

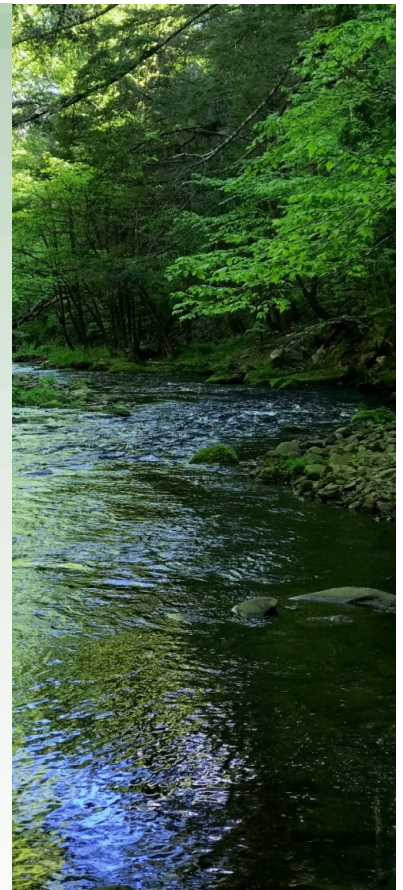


Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of
East Jersey Trout Unlimited

July 2020
Volume 51, Issue 7
Please Consider The Environment Before Printing *Riffles*

July General Membership Meeting - Canceled



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Volunteers Needed

- Community Outreach Coordinator
- Representative to Bergen County Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs
- Conservation Committee Chair

All of EJTU's In Person Events are Currently Canceled.

EJTU Board of Directors

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Justin Fuller - Park Ridge

2nd Vice President / Membership

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Charlie Maccia - Verona

Trips

Rom Mroz - Secaucus

Education

Doug Penna - Hasbrouck Heights

Points

Paul Reithmeier - Ringwood

Director At Large

Igor Zaretsky - Fair Lawn

Additional EJTU Leaders

Strategic Planning

Ken Barile - Montvale

Diversity Initiative

Jon Daffron - Ridgewood

Riffles Editor

Dino Eftychiou - Montvale

Veterans Services

Vic Mignoli - Little Silver

Trout In The Classroom

Jim Piombino - Fair Lawn

Youth Coordinator

Jeanne-Marie Thomas - Ridgewood

President's Beat

By Chris Henrickson



Sadly, COVID-19 seems to be on the rise again, at least in certain areas of the country. Thankfully, the tristate area seems to have somewhat stabilized at lower levels. EJTU's Board of Directors continues to monitor the pandemic. Once again, all in person chapter events are canceled for the month of July.

We are cautiously optimistic that we may be able to have an outdoor general chapter meeting out at the Pavilion in August! Just to warn everyone ahead of time, we will be implementing mandatory safety measures going forward such as fully wearing a face mask and maintaining at least 6 feet of social distance. More information will be forthcoming.

In light of the tragic killing of George Floyd and the resulting historic nationwide protests, TU National has re-committed itself to its decade-old diversity initiative to foster greater inclusion and equity in TU. Likewise, EJTU and our own chapter's Diversity Initiative efforts will do the same. If you have a few minutes, check out TU National's updated [equity practice webpage here](#).

Thank you to everyone that took a few minutes to comment against NY State DEC's foolish plan to allow year round trout fishing. Year round fishing results in greater trout mortality for both stocked and wild fish. New York's wild brown trout and brook trout do not need any additional threats, especially while trying to spawn. New York State is also considering changing stocking regulations to designate the Esopus as stocked fishery. Why would we want to dump a bunch of hatchery fish on top of a robust wild rainbow trout population? It makes no sense. I thought NY DEC stood for "New York Department of Environmental Conservation." I guess they think it is more important to sell some additional fishing licenses.

Big shout out to local fly shops [Dette Flies](#) and [Esopus Creel](#) for bringing attention to both of these dreadful proposed regulations. Both outfits clearly care about rivers, conservation and wild fish. It would have been nice to have learned about these issues from TU National or the NY State Council of TU. Personally, if have to choose between catching one real wild trout or a dozen cloned stockers, I'll take the one wild fish and then go have a couple of beers.

