l) and Drew Patterson eye the unusually stained seep spring at the base of the dam at Strasburg Reservoir.



From the mid-1990's through the early 2000's, Strasburg allowed Virginia DGIF (now DWR), James Madison University, and the Forest Service to conduct trial stockings of brook trout fingerlings every autumn in hopes of establishing a remote wilderness style fishery. Water chemistry testing at the time indicated a highly acidic environment, and thus limestone sand was applied upstream in Little Passage Creek above the lake. While test nettings disclosed some brook trout "summered through," the thermal profile was not ideal. The trout stocking ended in the early 2000's. After severe summer droughts of recent years, Strasburg once again is considering the reservoir as a potential backup water supply (it currently uses North Fork Shenandoah River water).

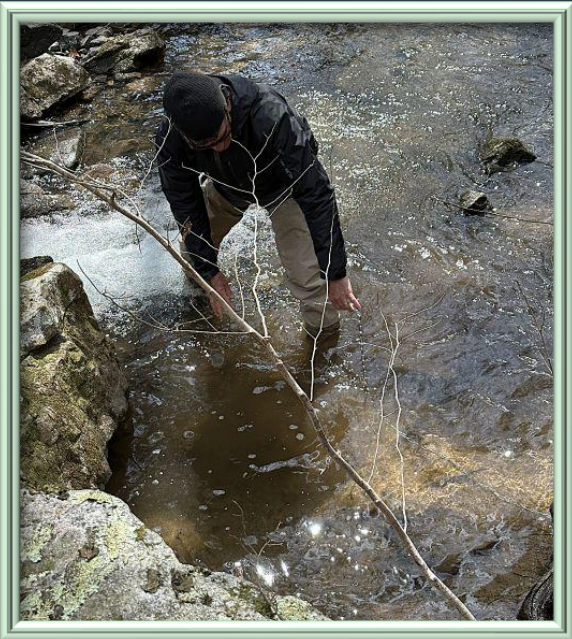
The nearly 1,700-foot tunnel that conveyed water to the town's older reservoir represented a serious engineering challenge back in the day. The tunnel required drilling through more than 1,500 feet of extremely hard quartzite.

The Priority Waters team familiarized itself with the dam's tailwater area, noting that the outflow spread widely into divergent channels – quite likely a source of undue warming in the heat of summer. The crew was also concerned by what appeared to be a "spring" of bright rust-colored water seeping from the dam's earthen base; and our Priority Waters team will apprise the Forest Service hydrologist of these findings.

The team placed the second data logger several hundred yards downstream from the base of the dam, under a heavily canopied stand of riparian trees. Again, the team found an ideal siting: a deep bend pool, undercutting a bank with many exposed roots -- pretty much perfect brook trout escape cover and thermal refuge.



