



# Riffler

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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May 2010

Number 5

## Operation Game Thief (800) 222-0456

On Thursdays while we wait for the stocking truck to arrive little groups form and then melt into new groups and the conversations skip from topic to topic. Talk is of past trips, dogs, plans for the summer, grouse hunting, what bird just passed overhead, outdoors equipment and, of course, fishing. But from time to time someone will mention that they have seen people fishing during closed hours, that people were seen with stringers that held more fish than allowed or that a person with one or two fish on a stringer had already put six or eight into the trunk of a car.

Even though they are infuriated by violations of fishing regulations, many people find it difficult to approach those who seem to be breaking the law - possibly because of a natural shyness or possibly because of a fear of retaliation. But if violations are observed something must be done.

An easy way to report violations is to call the Conservations Officers from the DEP's Northern Region Office (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union, Warren Counties) at 908-735-8240

However, an efficient and sometimes profitable way of handling such situations is through Operation Game Thief. This program, sponsored by the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs in close cooperation with the Division of Fish and Wildlife, seeks to enlist the help of all

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**When:** May 12, 2010 at 7:30 PM

**Where:** American Legion Hall  
33 West Passaic Street

## May Speaker Ryan Bunn

Ryan, an experienced fisherman and fly tier, is very knowledgeable about pursuing western high mountain trout. He has fished the craggy mountains of Colorado and Wyoming in search of the trout that inhabit those mountain streams.

Ryan is also an assistant manager at Ramsey Outdoor Store and has always been an East Jersey TU supporter.

Ryan's will present information on the High Mountain Trout of the West at our May meeting

## Welcome to April's New Members

Tarik Makota      Lyndhurst  
Jensen Vasil      Hoboken

## The Web Site

EJTU's web site - schedules for our many activities, photos, information about the chapter and its officers as well as links to an array of informative and interesting web sites.

It's easy to get to! Just enter [www.eastjerseytu.org](http://www.eastjerseytu.org) into your web browser.

## EJTU Calendar

Advise Rich Malizia of changes to calendar events (E) at 973-304-0789.

or [remgcp@optonline.net](mailto:remgcp@optonline.net); let Ed Higgins ([easydh@gmail.com](mailto:easydh@gmail.com)) know if you are interested in fishing trips (F) well in advance because openings are limited and reservations must be made in advance. Get your money in as soon as possible or someone else will take your place.

Please consult EJTU's web site's "Upcoming Events" for the most up-to-date details.



May 12 – Membership Meeting;  
Speaker Ryan Bunn on High Mountain

Trout of the West

May 29 - (E) Mahwah Fishing Derby

June 5/6 - (F) Picnic/fishing at Catskill Fly Fishing Museum

June 12 – (E) Ramapo River day

June 12/19 - (F) Twin Maples, Block Island, RI (Trip filled but a standby list may be set up.)

July/August – (E) Probable "Boulder Propping" on the Ramapo and a Dunkerhook Clean-up

## Environmental Alert

(877) WARNDP

Contact this 24-hour hotline to report a fish kill, illegal waterbody draw-down, pollution or other environmental offenses.



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Trout Unlimited  
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Elio Chiavola  
Dino Eftychiou

**Founding President**  
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**Monthly General Member Meeting:** The East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

**Location:** The American Legion Hall,  
33 West Passaic St, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

**Monthly Board Meeting:** Board Members of East Jersey Trout Unlimited meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7:30PM.

How to contact us: Website <http://www.eastjerseytu.org> Mailing Address: East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited Box 366 HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366  
For Membership Information call Ken Barile at: 201-391-9214 or email to: [kenbrile@optonline.net](mailto:kenbrile@optonline.net)  
For Information on trips and other Chapter Activities go to [www.eastjerseytu.org](http://www.eastjerseytu.org)  
For East Jersey and National Trout Unlimited information, visit our website at <http://www.tu.org>. Go to chapter number 091 and you will get the latest information about our chapter.  
Riffles is your publication so we invite and encourage every member to contribute articles, tips, and stories. The articles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in general or conservation but all articles are published at the discretion of the editors and should meet EJTU standards regarding protecting our environment and the merits of 'catch and release' techniques. Pseudonyms may be used but the editors must be informed of the name of the member who writes the article.  
Email to [raycapp@optonline.net](mailto:raycapp@optonline.net)

## A Sea Of Bottles

Some times I do things with my brain on autopilot and it is not until I get wacked by some bit of otherwise obvious information that I come to my senses. This was the case recently when the President of the New York State TU council addressed the participants of a Casting for Recovery retreat.

