



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Yuch or Not Yuch?

Everyone has seen foam on the surface of a river. It seems to last too long to be healthy, it sometimes has a brownish color that adds to its negative look, and its generally unnatural look causes some people to assume that it results from industrial pollution. These attributes cause us to call it river scum. But is it really that bad?

Well, if it is a sign of pollution and it should be avoided, what about the foam or scum that often can be found on an ocean beach where the surf meets the sand? Is that too a sign that the whole beach is polluted? And, by what?

It turns out that the foam, scum or whatever you want to call it is not usually the result of man-made pollution but rather a sign of life in the water of oceans and streams that is agitated. When there is turbulence in water, air and water are mixed, causing bubbles to form. These bubbles can then be stabilized if there are dissolved organic compounds in the water. The stabilization prevents the bubbles from bursting readily and also reduces surface tension, thus allowing fine bubbles and froth to form. "Fine bubbles" and "froth" are nice terms for what we see as foam and scum.

And the "organic compounds" that cause stabilization? That is made up of plant matter, algae, fish excrement, nymph shucks and other living things. Without the presence of living matter there would be no natural foam and, while the water would look picture perfect, it would be dead.

If you know someone who keeps salt-water tropical fish they will probably be very familiar with the action of foam in water. Most of them use a device called a protein skimmer to cleanse the water in their tanks. Water that is drawn from the tank and into a tube is aerated and spun causing particles of dead matter to cling to the resulting small bubbles. As the foamy mass builds it rises to the top of the skimmer and flows into a receptacle from which it can be disposed of.

Ray Cappock

When: June 11 at 7:30 PM

Where: American Legion Hall
33 West Passaic Street
Rochelle Park, New Jersey

Aaron Jasper Northwest Connecticut Fishing.

Aaron has fished a wide variety of Trout Streams all over North America, and has decided to share his expertise and proven Trout tactics with you through both guiding and instructional opportunities, Aaron's home streams are in the Northeast and he currently guides on the Housatonic and Farmington Rivers in Connecticut.

Points

During the month of May EJTU volunteers earned 1,965 points. Generally, volunteers are awarded 10 points for each four hour period in which they are performing activities for the chapter.

This means that during the month of May our volunteers worked 786 hours on EJTU projects. Were you among them?

If you have worked on EJTU projects you will remember that someone always had an attendance sheet for you to sign. This was not just to record people's names but in order for Jason Tillery to maintain his record of every member's point totals. As a member reaches various numbers of accumulated points, Jason delivers polo shirts, jackets, beer mugs, fishing licenses and other gifts to them. They are nice items and they are not prizes; they represent a thank you from the chapter to its volunteers.

Frost Valley Fishing Trip

Ed Higgins has booked the weekend of Sept 12 - 14 for EJTU at Frost Valley YMCA Camp on the Upper Neversink River in Claryville, NY. We need a minimum of 15 anglers to a maximum of 22.

The cost is \$251 per person. This is a small charge when you consider that you will be able to fish Frost Valley's six miles of private streams and ponds. In addition, you will have two night's lodging at the Straus Center. Meals, served at Straus Center, include a Friday night snack, three meals on Saturday, and two meals on Sunday.

Straus Center has semi-private rooms, most with their own bathrooms. This means that if significant others, and/or fishing couples want to come on this trip they are welcome.

The trip is on first come, first served basis. When Ed gets 22 deposits, no additional people will be signed up.

Please contact Ed (easyedh@verizon.net or 201-791-4635) to make sure that there are still openings. If there are, deposits may be sent to: Ed Higgins, 257 Evans Place, Saddle Brook, NJ, 07663, or they may be given to John Roetman or Bill Borowski at Ramsey Outdoor Store's Paramus location. Ed will also be at the Wednesday, June 11 members meeting.

Welcome New Members

Bebars Balkar	Haledon
Frank Bovino	Washington Twsp
R.Campoli	Cresskill
Mary Clark	Rutherford
Donnie Di Chellis	Paterson
John R Drummond	Ridgewood
Carol Fraley	Hoboken
John Gordon	Cedar Grove
Kuo Lung Kao	Wood Ridge
David Lee	Saddle River
Ronald B. Low	Cresskill
Thomas K. Mathew	Jersey City
Peter Oberthal	New Milford
Ed Redling	Mahwah

Meadowfest

On Saturday, June 14 EJ TU will once again help out at this year's Meadowfest.

The event will, as usual, be held in Laurel Hill Park in Secaucus. If you are not familiar with Laurel Hill, you might know it as Snake Hill, that large pile of rock next to the eastern spur of the Turnpike that is said to be the inspiration for the Prudential Insurance logo. The park is on the Hackensack River behind Snake Hill.

The Meadowlands web site has this to say about Meadowfest, "This day-long event features environmentally-oriented activities and educational programs, including ecological tours of Snake Hill, pontoon-boat cruises on the Hackensack River, carnival type attractions & games, a petting zoo, pony rides, food & refreshments and live musical performances".