"Priority Waters"
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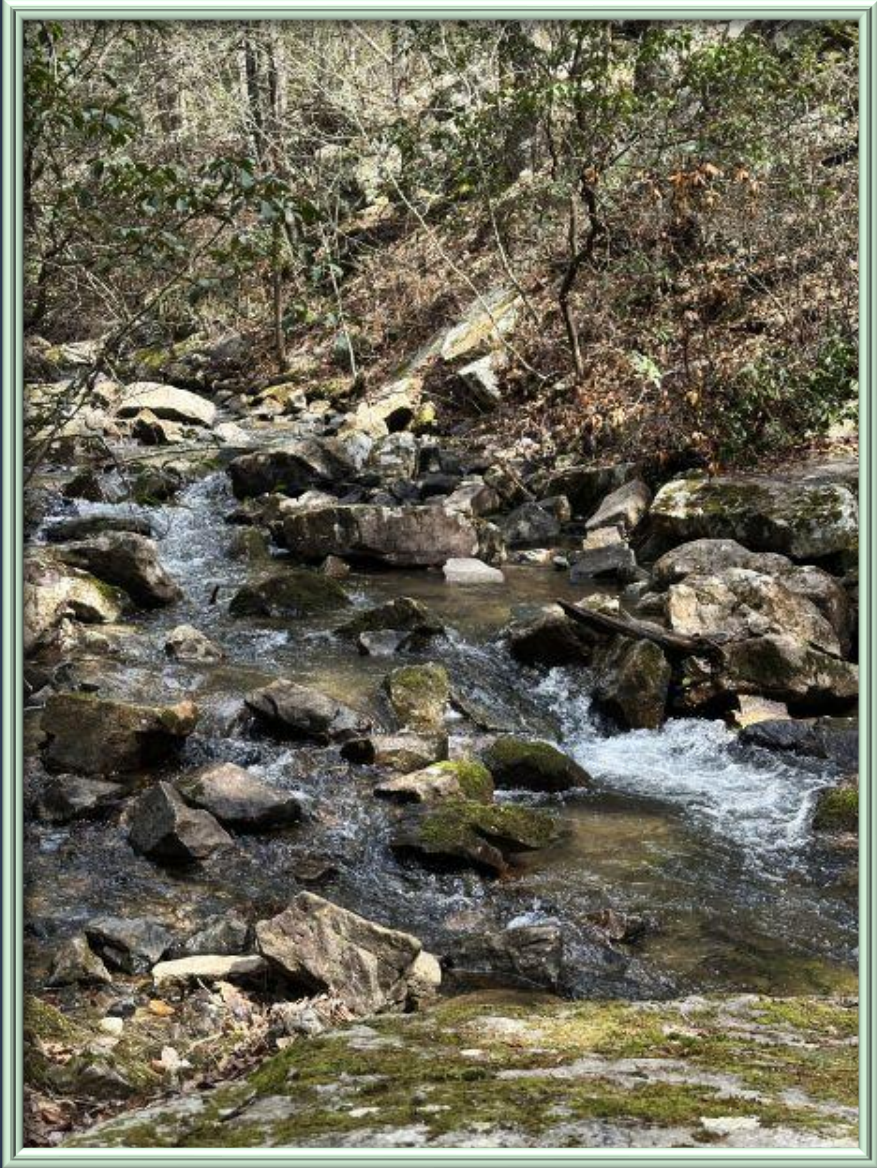
The traverse across Fort Valley to Mill Run yielded some unexpected discoveries for the team. Readers of these Priority Waters accounts over the past year will recall how this very small water showed extremely low flows and elevated temperatures during the worst of the 2024 drought.

While the 8 April visit offered more encouraging flows, the stream volume still seemed less than normal for early April. Team member Mike Smith, with more than a decade now of hiking and fishing the upper portion of the small creek, observed that his early spring time photos of Mill Run as recently as 2020 showed nearly bank-full flows for comparable spring dates.

Above: Dave Juth prepares to anchor the last data logger in Little Passage Creek.

Right: Portions of Little Passage Creek offer excellent pocket water habitat.

Below: Mill Run at Veach’s Gap is a much smaller and shallower stream, posing serious challenges for data logger siting.



The crew decided that its upper station for the data logger would be a site within a fairly short hike from the Forest Service trailhead and parking area. The site was in fact a small but fairly deep pool where Smith had caught natives in years past. In an onsite discussion, all agreed that this location would represent well the flow characteristics of the upper drainage; and they decided to locate the final data logger as close as possible to where the Forest Service had collected water chemistry, temperature, and flow data in earlier decades (when it began considering Mill Run as a candidate stream for brook trout re-establishment).

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

Priority Waters

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Priority Waters -- continued

Right: The Priority Waters team opted to place its last data logger as closely as possible to an earlier Forest Service data collection site. The big surprise was the five foot plus waterfall in the lower reaches of Mill Run. A barrier to fish passage? Possibly the site of the old Veach's bone meal mill?