The Clean Water Act Is Being Unraveled

From TU.Org.

On June 1, 2020, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a final rule revising regulations related to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, a tool used by states and tribes to protect state and tribal resources from impacts of federally permitted development. The rule will go into effect in 60 days after it is formally published in the federal register. (Final publication is still pending).

What it means for coldwater fisheries:

The Clean Water Act is vital to TU's work to protect, conserve and restore streams, and important to anglers across the nation. CWA Section 401 grants states and tribes the right to review and certify projects that will impact water quality through discharge of pollutants. This includes both small projects and also large interstate energy and infrastructure projects. Unless the state issues or waives a 401 permit, a federal agency may not issue a permit for the proposed activity.

The new rule announced today would curb this authority by *limiting the timeline for review* as well as *narrowing the scope of the issues* that states can review or include as conditions on a permit.

Ensuring a strong 401 certification process is essential to TU's mission as this is among the most critical tools for ensuring that proposed projects are designed and implemented in a manner that protects coldwater resources that TU cares about.

Click Here To Visit [Standup.TU.Org](#)
To Contact Your Members Of Congress And Ask
Them To Protect
The Clean Water Act



Photograph of the Month: EJTU Volunteer Leader and Diversity Initiative Coordinator JD Daffron-
 “Paul Reithmeier taught me to the Woolly Bugger I caught this Fish on””

The Angler and Nature in Art

By Dino Eftychiou

In a previous issue of *Riffles*, we featured an article about The American Museum of Fly Fishing in Manchester, Vermont, a “steward of the history, traditions, and practices of the sport of fly fishing.” One of the time honored traditions that the museum showcases in its Trophy Art Collection is the role that artists have played in celebrating and promoting fly fishing.

If you want to see some of these pieces of art, the museum invites you to preview its current exhibition, *Reflections: The Angler and Nature in Art*, at <https://www.amff.org/portfolio/reflections-angler-nature-art/>

Be sure to click on each individual work of art to find out more information about it.

At Right - Frederick Emanuel Shane (American, 1906-1992)
The Catch, ca. 1940
 egg tempera on panel



Contact EJTU

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Twitter: [@EJTU1](https://twitter.com/EJTU1)
YouTube: [EJTU](https://www.youtube.com/EJTU)

Mailing Address:

East Jersey Trout Unlimited
 P.O. Box 366 Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423

General Membership Meetings:

Second Wednesday of the month.
 Doors open at 7:00 PM. Meetings start at 7:30 PM

The American Legion Hall
 33 West Passaic Street
 Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

[Directions](#)

Board of Directors Meetings:

Last Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM

Fair Lawn Athletic Club
 14-19 Parmelee Ave
 Fair Lawn, NJ 07410
 201-796-9771

[Directions](#)

Conservation Committee Meetings:

Second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM

Louis Bay 2nd Public Library
 345 Lafayette Avenue
 Hawthorne, NJ 07506

[Directions](#)

About EJTU

East Jersey Trout Unlimited (EJTU) is a community of more than 750 anglers in the greater northeastern New Jersey region who are dedicated to cold water conservation and the stewardship of our local watersheds.

Our members work to protect, reconnect, restore and sustain trout habitat for anglers today and for the next generations of sportsmen and women who value the relationship between clean, healthy waterways and sustainable fishing.

Conservation Notes

By Rich Malizia



NJ DEP has recently adopted stringent drinking water standards for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), chemicals which have been linked to various health problems, including cancer. DEP has established maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for both chemicals. All public water systems must begin monitoring for PFOA and PFOS within the first quarter of 2021. Why should you care? These products are used in fire-fighting foams, stain-resistant coatings for upholstery and carpets, water-resistant outdoor clothing and non-stick cookware. These chemicals do not breakdown in the environment and accumulate over time in people. People are impacted in many ways, none of which are good. You should receive Consumer Confidence Reports from your drinking water supplier and they are required to post this information on their websites. Information is also available on the DEP's Drinking Water Watch website. No one should be surprised that DuPont and Chemours, the perpetual polluters, have been named along with some other companies, by the DEP in their directive to address contamination. This seems to be a "win" for the environmental community, but there has been no policy statement from the State about what they will do with the information developed from the testing.

