

Catskill Mountains Trout Unlimited

To conserve, protect and restore New York's Trout and Salmon Fisheries and their watersheds



CMTU Chapter Meeting

Wednesday May 18th, 2016, 6:30PM
Courtyard by Marriott, Kingston, NY

In May's meeting Mike Flaherty, NYS DEC - Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources, Bureau of Fisheries will be speaking to the chapter on the state of the Esopus Creek and other regional initiatives.

Please make every effort to attend. It is a great opportunity to hear about the work DEC is doing, ask questions and share your experience on fishing in our home watershed.

CMTU Annual Banquet

Catskill Mountains Trout Unlimited annual banquet will be held on Saturday October 29th, 2016 the Stonehedge Restaurant in West Park NY. Mark the date on your calendar.

Ed Meyer has volunteered to put together a slide show of T.U. chapter member photography. if you would like to participate, email your photographs to efmeyer001@gmail.com.

Please send photographs of chapter activities, nature shots, fishing photographs and waterscapes of your favorite fishing destinations.

Calendar

May	Chapter Meeting, Wednesday May 18 th , 2016, Courtyard by Marriot, Kingston NY, 6:30 PM Speaker: Mike Flaherty, NYS DEC - Division of Fish, Wildlife and Marine Resources
June, July, August	No Scheduled Chapter Meetings
September	Chapter Meeting, Wednesday May 21 st , 2016, Courtyard by Marriot, Kingston NY, 6:30 PM Speaker: tbd
October	Annual Conservation Banquet, Saturday October 29 th , 2016 Stonehedge Restaurant West Park NY

Ashokan Reservoir Rainbow Trout Survey

Mike Flaherty, Fish Biologist for the NYS DEC, is interested in assessing the health of the wild rainbow trout population in Ashokan Reservoir. Before new fishing regulations can be crafted to protect the Esopus Creek fishery, we need hard data as to the general health of the fish that have migrated into the reservoir. He would like to obtain scale samples of rainbow trout caught by boat fisherman. If you catch a Rainbow Trout in the reservoir please collect some scales from your catch, place them in a separate envelope and send them to Mike at his office in New Paltz. (Mike Flaherty NYSDEC Region 3, 21 South Putt Corners Rd, New Paltz NY 12561 - [845-256-3000](tel:845-256-3000))

Directions for taking scale samples:

Recording data on scale envelopes

Record accurate and complete information on the scale envelope. Give the following information:

Species–Give common name of fish.

Locality–Give the name of the lake or stream from which fish was taken.

County–The name of the county in which lake or stream is located.

T. R. Sec–Give the Township, Range, and Section in which body of water is located. This is especially needed when two lakes with the same name occur in the same county.

Date–Date when fish was collected.

Length–Total length is defined as a straight-line measurement (not over the curve of the body) from the tip of the snout (with mouth closed) to the end of the caudal fin with the lobes squeezed together.



Weight–Total weight, accurately measured under good conditions.

Sex–Determine and record the sex when possible.

State of organs–This refers to sex organs. Record here whether the fish is immature or mature; and if mature, whether ripe or spent.

Gear–Record the method used in capturing the fish, such as gill net, trap net, seine, or angling.

Collector–Name of person who caught the fish.

Fill in this information to the best of your knowledge.

For Rainbow trout - Scales should be taken from below the lateral line below the dorsal fin.

About 10-20 scales should be taken from a fish. First, scrape mucous from the spot where scales are to be removed. This cleans the scales and makes processing easier. Then, remove scales with a knife blade and insert them into the envelope. Wipe the knife blade clean between samples to prevent cross contamination.

Volunteer Opportunity

CMTU will be at the [Thruway Sporting Goods Great Outdoors Sports Expo](#) on Saturday May 21st from 10am-5pm, at the James Olly Community Park in Walden, NY

We could use a couple more volunteers at our table. Please contact Ted Hoover (thoover@hvc.rr.com) if you are interested.