He spoke about the current battle to stop Nestle from building water bottling plants, one in Tug Hill and two at the headwaters of Catskill streams. We all know that when you draw millions of gallons of water per day from an aquifer it has an adverse effect on ground water and thus an adverse effect on stream flows. Of course, I was sitting there knowing that I had about 6 bottles of water in my cooler.

Here is the big picture. Every gallon of water put into plastic bottles is one less gallon for the fish. Plastic bottles are made from petrochemicals which is another use of oil. Once empty the bottles are a disposal problem. Because we have no bottle bill in New Jersey they may get recycled or else they go to the landfill where they will remain for hundreds of years. Fuel

oil used to transport the water by truck to the stores hits us again. And of course the coal, oil or natural gas used to generate the electricity to run the pumps hurts us by consuming fuel and polluting the air. So as convenient as they may be it is time for me (and you) to stop or at least reduce purchases of bottled water.



You might also consider a letter to NY DEC voicing opposition to the pumping plants. If these companies have to use our water sources, why not focus on the outflow of a watershed rather than its source. Great Bear bottles water from wells in Teterboro. It has to be filtered and purified but they are drawing it before it gets to the ocean. I think that makes more sense than taking water from the sources of our often abused trout streams.

So go out and buy yourself a reusable water bottle, fill it at home and save some fish.

*Limp Leader*

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segments of the public in cracking down on wildlife crime. You can make a difference and you can also be paid for your efforts. Operation Game Thief offers rewards of up to \$200 to persons who report certain types of wildlife crimes. The rewards are paid if the report results in the issuance of a summons. Anonymity is guaranteed if desired. You are fully protected because no one, not even the person you speak with need ever know your name or address. Rewards are paid confidentially also. The toll free number of Operation Game Thief is 800-222-0456.

## Delaware River Maps

Our April speaker, Tom Gilmore, mentioned the maps of the Delaware River that he prefers to use. These maps show islands and locations of stream flows, i.e., which side of the river has the stream flow and, hence, where the shad are.

I researched and found there is a new, updated set of 10 plasticized maps available from the Delaware River Basin Commission for \$25.

You can find the ordering form at [http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/recmap\\_orderform.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/drbc/recmap_orderform.pdf)

*Ed Higgins*

**Fly of the Month**

May – A glorious time to be alive and knee deep in a Trout stream. The first major hatches should be in full swing: Hendricksons, Blue Quills, Quill Gordons, Sulphurs.

These are the flies that made the Catskills famous, and defined the



“Catskill Style” of dry fly. So as you prepare for the next day on the stream and tie up a few of your favorites, how about whipping up an extra dozen for the chapter.

Tie up one of these, or any other pattern, and turn them in at the next meeting. You will receive 10 points and an entry into the monthly drawing for every dozen flies you turn in. More importantly, you will be helping your chapter raise funds for our various projects.



The chapter's fly inventory is reduced after the Suffern show. Now is the time to start rebuilding our inventory for next year. If you can't make the meeting, mail your flies to the chapter P.O. Box or turn them in to any director.

Bruce Seiden

**Shad Run Information  
(610) 954-0577 or (610) 954-0578**

The Delaware River Shad Fishermen's Association provides a message on the shad run in the Delaware 24 hours per day, seven days a week.

Information on river conditions and the status of the shad run is offered. Call in late evening or early morning to avoid a busy signal.

**Fly Fishers**

Number in US: 6 million  
Number aged 6 to 17: 734 thousand  
Percent who are female: 20.2%



From May 2010  
Outdoor Life

**Ramapo River Day 2010**

School groups, scout troops and youth groups are invited to attend the annual environmental education program sponsored by EJTU and faculty members of Ramapo College.

The event will take place on the morning of Saturday June 12, 2010 - rain or shine.

It will, as usual, be centered in the large field next to the Ramapo River where Halifax Road meets the river in Mahwah, NJ. This is behind Ramapo College's tennis courts that are across Route 202 from the College's main entrance.

The children will be fourth graders through high school aged children. This is our biggest event of the year so we will need a number of EJTU volunteers to tie flies, help retrieve insects from the river, teach fly casting, and help the groups of children move from station to station.

Volunteers please contact Rich Malizia at 973-304-0789 or [remqcp@optonline.net](mailto:remqcp@optonline.net) as soon as possible.

**Want to Sell or Buy Something?**

Quite often EJTU members have excess equipment that they would like to sell while others, who are looking for a particular piece of equipment, would prefer to get it used to keep the cost down.

If you are in either of these categories, let the Riffles editor ([raycapp@optonline.net](mailto:raycapp@optonline.net)) know about it and we can place your ad here.



**2010 Raffle**

As most of you know, we have sold tickets for our annual raffle during the last few months. During our April 14 meeting we chose the winning ticket – a ticket purchased by Albert Scalza.