Left: Placing the sixth and last data logger.

Below: The Priority Waters crew on 8 April 2025.

Left to right: Dave Juth, John Prescott, Tedd Gimber, Luke Robins, Drew Patterson, and team leader Mike Makufka.



The GPS data indicating the Forest Service's prior test site gave the team quite a surprise: waterfalls. Not one, but two. And the immediate question: were these passable for brook trout? It seemed highly unlikely that a trout could ascend either heading upstream. Downstream passage for out-migrating young brook trout would not be an issue. But the two (very well hidden) waterfalls posed interesting issues: What impacts might they have posed for "connectivity" in historic Fort Valley native trout populations? And, of special interest to history buffs, did the lower waterfall represent the probable site of the old late 19th century bone-meal mill, owned and operated by one Levi Veach?

Tiny Mill Run, as vexing as it is endearing, will bring the crew together again in July, when it will do its first official data capture up on Little Passage and at Veach's Gap as well. All commented on how different the scenes will be a few months hence. Heat, humidity, and, in some cases, nearly impassable forest undergrowth – oh, and bugs – will greet the crew. By then, April's snow flurries will be a distant memory.



**Winchester TU Priority Waters
2025 Calendar of Field Days**
courtesy of Mike Makufka



Tuesday, 8 July 2025
Tuesday, 9 September 2025
Tuesday, 18 November 2025

Bud on the Run: April 2025 Report and Plans for the May Workday: Problem at Clark's Notch

The May workday will be 3 May 2025 at 9:00 AM.

A siltation problem has arisen at the sites that we call Clark's Notch and Terry's Notch (originally called Dave's Drop, but somehow the name has changed in the six months since we created the structure). *

Terry and Bud have proposed several solutions that include modifications to one or both of the structures to minimize siltation while preserving the desired plunge pool habitat for fish.

Our next work session is scheduled for 3 May 2025 if weather conditions are acceptable. At that time, we will determine which modification(s) would produce the desired ends. It may be that the present structures can be widened and deepened to reduce silt accumulation upstream substantially (and sufficiently) but still create better flow in midstream.

Maintaining a pool of some depth where it now exists would seem desirable and possible.

