



Catskill Mountains Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Dear Teachers,

We're the Catskill Mountains Chapter of Trout Unlimited, a local organization that works to protect trout populations in the Catskill Region and promote conservation-minded fishing practices.

Trout Unlimited is dedicated to conserving, protecting, and restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. Coldwater fish are trout and salmon, which need clean, cold water to survive. Trout and salmon are environmentally important because they serve as indicator species. If you have healthy trout and salmon populations, you have a healthy ecosystem. They are also an important part of America's heritage and natural history.

One of Trout Unlimited's programs is Trout in the Classroom. Trout (or Salmon) in the Classroom (TIC or SIC) offers students of all ages a chance to raise Salmonids in a classroom setting and then release them into a nearby stream or river. Caring for the fish fosters a conservation ethic in the students, and the act of walking to a streambank and directly releasing the fingerlings into the water makes a concrete connection between caring for the fish and caring for the water.

Chapter member Luke Rabideau, a science teacher at John Jay High School in the Wappingers Central School District will be talking about his experiences with our Trout in the Classroom program in our October meeting. For Trout in the Classroom, TU provides schools with fish tanks, filters, aerators, and finally trout eggs, and then the students raise those trout in the classroom and eventually release the young trout into approved streams. The program teaches kids about the lifecycle of trout and the importance of cleanwater. It connects kids to their surrounding environment and helps instill a conservation ethos.

If you are a middle or high school teacher who might be interested in having Trout in the Classroom in his or her classroom or to hear more about the program, please come to our October chapter meeting on Wednesday October 17th, at 6:30 PM at the Marriott Courtyard in Kingston. Contact the chapter at catskillmountintu@gmail.com for more details.

Visit <http://www.troutintheclassroom.org/> for more information.

Regards,

Ted Hoover, President CMTU
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Please visit us at cmtu.org or find us on Facebook at Catskill Mountains Trout Unlimited.