Albert is not a member of our chapter but he is a member of TU and proudly showed his membership card when we met to deliver the prizes to him.



Albert was thrilled with the items that he won, repeatedly saying that in the past he has “taken chances on so many things and never won anything”. He is considering retiring from his job at Anheuser-Busch so, if he does, we wish him a relaxed and fish-filled retirement

**Bobcats**

While Bobcats are elusive, more people are reporting that they are seeing them in New Jersey. If you happen to spot what you think is a Bobcat or even if you happen to see a roadkill Bobcat, report the sighting to a Conservation Officer. Jeanette Vreeland, Chair of the Fish and Game Council says that the DEP is trying to track the movements of our Bobcat population and would appreciate your help.

Bobcats are about twice the size of domestic cats and have gray to brown coats, whiskered faces, black bars on their forelegs and

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black tufted ears. They are not named Robert! They get their name from their black-tipped stubby tails.

Conservation Officers in the northern Counties of New Jersey can be reached at 908-735-8240



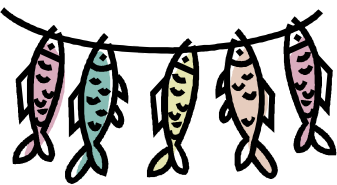
### What do You Think?

New Jersey has a number of streams on which some sections are designated as Trout Conservation Areas (TCAs). Some are year-round, some are seasonal, and then there are the fly-fishing only TCAs.

All of these TCAs require that only artificial lures be used (some require that only dry flies, wet flies, bucktails, nymphs and streamers be used), all prohibit the use or possession of live or preserved bait and any substance that contains a concentration of bait scent, and most are designated as catch and release only. The applicable dates of the seasonal TCAs, the specific restrictions on each of the areas and the descriptions of the locations of the areas are listed

on page 19 of New Jersey's Freshwater Fish and Wildlife Digest – the free pamphlet that sets forth all of the freshwater fishing regulations.

The DEP's Bureau of Freshwater Fisheries would like to know what you think about the TCA regulations. Trout Unlimited's State Council will collect TU members' thoughts about the TCAs when the Council meets in July so, if you would like to be heard, send your opinions to Riffles or to Bruce Seiden who is Vice President of the State Council.



### June 5 & 6 Picnic and Sleepover

EJTU will repeat last year's successful picnic at the Catskill Fly Fishing Museum in Livingston Manor on the Willowemoc on June 5.

Those who want to have a full weekend of fishing will be able to stay in the museum's bunkhouse on both Friday and Saturday nights and have breakfasts, lunch, etc..



The picnic - hot dogs, hamburgers, salads, potato chips, cookies, coffee, & soda - will begin around 12 – 1 PM. Children under 12 are free and for adults the cost is only \$5.

As usual there will be a raffle provided by Ramsey Outdoor Store.

For details on the full weekend's activities contact Ed Higgins (easyedh@gmail.com).

*Give a man a fish and he has food for a day; teach him how to fish and you can get rid of him for the entire weekend.*

*Zenna Schaffer*

### Free Fishing Days

If you would like to take someone fishing for their first time the first weekend in June will be the time to do it. Saturday and Sunday, June 5 and 6 are New Jersey's annual Free Freshwater Fishing Days.

On June 5 and 6 residents and non-residents may fish in New Jersey's public fresh waters without a license or a trout stamp. All other regulations, including size and daily catch limits remain in effect.

### Freshwater Licenses

**Resident:** Age 16 to 69 and must have lived in New Jersey for six months immediately prior to the time of application.

**Active Duty Servicemen and Women:** A person who is on active duty in the armed services of the United States is entitled to fish with a resident license.

**N.J. National Guard Members:** NJ National Guard personnel are entitled to free licenses, permits and stamps.

**Veterans with Service-Connected Disability:** Resident NJ veterans with service-connected disability are eligible for free licenses.

**Licenses for the Blind:** Residents with total blindness may obtain free fishing licenses.

### The "Ultimate Outfit" Search

In a way I'm glad there isn't one all around rod, or a best fly or lure, or one reel and line that does it all. What a dull sport fishing would be if once you acquired the "complete" outfit you didn't have anything new to look forward to. The excitement of thumbing through the latest catalogs or visiting tackle shops would be gone. The anticipation of opening day would be somewhat dimmed if you weren't dying to try that new outfit you picked up over the winter.

I guess we are all looking for the ultimate in equipment that will make us a great wing shot or cure that wicked slice or take fifty fish without moving your feet. But will it really? As for me, I hope I never find it—except maybe enjoyment of the sport.

*Bill Adams (from the January 1975 issue of Riffles)*