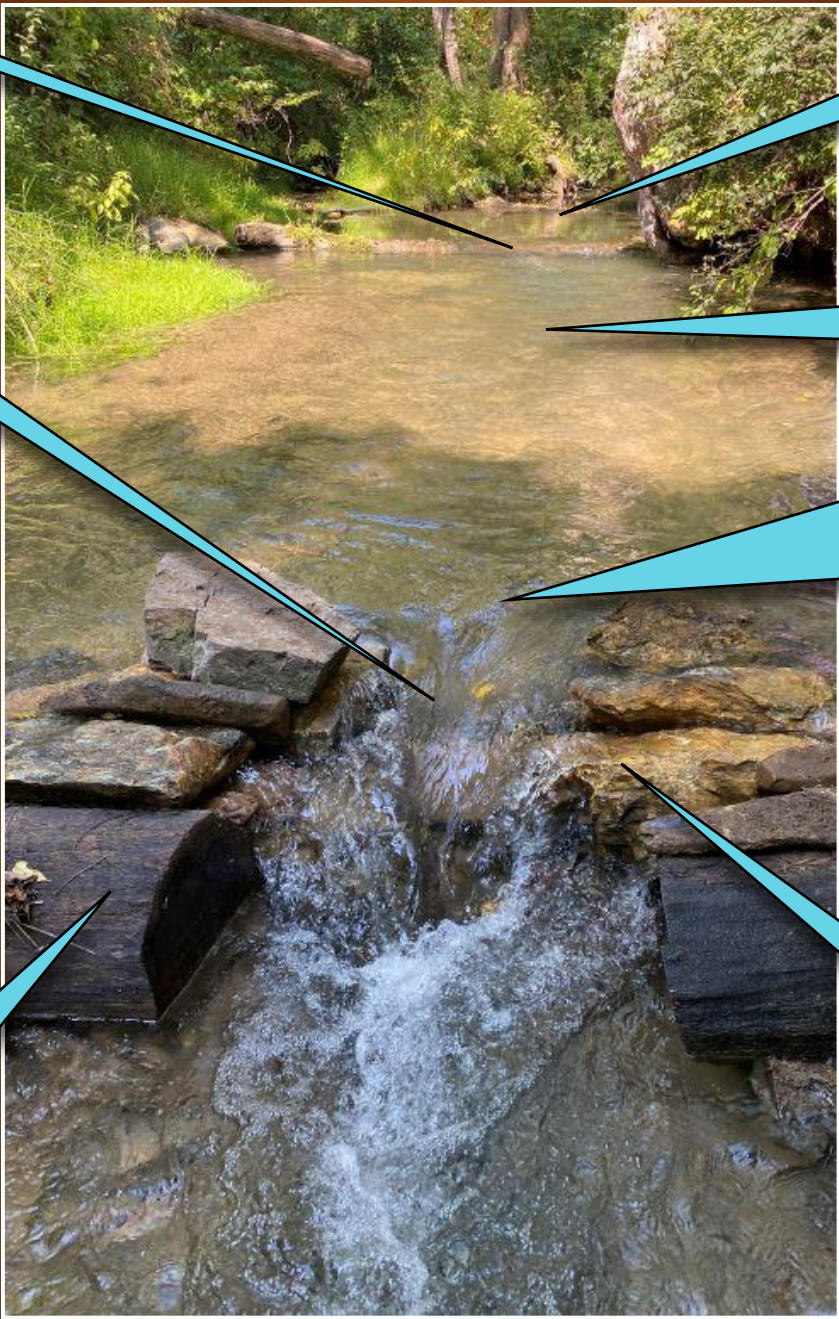
Will our Redbud team devise a sound solution to this substantial problem? Stay tuned!

So tight lines and singing reels. Look for a possible weather delay decision for the session on the evening of 2 May 2025.

*Please note that Clark's Notch is a notch in a cross long. However, Dave's Drop is a gap between two logs placed across the stream and held in place by T-posts driven into the stream bed. It is not a notch as is as apparent in this photo from the time of its installation. The team placed rocks in the gap that could be removed or modified to adjust the flow.

Clark's Notch.

Dave's Drop



Some siltation is occurring above Clark's notch.

Unexpected silt deposits are occurring between the two structures.

Modification of the flow through this gap may be necessary to minimize silt deposition while maintaining a plunge pool between the two structures.

Removal of some rocks in this gap may be sufficient to correct the siltation.

Modification of the gap between these two opposing logs may also be necessary.

Editor's Note: The contents of this article are a compilation of ideas from three sources.





Winchester TU Monthly “BarFly” Events
Wednesday, 21 May 2025, 7:00 PM
Wednesday, 18 June 2025, 7:00 PM
Wednesday, 16 July 2025, 7:00 PM

Escutcheon Brewery, Commercial St., Winchester, VA



Master Fly Tyer, Luke Robins at the fly-tying vise. He’s extra careful because there’s a stinger in there!

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.

All participants under 21 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult.



**WINCHESTER HEALING
WATERS “WILD TROUT” IN
THE SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK**

by **Wayne White**
photos by Eric Custer
unless otherwise noted

Fishing for native brook trout in small forest streams is a demanding and technical task that many anglers avoid. Hiking miles up and down narrow rocky trails, climbing over boulders and sneaking up on a small splash pool to make a short cast to a five-inch fish is challenging and often unproductive.

However, Air Force veteran Heather Wright's first experience with such a fishing adventure was “exhilarating,” it reminded her that many fishing lessons are also life lessons.