Have any of you read the letter printed in the spring issue of *Trout* in "Our Readers Write" column from Mr. Churchill? He took exception to the winter 2020 cover photo. The individual featured on the cover is leading conservation efforts in his area. I am buoyed by such recognitions. The TU members that make the

effort to preserve and restore the environments in which we fish are the true TU heroes. Personally, seeing someone else holding a great fish does little for me. I was very pleased that the spring 2020 cover featured a young lady electrofishing. It was a double winner in my book. It showed someone doing conservation work and it featured a woman. I would be happy to see more of both in TU. Keep up the good work, TU editors. There is more to our organization than cover photos of fish porn.

Covid-19 continues to put a kink in our chapter activities. Some of our members are out there doing some fishing. Local streams are getting hit pretty hard, but some fish are still being caught. Water temperatures are still at acceptable levels, but this could end with a few consecutive days in the 80's. Please be alert to increased and possibly lethal water temperatures. Trout left undisturbed often find thermal refuges where they hold in a semi-dormant state and can survive for some time. Left undisturbed they can live until water temperatures drop in the fall. So as the water warms, head to a local pond and target the sunfish and bass. These locations and the fish they hold are often overlooked. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.

Plans have been announced for a South Jersey wind energy port. In addition to many new jobs this project will create, the wind turbines will produce clean power for 250,000 homes. This is the first major offshore wind energy project advanced in the State. While we all should be pleased by this development, there are still mixed messages coming out of Trenton. Currently there is a gas pipeline being built across South Jersey. It was supported by the Governor, and approved by DEP and the Pinelands commission, despite strong opposition from a number of environmental organizations. A recent drilling accident caused extensive damage to a home in the path of the underground drilling and polluted a nearby stream. This is the type of environmental damage that draws the opposition of many. Still pending is the plan to build a fracked gas power plant for NJ Transit in the Kearney meadows. Opposition to this plant continues to increase and no final approvals have been granted to date. The Governor has proved inconsistent in his positions on the environment. I hope you are contacting your representatives and the Governor to express your opinions on these matters.

TAKE TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Diversity Initiative

Everyone Needs Cold, Clean, Fishable Water

The Big IDEA (IDEA = Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Awareness)

By Jonathan Daffron

In this time of unrest in the world, where people are struggling with the spread of disease and racial turmoil, I would like to take the opportunity to echo two of the thoughts from TU's leadership recently. The first is from TU national's President and CEO, Chris Wood, in a note to his staff that was sent on June 2nd and later posted to the TU website. He said, "We cannot simply ignore the news, go fishing, and wait this out." We are an advocacy group, and advocacy means fighting for something. Usually, we're fighting to protect cold, clean, fishable water, but that's not all we do. Which brings me to the point made by another leader, Beverly Smith, Vice President of Volunteer Operations, who said, "TU will always fix rivers. It is what we do. But the magic of TU is that we also do community." We need to advocate, to fight, for our community, and we can do that by advocating for the "I," "D," and "E" in the "Big IDEA" (Inclusiveness, Diversity, Equity). Let's continue to be an organization that is progressing our Chapter's (and TU National's) Diversity Initiative whenever and wherever possible. We are always looking for more volunteers, so if you have ideas, please don't hesitate to reach out to jonathan.daffron@gmail.com.

New EJTU Members

Blaize Feduchin-Pate, Brian Feury, David Opperbeck, David Oricchio and Luca Sumberac

Welcome and thank you for helping us to protect northeastern NJ's cold-water resources. We look forward to meeting you at one of our upcoming conservation projects, meetings or fly fishing trips!