At our EJ TU location in the center of the activities we will have a canopy where we will demonstrate casting and fly tying while we talk about our activities. It is always an enjoyable time for the volunteers and we need some help.

We will need at least one fly tyer, one person to demonstrate casting, a person to talk to people and someone to cover others who are on breaks.

If you can spend a few hours on Saturday, June 14, please call Rich Malizia at (973) 304-0789 or remqcp@optonline.net

Proposed Fishing Trips

Ed Higgins, who has already organized a successful chapter picnic and a fishing trip to Frost Valley on the Neversink, is thinking about other trips in which members might be interested. Some possibilities are to the Flatbrook, the South Branch of the Raritan, the Pequest, the Esopus, and other relatively close streams.

These trips would probably be designed to show people who are not familiar with these streams how to get to the streams, where the fishing areas are, what to use, and other pertinent information. If you might be interested in a trip of this kind, please let Ed know and he will work on it. Also, if you know of a local trip that you think that Ed should schedule, let him know some details about it.

Some people may want to travel longer distances, for instance to upper New York State, to Maine, or to other fishing areas. If you would like to go on longer trips, you should also talk to Ed about your interest.

Ed will be at the Wednesday, June 11 members meeting and would like to get your input. If you don't have a chance to talk to him at the meeting you can contact him at easyedh@verizon.net.

Mono Recycling Update

We've written and talked a few times about the monofilament recycling bins that EJ TU has been mounting at various fishing locations. And, while some of you probably have passed them when you were fishing, there are probably a lot of members who haven't had a chance to see them "in the wild". This is an updated list of the locations of the bins that have been installed.

We began with our local stream, the Ramapo River, and installed one on the EJ TU built trash bin on the west side of the Glen Gray Bridge. Another Ramapo installation is also on an EJ TU built trash bin, this one at the parking area abutting the river at Halifax Road.

For those of you who don't know these roads, Glen Gray Road is the border between Oakland and Mahwah, and Halifax Road is opposite the main entrance to Ramapo College. Both Glen Gray and Halifax Roads run west from Route 202.

We next installed bins at two of the public boat ramps that service Monksville Reservoir. The bins are at both the north and south boat ramps and are attached to the signs that are immediately next to the ramps. If you have never fished Monksville, (officially part of Longpond Ironworks State Park) it is located on Greenwood Lake Turnpike between Greenwood Lake and the town of Ringwood, and you can use canoes, kayaks or powered boats with motors up to 9.9 horsepower to catch walleye, panfish, muskie, bass, trout, etc.

Our next installation was at Green Turtle Pond. When we installed the bin on a vertical post next to the boat ramp the post also held a sign that I have been told is now missing. But, the post and the bin are still there. Once again for those unfamiliar with the area, Green Turtle Pond is on Awosting Road about half-way between Monksville Reservoir and Greenwood Lake. The pond is managed by the Wanaque Wildlife Management area and is stocked with trout, so you can find them in addition to bass and panfish. Canoes, kayaks and electrically powered boats may be used, or you can join the shore fishermen who always seem to be around.

Also in the same general area is a bin that is next to the Wanaque River. This stretch of the river flows down from Greenwood Lake to Monksville Reservoir. East Shore Road follows the same path, so you can park at one of the pull-outs or next to the road and walk over to the wa-

FLY of the Month

Things are getting hot, and I don't mean the weather. The hatches we dreamed of all winter are in full swing.

The Mayflies both large and small have got our attention. March Browns, Green Drakes, Sulfurs, & Olives have all been getting the trout's attention as well.

The next time you come home from a days fishing and sit down at your vise to refill your fly box, how about tying a dozen extra for your 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 still quite lean, and we need your help in getting it rebuilt. 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

ter in most places.

Going a bit far afield, we next went to four reservoirs that hold the City of Newark's water supply, Echo Lake, Oakridge, Clinton and Canistear. Each of these large, Newark Watershed bodies of water has an EJ TU recycling bin mounted in the parking lot near the boat ramps or immediately next to the ramp. The reservoirs are stocked with trout by the State but also hold a variety of large fish; I am told that huge browns lurk in the depths and that the smallmouth fishing is unbeatable. However, in order to fish in these reservoirs you must purchase and display a permit in addition to your regular fishing license. If you wish to use a boat you must also purchase a boat permit and you are restricted to electric power, a minimum length of ten feet, with no kayaks, canoes or inflatable allowed. Permits and information about fishing and hunting on the Watershed's property can be obtained from the office located on Echo Lake Road about a half mile north of Route 23 (973-637-2850).

We plan on installing more bins in addition to the ten that are described above but we will not mount one unless we know that someone will tend it by periodically emptying it. If you would like to have a bin installed in a location that you feel needs one, and are willing to visit it every week or so to open the bottom and dump the mono into a box, contact a member of the Board of Directors or the Conservation Committee and we will see what we can do.