Heather, a Winchester Project Healing Waters program participant, was one of five Veterans from Virginia PHW programs who participated in the fourth annual Regional Wild Trout Trip from 16 to 18 April 2025. This trip, the second for the Region last month, was made possible by a grant partnership between the National Park Foundation and Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc.



Above right: Heather proudly shows off her Brookie before returning it to its native home.

Right: Heather’s first Brook Trout in the net.

“Winchester PHW”
continues on the next page.

WINCHESTER PHW -- CONTINUED



EST. PROJECT 2005
HEALING WATERS



Above: Heather captures a selfie while Jackson changes flies.

Lower Right: Participants and guides from the PHW Virginia Region at the Skyland Lodge

Bottom Right: Heather maintains a low crouch while making a delicate cast into a quiet pool.

Jackson Dierberg, a Winchester program volunteer, guided Heather during the outing. Heather's husband, Eric Custer, who also volunteers with the Winchester program, was along for the volunteer experience and was the trio's photographer.

"Heather did exceptionally well," noted Jackson, a Virginia Conservation Officer and former Orvis fly-fishing guide. "She learned quickly that these small fish have delicate mouths and setting the hook in them is very different than larger fish. She got her first fish early, but there were many lessons learned from then on," he added.

On the morning of the first day, fishing Mill Prong at Camp Rapidan, Heather caught her first Brookie with #18 Parachute Adams that Jackson had tied for the occasion.

The fly rod she used for the event was a story itself. She calls it "a 6-foot and a couple of inches" 3-weight. It was initially a gift from a friend of Eric's, which she received during their courtship. At that time, it was a 7-foot, 6-inch, 3-weight.

But their chocolate lab broke the tip during a native fishing outing in Tucker County, WV. The ECHO Rod company said it was too old and didn't make a replacement tip. During Winchester's recent rod-building class in January, she asked instructors Luke Robins and Jim White if they could fix it. They took the task of shortening the top section, and a new rod was born within a week.

Overall, the first day saw more fishing and less catching. Nonetheless, Jackson did land a Brookie on Mill Prong just before lunch.

White Oak Canyon was the fishing plan for day two. However, Corrina reported that the road was too difficult to navigate. Many fire roads and trails that access park streams have not been maintained due to last year's storm damage. The amount of time and work needed surpasses the labor and time Park crews can now afford.

"Winchester PHW" continues on the next page.

Shenandoah National Park, headquartered in Luray, Virginia, hosted the trip lead Steve Tegtmeyer, Virginia Regional Coordinator, and assistant coordinator Robert Misiaszek, participants, and volunteer guides at the Skyland Lodge, located on Skyline Drive. The grant covered lodging and all meals. Park Ranger Corrina Wendel, also a Winchester PHW volunteer, coordinated access to various streams in the park for the Veterans to fish for native brookies.

On the first evening, following dinner, Eric Cunningham, a professional fly-fishing guide from Murray's Fly Shop in Edinburg, VA, presented the group with specialized tactics, techniques, and procedures for brook trout fishing. Such tips included maintaining a low profile and fishing upstream, approaching pools from the bottom, working carefully to the side of the stream, and finally, trying to reach the top of the pool with as much stealth as possible. He also lectured on trout food sources and advised on fly selection, including size, color, and profile.

According to Eric, last year's violent storms have changed the fish population in the park's mountain streams. They washed out many smaller fish, leaving "larger" and wiser brookies. Those conditions make fishing more challenging, resulting in quality fish that are more difficult to catch.





EST. PROJECT 2005
HEALING WATERS

WINCHESTER PHW -- CONTINUED



Instead, they traveled to Dark Hollow to fish. Although Heather found it challenging to see the trout, Jackson would scout the fish and help her with a cast to set up a good presentation. “It was more like hunting,” Heather noted. “There was a lot of strategy figuring out how to approach a good position, looking for the fish, and remaining very quiet until you could make the best cast.”