To Join EJTU or Renew Your EJTU Membership

Visit TU National's membership page at gifts.tu.org. Remember to choose to be assigned to the "East Jersey Chapter -

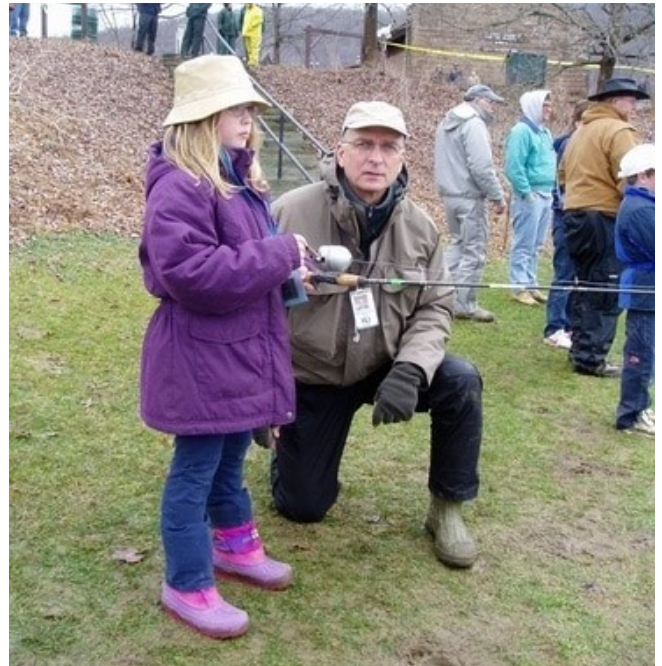
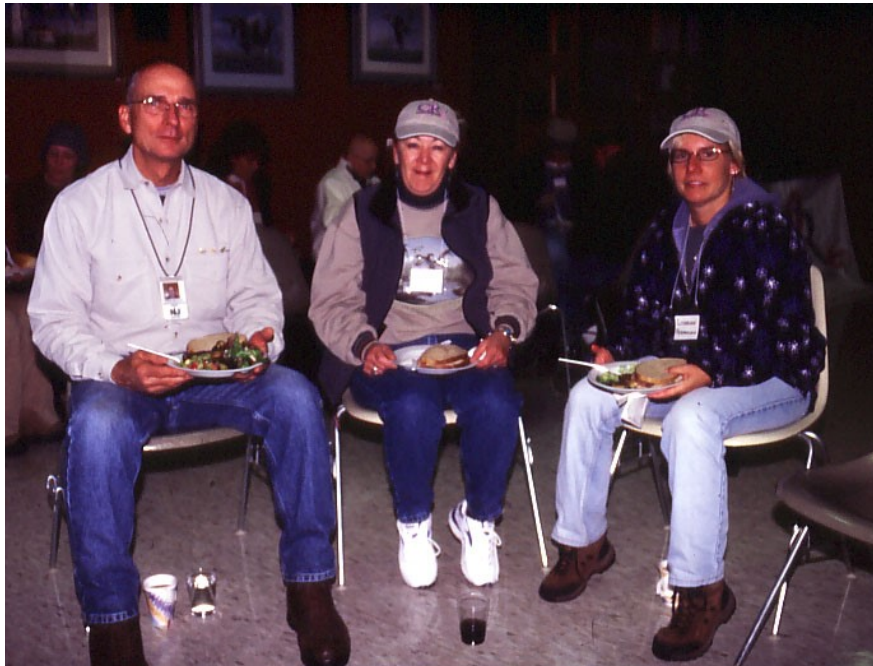
Passing of EJTU Past President Bill Borowski

By Chris Henrickson

I am very sad to announce that longtime EJTU member Bill Borowski had been in hospice care and passed away the morning of June 25th. Bill was a past President of EJTU, past 1st Vice President, webmaster and so much more. Bill was an educator and also worked for many years at the Ramsey Outdoor store in Paramus and afterwards in Ramsey.

While working at Ramsey Outdoor Bill was responsible for recruiting countless members to East Jersey Trout Unlimited and preaching the merits of cold-water conservation. Bill was an excellent fly tier, having won the Frank Hall fly tying contest several times, and top notch angler.

Most importantly Bill was a strong advocate for conservation, always willing to share his knowledge and a tireless volunteer at East Jersey Trout Unlimited. He was a great friend of so many of us. He will be very much missed. Let us all resolve to continue our efforts making EJTU the best organization it can be and to continue to advocate for conservation just as Bill did.



New Jersey State Council of Trout Unlimited Chair Marsha Benovengo Featured on TU National's Homepage and Blog!

