



# Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 34

October 2004

Issue 10

## President's Beat

H.L. Mencken once said: "For every complicated problem, there is a simple solution, which is always wrong."

I was thinking of this statement recently while on a trip to the High Peaks area of New York's Adirondacks. This is a scenically beautiful region, composed of the youngest mountains in the Appalachian chain, a spruce/birch forest whose floor is a soft covering of needles, leaves and moss over a rock bed of granite. Yet beneath all of this natural, seemingly pristine environment lies a problem whose solution is anything but simple. Its effects are not blatantly obvious but are there nonetheless. The cause is acid rain, emanating from power generating plants in the American Mid West which use fossil fuels, primarily coal, to generate much needed electrical power. This is a homegrown problem created by our seemingly endless thirst for more and more energy and relying on limited and "dirty" sources for manufacturing that energy.

The ravages of acid rain are evident throughout the Northeastern United States and Canada but they are more drastic in the Adirondacks. Spruce/birch ecosystems are more fragile than the hard wood forests of lower elevations and therefore the effects are more greatly felt. Scientists, namely foresters, herpetologists and fisheries biologists have all noted recent drastic changes in the environment. For example there is a significantly reduced population of frogs, toads, newts and salamanders. Due to the increased acidity levels, some lakes and ponds in the region are totally devoid of fish life.

We have identified the effects and their cause but the solution is not a simple one. How do we supply our homes and

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## Meeting Notice

**When:** November 10 at 7:30 PM  
**Where:** American Legion Hall  
33 West Passaic Street  
Rochelle Park, New Jersey

**November 10th  
Steve Andrusika  
Shad Fishing the Delaware**

**Mark Your Calendars!**

**December 8th  
John Roetman  
The Connetquot  
Getting Ready for our Super  
Bowl Sunday Trip**

## New to EJTU

EJTU would like to welcome these new members who joined during September 2004:

Mark Polizzi of Mahwah; Richard Street of Hoboken; Dennis Spafford of Northvale; William Taylor, of Woodridge; and Roy Verstraete of Ringwood.

*Ed Sikorski*

## Mark Your Calendar

Get ready, mark your calendar for East Jersey's biggest event of the year. On Saturday, March 19, 2005 we will have our annual dinner at the WAYNE MANOR. Cash cocktail hour will be from 6:30-7:30 and dinner will be from 7:30-11:30. Watch for coming announcements.



## Casting For Recovery Needs Volunteers

On the weekend of October 22 - 24 the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation will hold a retreat in Panther Valley called Casting For Recovery which is for women who are survivors of breast cancer. This is the first time this organization has been able to hold a retreat in Northern New Jersey and their grant has been made possible through the auspices of East Jersey Trout Unlimited, as approved by the Board of Directors. On Sunday October 24, the participants in the retreat will be taken to the Pequest Hatchery for further instruction (and hopefully to catch some fish). As a cosponsor, East Jersey TU will need 10-15 volunteers on October 24 to assist with the casting instruction. If you can help, please contact me at [grpetersen44@verizon.net](mailto:grpetersen44@verizon.net). Thanks for your help and interest in this worthwhile project.

*George Petersen*

## A Tip

Have you ever had your rod come flying apart in mid cast? Or, after a day of fishing did you have trouble getting your rod apart?

Try rubbing some paraffin wax on the male half of the ferrule this will not only keep the rod together it will also help in taking it apart! Remember to reapply the wax every so often depending on usage.

This also works well for the Folstaf wading staff and leaves no grease or oil to get on you or your waders!

*Bob Ribar*

"Fly fishing is solitary, contemplative, misanthropic, scientific in some hands, poetic in others, and laced with conflicting aesthetic considerations. It is not even clear if catching fish is actually the point." *John Gierach Dances with Trout (1994)*

## East Jersey Chapter Trout Unlimited

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#### Education Director

Doug Penna

#### Trips/Pequest Programs

Bob Novak

#### Speakers

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#### Merchandise

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#### Dinner

Dave & Barbara Wedlick

#### Shows

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#### Director at Large

Karen Canning

#### Web Master

Bill Borowski

#### Federation of Sportsmen's Rep

Ray Cappock

#### Founding President

Don Ecker

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#### President's Beat

businesses with electricity? Obviously the present system is not the answer. There must be a better method.

The present Administration has come up with a plan. Their suggested solution is to issue energy credits to industries, thereby allowing the marketplace to regulate the amount of pollution. Under this plan, businesses would each be given certain amounts of credits to pollute. If an individual business did not use all of its credits within a specified time, it would be allowed to sell its unused credits to other businesses.

What a marvelous idea! It's OK to pollute as long as you stay within predetermined limits. If you can't, why you can always buy some extra credits from someone else.

"Pollution credits", the very label should bring shivers to the spine of any thinking person. Can you imagine the reaction if the FBI issued credits for felony, kidnapping or embezzlement, or if your local fire department gave credits for arson? I would like to meet the resident geniuses who dreamed up this plan. Surely the Nobel Prize Committee will cross these folks off their list of candidates.

I don't have the solution to acid rain and production of electricity, but I do know that "pollution credits" isn't acceptable. The situation brings to mind the importance of keeping informed and taking the appropriate steps to let our leadership know when they are on the wrong track. (Or this instance they fell off the track entirely.) Please take the time to keep informed and to act on that information. Let the Powers-That-Be know that we are watching them and will act accordingly. Send them letters, email, phone calls and most importantly, vote.