Volunteer Opportunity – AWSMP Family Fun & Fish Day

AWSMP Family Fun and Fish Day will be on Sunday, June 5 at Kenneth Wilson State Campground (859 Wittenberg Road, Mt. Tremper, NY). It will be held from 12:00 Noon to 2:30pm.

AWSMP is seeking volunteers for this event. AWSMP will cover the cost of entering the park and will provide a free BBQ lunch! NYSDEC will be on hand to provide fishing tackle and bait.

This is a great opportunity to see that happen and to teach some basic fundamentals of the sport. If anyone has any questions about the event or wish to volunteer, please contact: Brent Gotsch, AWSMP (845) 688-3047 ext. 3 or bwg37@cornll.edu

Interested in becoming a Member of Catskill Mountain Trout Unlimited

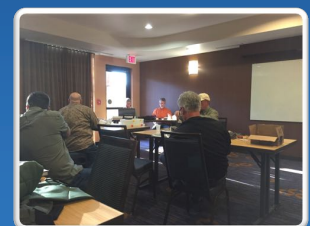
Trout Unlimited is America's leading coldwater conservation organization. Our hope is that clean, cold, fishable water exists for generations to come, but we can't do it without the support of committed anglers and conservationists like you. Click here to [become a new TU member](#) and see all the great benefits of membership, or click here to [renew your existing membership](#).

CMTU Gear Swap 2016



Last month at our chapter meeting was our first fishing gear swap and fly tying event.

We hope to make this an annual event.



From the President

Conservationist or Environmentalist?

Do you call yourself a conservationist or an environmentalist? If you're like me, you probably answer to both. But I always identify myself as a conservationist. That's partly because I hang around with anglers and hunters who use the term. But it's also because I noticed a long time ago that the word "conservationist" requires a lot more intentional thought than the term "environmentalist." If you're an environmentalist, you're protecting an abstraction. One virtue of that word "environmentalism" is that it implies that you look at the big picture. But it's too easy to say we should protect the environment without knowing what you're protecting. If you say you're a conservationist, though, you're claiming that you aim to conserve something, and that's usually something specific, like this watershed, that forest, or this population, just the way that Trout Unlimited works to conserve cold water fisheries. And I've noticed that anglers and hunters tend to know the landscapes they work to conserve. While most people might not notice that a tract of forest is overbrowsed, most hunters will immediately see that as an unhealthy woodland. In the same way, a trout angler will notice that a beautiful looking stream is too hot or is lacking in insect life, or spot a dam that's obstructing fish passage. Because we know what we're trying to conserve, we're more effective at protecting it.

But about that big picture. I think conservationists get there too. If we're trying to protect brook trout in a Catskill stream, we have to look at the health of that stream. And that takes us to concerns about the watershed, and land usage in the region. And that eventually leads us to global issues such as energy use and climate change. So even though we start



local, inevitably we recognize the way that the fish population we are trying to conserve fits into the larger environment. I like that, knowing that my larger concerns and values trace back to a pod of trout finning in a pool somewhere up on Esopus Creek. It keeps me grounded. I suspect that's another reason why anglers call themselves conservationists. Most of us come to fly fishing to escape from abstractions and to hold that slick trout in the palms of our hands.

Tight lines,

Andrew

Chapter Information

President: Andrew Higgins

Vice President: Ted Hoover

Secretary: Ryan Williams

Treasurer: Ron Urban

Directors: Bert Darrow

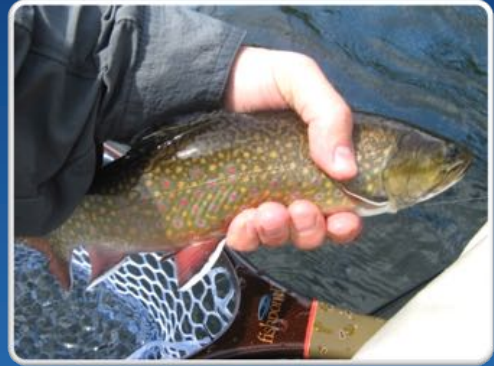
Ron Urban

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[Recipient]

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