By Chris Henrickson

New Jersey State Council of Trout Unlimited's new Chair Marsha Benovengo was recently featured on TU National's website and blog. If you have a few minutes [visit TU National's website here and learn all about our new State Council Chair](#). For those of you that haven't had the pleasure of meeting Marsha yet, aside from being State Council Chair, she is currently Vice President of Central Jersey TU. Marsha is also very active with Casting for Recovery and was previously a President of the Joan Wulff Flyfishers. She loves fly fishing in Montana and, as you can see below, she has caught some serious fish. She is also doing a terrific job leading NJ TU's efforts to protect and conserve our cold-water resources!



Double Your Pleasure

By Ron Mroz

No, I'm not talking about chewing gum. Have you ever seen or used one of those Fly/Spin combos? Most of them include a fly reel and a spinning reel which are interchangeable on the rod so that it can be transformed into a fly rod or spinning rod as needed by reversing the reel seat. About fifteen years ago my Uncle Ed gave me one of those Fly/Spin combo rods that is a 7 ½' Sport Fisher ultralight spinning rod/#4-5 weight fly rod. Sport Fisher? I'll use my 9' #5 TFO fly rod most of the time while trout fishing, but this 7 ½' rod has been my go-to rod of choice when fishing in the "jungles" of some streams that are covered by trees, lined by brush, aren't very wide, or have a lot of log jams. I mostly rig it with a small fly reel spooled with Rio Euro fly line or sometimes with regular #5 floating fly line plus I carry a small spinning reel with 4 lb line in my pack while wading so I can swap out reels as needed. That way I can double my fishing pleasure based on the conditions that present themselves.

Wait a minute, isn't Trout Unlimited a fly fishing club? Technically, no it's not. TU is a conservation organization with a focus on a clean water environment for trout fishing. Most members prefer fishing with a fly rod, fly tying classes are offered, and many of our speakers and articles pertain to fly fishing, but it's not mandatory. Perhaps it's because many people associate the spinning reel to fishing with worms and trout have a better likelihood of swallowing hooks while worm fishing and that doesn't bode well for promoting catch and release fishing. But, you can still practice catch and release while using a spinning rod & reel and you can still fly fish with a spinning rod & reel.

Most of the time I fly fish with weighted nymphs because most of the time trout are feeding below the surface. To do so, I prefer to use the fly reel with the Rio Euro fly line because it is thinner than a regular floating fly line and this give me a better tight line contact from the rod tip to my fly. The ultralight rod also transmits strikes by feel better and playing trout on the ultralight rod is more fun than it is with my 9' fly rod. I also don't worry about leader design when fishing this way. I tie a 3-4' piece of 8lb or 10lb Vanish fluorocarbon line to the Euro line with a loop-to-loop connection, add a tippet ring, then add a 2-4' tippet depending on the conditions. Many times I can get away with a 2lb or 4lb tippet of Vanish fluorocarbon. Vanish is less expensive than traditional tippet materials and I have found it to work really well. Many times I will tie on a short section of 4lb, then a fly, then a 2lb section tied off the bend of the hook with another fly tied off at the end of the 2lb tippet doubling odds and doubling my pleasure. I even use three different sight indicators with this set up. First, I thread an orange piece of Rio Kahuna strike indicator onto my line and slide it up to the butt of the fly line. Second, I thread on a slip bobber stopper with a about a 6" piece of Rio Two Tone Indicator tippet material between it, which can be adjusted up or down at will so I don't have to worry about constructing one of those complicated Euro nymph leaders while Euro nymphing. The slip bobber stops are

those used when using slip bobber rigs. Third, I tie on a weighted float and this enables me to be able to flip it easily in what I call "Flobbing" for fly lobbing. There are times when a traditional floating line works best, such as when the water is shallow or if I stumble upon a good hatch, otherwise I'm going deep. Thingamabobbers and other indicators work, but I haven't found them to be as effective.

I'm willing to bet that most people start out fishing with a spinning rod then either get into fly fishing and don't look back or they don't like using a fly rod so they don't use one again. My goal is to catch and release fish, so I take more of a whatever-it-takes approach when I fish. A spinning rod & reel is so effective because it is shorter and works better in tight conditions or when it is very windy. It tends to work better in deeper water, providing you are not using a sinking line, and it provides less line drag so there is more of a direct contact from the rod tip to the hook which makes detecting strikes easier. Therefore, there are times when a spinning rod is a better tool to deliver flies than a fly rod.