Heather explained, “We tried to hold a stance where the line was out of the water and as much of the leader as possible. Standing like that for a long time was uncomfortable, so we often got on our hands and knees or propped ourselves on a rock. I would also use my wading staff to lean on in a tripod manner.”

Heather often admitted that she was not focused on one task at a time. “Jackson would say, ‘Did you see that fish?’ and I would be looking for the next area to cast to or what branch to avoid.” Reflecting on that tendency, she realized staying in the moment is crucial instead of thinking about what’s next. As in fishing, so it is in life, “you need to be right where you are,” she added. Distractions often cause you to lose opportunities.

Jackson said that Heather was a quick learner and realized she had a successful outing, only catching one fish. As a guide, Jackson admitted that it’s all about managing your participant’s expectations. The guide has to learn that those wants and needs can often change during the event. “It’s critical to listen and understand what’s important to them,” as he reflected on many of his trips as a fly-fishing guide.

As the designated photographer, Eric tried his luck and later caught a brookie on the Hog Camp Branch, just below Dark Hollow Falls, where it runs into the Rose River.

With the warm weather in the afternoon of day two, there were large crowds on the trails and near the streams. “It was crazy busy with hikers, dogs, and kids, some just being kids throwing rocks in the water,” Heather said.

Any thoughts about continuing the “hunt” for Brookies ceased for the day. The Park has much to offer and appreciate and the trio took in nature’s beauty as they ended their quest. As Bill Campbell, former PWH Virginia Regional Coordinator and founder of the Wild Trout Trips, would often say, “Trout do not live in ugly places!”

After interviewing Heather about this trip, she sent me a poem that captures her experience and her new love of “hunting” wild trout.



photo by Jackson Dierberg



ANGLER REFLECTIONS SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK

Headed to the mountains
where the peaks meet the sky
In search of native Brookies
and the thrilling fishing high

Hear the water trickle
see it tumble, twirl, and fall
Trying to make haste slowly
taking in Creation, all in all

Reminded to be patient
and do one thing at a time
Moving much too quickly
means a slip or tangled line

I feel a hit, see a splash and a flit
there’s a fighter on the line
They’ve swum these waters, elusively
and stood the tests of time

Handled now with special care
single hook, a barb nowhere
We treat you like a precious gift
and thank you for the spirit lift
Until next time, tight lines.

© Heather Wright 4/23/2025

WINCHESTER PROGRAM UPDATE MAY 2025



The Winchester Project Healing Waters program will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, May 14, 2025, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, at the Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick.

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

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

May

- 3 -- Fishing Outing at Lake Neff, Izaak Walton, Winchester. This is open to all participants and volunteers who responded to the invitation
- 4 – Beaver Creek Outing – Limited to four participants and four volunteer guides.
- 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 – Rachel’s Kitchen, Shenandoah Lodge, Lake Frederick
- 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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ANGLER REFLECTIONS

Fishing with Josh reflection by Nick Brognano



This was to be our first fishing trip. The plans were laid out over a week ago. Hand-in hand my daughter and son-in-law, Josh marched off to the local Orvis store where “Fine Sporting Apparel and Gear” can be purchased. Obviously, only the best will do for this extraordinary event. My daughter took time out of her busy schedule to accompany him and assist in a selection of waders and wading boots. I was not there during the fitting, but I would bet anything, with my daughter present, the poor guy must have tried on a dozen outfits before the right color, size and design was selected. I am certain that even after all that was accomplished the outfit had to pass the typical ‘touch and feel’ test all woman do when buying a dress or blouse. I know this because I have been married for 53 years to the mother of my daughter, and she is no different than her mother. I wonder how many waders poor Josh was instructed to wiggle into before he surrendered.