I add a lot of weight to some of my flies I tie, so I can cast them with an ultralight rod with 2-4 pound test line. One of my favorite flies to fish is a Pheasant Tail Nymph with a copper 5/32" faceted bead and extra raps of lead wire on a #14 nymph hook. Weighting flies works out well because less split shot is used which reduces the risk of getting snagged. I even float flies under an indicator or small float. Sometimes it's best to add a few split shot along the leader to keep the float to the fly floating vertically. I had the hardest time detecting subsurface strikes when starting out fly fishing because I was used to the direct contact with my lure at all times while using a spinning rod and struggled with a drag-free drift with my fly rod.

Besides flies, you can cast the obvious in-line spinners, like Mepps or Rooster Tails, with treble hooks. If you pinch all the barbs on a treble hook and cut off one of the treble hooks, it will be a lot easier to remove a spinner's hooks from a trout's mouth. You can also cast Trout Magnets and tiny jigs either with or without a float. In areas that are not designated as being Catch & Release, you can even use a small #6, #8, or #10 barbless hook with a 2" Gulp or Powerbait worm. I don't ever remember having a fish swallow these hooks and if they do the hook is barbless and will should eventually out.

One of the biggest gripes with using spinning reels is the backlashes and line tangles. To reduce this, purchase a spinning reel with a wider spool and soak your spool in warm water before fishing to reduce line memory.

Most anglers are much better at casting a fly rod than I will ever be and there are times when there is no way I can cast a fly to a particular spot and that's when it's time to double my pleasure with a spinning reel.

“Conservation Must Come Before Recreation”
-Prince Charles

Hackensack Riverkeeper

By Dino Eftychiou

Last year one of our guest speakers was Captain Bill Sheehan, founder of the Hackensack Riverkeeper organization. He made a very engaging and informative presentation about how significant and historic the entire Hackensack Watershed is and how over the centuries unregulated over-development near and on the watershed has polluted the water that fish and other wildlife depend on.

Unfortunately, as many of you probably already know, the Riverkeeper's headquarters on Main Street in Hackensack was almost completely destroyed in a fire this past May. Fortunately, insurance will cover a great deal of the rebuilding. Regardless, the organization is asking for donations to help them cover any insurance shortfalls and to make needed upgrades to their headquarters. Meanwhile, the Riverkeeper continues to focus on its main mission: to defend the ecosystem of the Hackensack River Watershed on behalf of not only the wildlife it supports but also the people who in so many ways rely on it.

Many of us, myself included, think of the Hackensack River as this little stream that runs through northern Bergen County. I have fished it for trout

many times with my sons when they were younger, mostly in Old Tappan and River Vale. But I never really appreciated its magnitude until my wife and I took a guided Eco-Cruise with the Hackensack Riverkeeper one day this past June. I highly recommend it. It's a 2 ½ hour trip from Laurel Hill Park in Secaucus up to the town of Hackensack where the USS Ling is still waiting for someone to salvage her. Besides seeing and experiencing the river in a new way, you also will get a history and environmental lesson from the captain of your boat. Although the trip is "free," a donation is very much appreciated. You'll have a memorable experience and you'll feel good knowing that you contributed to a group that shares your concerns about protecting our natural resources.

To make a direct donation and/or to take one of the cruises, go to the Riverkeeper's website: <https://www.hackensackriverkeeper.org>

Or you can donate on GoFundMe: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/hackensack-riverkeeper-office-fire-relief>



2020 TU Embrace A Stream Fundraising Drive

From TU.Org

Support local stream and river restoration today by making a tax-deductible gift to Embrace A Stream, TU's oldest member-led conservation program. When you donate to EAS, you're investing wisely because each gift is matched through local chapters making your gift go twice or even three times as far. In addition to improving local streams and rivers, when you donate, you'll get the great gifts featured to the right by making a \$40.00 donation or more. Donations can be made at <https://gifts.tu.org/EAS21?ms=MWL-WFO-WEAS21-T>



This year's Embrace A Stream RepYourWater hat features a navy blue front which shows off a unique mayfly patch, illustrated by RepYourWater exclusively for TU members, and proudly displays the TU logo. The back is an earthy gravel mesh and snapback closure. You'll also receive a TU-Edition Orvis Silipint®. This pint is constructed from 100% BPA-free, 100% food-grade silicone... making it unbreakable, rip-proof, and crushable... perfect for camping, fishing, or any outdoor exercise.

Wally Wing BWO Klinkhammer

From Dino Eftychiou

One evening in early June a group of us were fishing the wide flat stretch of the Housatonic River behind the monument. We'd arrived late afternoon anticipating some evening hatch action. For a couple of hours, I was getting nothing. I was a bit comforted that hardly any other fishers on the river were having much success. Around 8:30 PM the trout began to rise consistently even though there were no noticeable flies on the water. I heard someone yell "emergers." I tried a number of different flies that I'd tied on traditional emerger hooks—blue wing olives, light cahills, sulphurs—nothing enticed them. Finally, I decided to tie on a Wally Wing Blue Wing Olive tied on a klinkhammer hook. Within a few casts I had my first fish of the evening. Unfortunately, after catching two more trout, I lost the fly to a tree on a back cast. I did have one more similar fly, but I'd forgotten my night light and there was no way I could tie it on.



I'd tied these flies a while back and I can't remember what prompted me to do so. Looking online recently I found a pattern by Barry Ord Clarke: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mXxtzET9snk> Barry is an internationally acclaimed fly tier, photographer, and author. A collection of his flies can be seen in The Catskills Fly Fishing Center and Museum.

The fly that I used on the Housatonic differs from his somewhat. He doesn't list his materials, but it appears that the hackle is light brown or ginger as shown in the photo. I tied mine with light dun colored hackle. His body is striped peacock quill; mine is dyed olive goose biot. Also, the hook he uses is a traditional caddis emerger hook; whereas, I use a klinkhammer hook.

Materials

Hook: Klinkhammer, size 12-20
Thread: Olive
Body: Peacock quill or olive goose biot
Thorax: Peacock herl or olive dubbing
Wings: Mallard flank feather
Hackle: Light dun

About Riffles

Riffles Editors: Dino Eftychiou, Justin Fuller and Chris Henrickson.

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Riffles is your publication; we encourage all members to contribute articles, tips and stories. Articles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in general or conservation. All articles are published, edited and may be condensed at the discretion of the editors and should meet EJTU standards regarding protecting our environment and the merits of "catch and release." Pseudonyms may be used, but the editors must be informed of the name of the member who writes the article.

Questions, Comments and How to Submit Articles

Any suggestions you may have to improve *Riffles* are greatly appreciated. If you have any articles or content you would like to submit, please email the Editors at eastjerseytu@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

About Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited is a national organization with about 300,000 members and supporters organized into over 400 chapters and councils from Maine to Montana to Alaska.

This dedicated grassroots army is matched by a respected staff of lawyers, policy experts and scientists, who work out of more than 30 offices nationwide.

Looking to Buy, Sell, Swap or Donate a Fishing Related item?

EJTU can help! Chapter members are welcome to list items they are looking to buy sell or swap on either our online [website forum](#) or on our [Facebook Page](#).

All chapter members are welcome to attend our annual tackle swap and BBQ at our July regular membership meeting. At the meeting you can display all of the items you want to sell or swap.

EJTU also accepts donations (which are tax deductible) of items, which we will sell to raise funds for chapter activities and conservation projects.

COVID-19

SOCIAL DISTANCING

NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF
Fish and Wildlife



FISH LOCAL

Stay close to home. Keep your fishing trip short.
Avoid high-traffic destinations.



BE SAFE

Avoid crowds and groups. Keep a distance of **6** feet or more from others, including staff stocking fish.
Advise children not to wander into the personal space of other anglers.



BE ADAPTIVE

Move quickly through parking lots and paths.
If crowded, choose a different fishing location or time to visit.



STAY HOME

If you're not feeling well, stay home.

6 Feet of Social Distance



For additional information visit:
www.NJFishandWildlife.com

TROUT STOCKED
LOCATIONS