Josh is more of a golfer than a fly-fisherman and I am more of a fly-fisherman than a golfer. In either situation, “It don’t mean a thing if you don’t have that swing.” Therefore, I felt confident that the transition from golf to fly-fishing wouldn’t be an insurmountable problem. I know if I was on a golf course I would feel like a fish out of water. Josh must have felt the same way and probably wished he had a golf club in his hand and not a fishing pole.

Nevertheless, we both needed to do something like this and get to know each other better. There is no better place to do that than standing in a stream trying to trick a fish which can be frustrating at times. Even with a bright sun partially blinding my old, old eyes I was still able to observe a few revealing things. But before I get to that part of the story allow me to go back to the trip’s beginning:

The plan was to meet at the Sunoco Gas station located on the right side of the bridge crossing over the wide Rappahannock River. We agreed that 6 a.m. would be the time to meet there. This detailed arrangement was thoroughly discussed, reviewed, and coordinated with my daughter who is always involved in things of great significance. It is of the utmost importance to get to the stream early, I mean before daybreak. Failure to do so can result in regretfully surrendering the best fishing hole in the river to invading fishermen. Fred, our third companion, and I know the best spot, having fished it for several years.

Fred and I pulled into the Sunoco parking area at 5:45 AM and waited until 6:03. Where was Josh? I gave Fred a worried look and thought I should apologize. I decided to call Josh. My first call informed me that his mailbox was full. My second attempt was a repeat failure. I began to panic, just a little, and began to fault my innocent daughter for not waking her husband. I told Fred that I would drive him to the river where he could capture the precious fishing hole before others began to arrive while I would return to the gas station and wait for the late newcomer.

Just as I was about to drive Fred there my phone rang. It was Josh who angelically informed me that he thought the trip was planned for the next day! He then casually followed up by saying he was just getting out of the shower and would be arriving in about an hour. Fred could hear all this and while my mouth fell open and eyes widened, Fred just sat there smiling. His smile turned into loud laughter when Josh decided to stop Joshing and told us he was on the bridge and only a minute away. Fred loved the humor while I was simply deflated with relief. Humor like this can cause some people heart attacks. “Please take him fishing but don’t hurt him,” was my daughter’s incessant plea long before this trip was planned. How can I do that without leaving marks I was now wondering.

As I sat in the car listening to Fred’s uncontrolled laughter, I whispered to myself, “A victimized father-in-law should be entitled to a free kick in the ass without retribution.” I decided to settle for a vicarious targeted kick and not run the risk of my daughter’s wrath and my self-inflicted humiliation. Josh arrived only to casually enter the gas station to take a pee, buy a cup of coffee and ask the Hispanic attendant why was she is cutting up the small pieces of meat? Here I am thinking time is of the essence while Josh is engrossed in tiny pieces of sliced meat. My God! The Titanic could be sinking, and this young man is in conversation about meat cuttings. Fred and I did not say a word, we simply followed Josh out of the Mini Mart.

Upon our long-awaited arrival, I was pleasantly surprised to find no one at the popular fishing spot. We had the entire place to ourselves. The school of Shad were out there directly in front of us, and we were hooking fish. Foul hooking is unavoidable since the fish are bunched up and more interested in spawning than eating anything. Occasionally one will strike and that is rewarding. Nevertheless, it is the fight in the fish that draws a fisherman here. A shad will bend your fishing rod several times before it can be reeled in and released. Between watching three Bald Eagles flying about playing tag and two large Egrets across the river engaged in combat, Josh would occasionally return to *terra firma* and focus on our purpose for being here. Only then would he casually land a Shad or two.

“Angler Reflections” continues on the next page.

ANGLER REFLECTIONS -- CONTINUED

Contrary to what my aging eyesight witnessed, Josh now loudly and unabashedly claims to have caught the first and biggest fish, as well as landing at least 49 more! With that wild and outrageous exaggeration, I declared the trip a complete success and baptized my son-in-law in the name of hook line and sinker, to be a true and solid fisherman. Hallelujah! He is obviously a natural and has the potential to make the Angler National Hall of Fame someday. It warms my heart to know such an incredulous, wholesome fishermen tradition will live on beyond my generation.

As expected, other anglers began to arrive and crowd our fishing hole. At some point two guys with fly rods wedged in and our lines got frequently tied up. It was when two fly lines got tangled up with my line that disaster almost struck. In trying to untangle the mess one of the fly lines found its way behind my left ear. As one of the guys pulled his line, out popped my expensive, uninsured hearing aid. I was standing in near waist-high water at the time. I got wet trying to reach down to get the hearing aid, but it was beyond my reach. Fortunately, thoughtful Fred had brought a net. I frantically called out for it and Josh, the big guy, born and bred in the mountains of North Carolina, quickly handed me the net. Incidentally, he disagrees and tells everyone he's from the foothills of N.C. What a super hero! I was able to retrieve my hearing aid before it drifted away. Miraculously, no damage was done. That near disaster was our signal to leave and have lunch.

Josh selected the restaurant and graciously paid for our lunch. During lunch we talked about the 130 bottles of wine we recently made. He felt the wine had an off-taste which according to a wine expert friend of his could be attributed to what the expert called, "Bottle Shock." Allegedly, this can occur when the wine is syphoned out of a barrel it had been setting in for several months and disturbingly poured into bottles. I never heard of such a thing, and I have been making wine for many years.

While most agree wine has a more spiritual dimension than other liquids, it is stretching it to say the wine has a sense of feel or mood swing. "Bottle Shock," may be true but after what I earlier experienced at the gas station and later braggadocio on the river, I have every right to be suspect about what my daughter's husband says.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

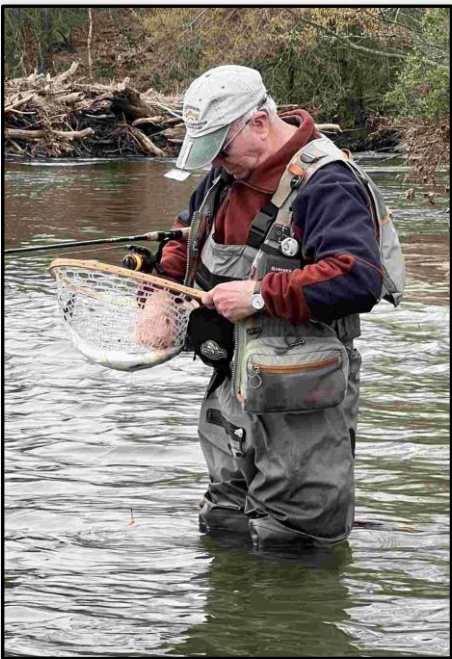
Good afternoon. I so much enjoy reading this newsletter. Thanks for continuing to share it with me. In reviewing this issue, I noticed that the Project Healing Waters will be coming back this spring to enjoy fishing in the USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center's veteran's appreciation fishing pond at our Leetown Research Laboratory. I am so happy that this group can take advantage of this asset of ours.

Thomas J. O'Connell
USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center, Director
11649 Leetown Road
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Hi Bill, Thanks for another super newsletter. See you, Larry.

Larry Holmes
Winchester, VA

Nick Brognano, Dan Scott, and Fred Boyer ventured south for an early April Shad trip. Turned out to be a success. 17 to the net on Fred's counter. Dan's photo is his first catch of the day. Photo taken by Stan Rodia of Lake Frederick whom we happened to meet there. During a stream-side discussion, we found out that Stan is a member of our TU chapter. Fred's photo by Dan Scott. Sorry Nick, we failed to take a photo of your smiling face.



Fred Boyer
Lake Frederick, VA

2025

Calendar of Events

Winchester Trout Unlimited & Winchester TU Priority Waters

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

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

Thursday, 7 August 2025

There is no Winchester TU monthly meeting in July

Saturday, 9 August 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, 20 August 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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