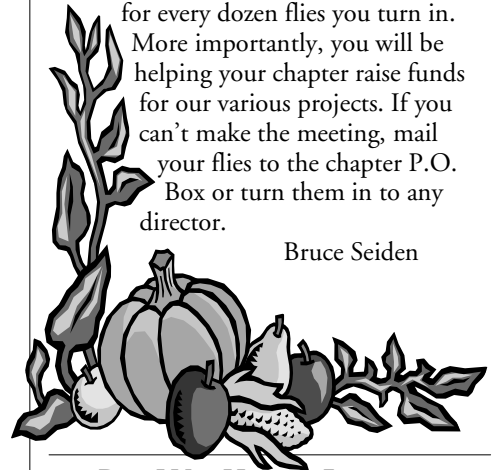
*George Petersen*

## Fly of the Month

The hatches of summer are winding down, and it's time to think subsurface. October's fly of the month will be bead head nymphs. Bead heads currently dominate the nymph category and for good reason. The patterns have the weight and flash necessary to provide some action when nothing seems to be happening. Tie up your favorite bead head pattern, or better yet, an assortment of your favorites, 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. 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



## Do We Have Anyone Who's Civil?

A Civil Engineer, that is. We know that most engineers are not obnoxious, foul-mouthed, worm fishers and are usually civil. But how about a capital "C" Civil Engineer - one who knows something about public works?

EJTU, working with authorities in Mahwah, is preparing to build a fishing deck for use by handicapped people. The deck will be located on Henry Lake, the area that is down river from Halifax Road, so this necessitates that a wheelchair accessible path to the deck also be constructed.

The chapter has volunteers who can round up support and muscle, contact material suppliers and deal with the proper authorities but, now we need someone with appropriate training and experience who can define the engineering aspects of the project. The person who volunteers will have a lot of help (and probably have a lot of fun) so this is not a solo job.

If you have expertise in this area and would like to help both the chapter and some handicapped people who would like to fish, please contact Herm Drenth at 201-797-9043 or [hermaril@aol.com](mailto:hermaril@aol.com).

How to contact us:

Website <http://www.eastjerseytu.org>

Mailing Address:

East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited

Box 366 HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366

Hotline: (201) 445-3902 (24 hrs.)

For Membership Information call Ed

Sikorski at: 201-337-6396 or email to: [dored100@hotmail.com](mailto:dored100@hotmail.com)

For Information on trips and other Chapter Activities call our hotline: (201) 445-3902 (24 hrs.)

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 either: [tu@cataloguepublishers.com](mailto:tu@cataloguepublishers.com) or [raycapp@optonline.net](mailto:raycapp@optonline.net). Each piece of material that is published earns you 10 points towards your next goal in the points program.

**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 Street, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

**Monthly Board Meeting:** The East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited Board Members meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7:30PM. **Location:** The Bergen County Community Center, 327 East Ridgewood Ave., Paramus, NJ 07652.

## Upper Delaware Wildlife Heritage Festival

Thanks to the effort of 27 volunteers, the Upper Delaware Wildlife Heritage Festival that was held at the Pequest Trout Hatchery on September 23, 2004, went very well. The Board of Directors extends its thanks to Bill Borowski, Mike Gallart, Rich Malizia, Doug Penna and Bob Ribar for representing East Jersey T.U. at this event. These men not only represented the Chapter but assisted many young folks, introducing them to the sport of fishing.

It was a beautiful day with many families both young and old in attendance. Fishing, archery, falconry and retrieving dog demonstrations were among the many seminars and demonstrations that took place that day!

Rich Malizia registered 117 kids who experienced a great time fishing the Educational Pond with the help of Bill Borowski and Mike Gallart while Doug Penna and Bob Ribar tied flies and gave mini fly tying lessons.



Mike Gallart helping a young fisherman release a fish

The Pequest Hatchery runs free programs all year long, so check for more information at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com) or call 908-637-4125.

*Bob Ribar*

## Fall Fishing

As the water cools many of you will again be wetting a line in search of some holdover fish. The patterns of choice this time of year, when hatches are limited and the cold temperatures have killed off the terrestrials, are either streamers or nymphs.

One of the keys to successful nymphing is remembering that most nymphs that have hatched from eggs deposited this summer are still rather small... some are still in the 24 - 32 size range. So before you cast that size 12

hares ear, think about what is actually in the water this time of year and what the fish have been eating the last month. Better to start small and "match the hatch".

Good fishing!

*Limp Leader*

## New York Fishing

The New York State license year is from October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005.

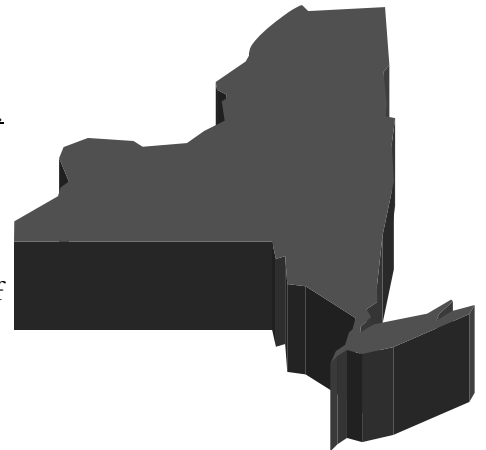
New York State's current freshwater fishing regulations are available on line at <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/fish/fishregsguide0406.pdf>. This is a long address and if you're like me it has great potential for displaying bad typing skills. So if you're willing to dig through all of the outdoor links at the New York site you can start at [www.dec.state.ny.us](http://www.dec.state.ny.us). Here's a summary of some of the licensing regulations:

Beginning August 16, 2004, you may purchase 2004-2005 sporting licenses and permits via DECALS at:

- All license issuing outlets (most municipal clerks' offices and many sporting goods stores),
- By phone at 1-86-NY-DECALS (1-866-933-2257) or
- By mail to: MCI, P.O. Box 36985, Phoenix AZ 85067-6985. A mail order application form is available on the web site.

Remember if you are a New York State resident you are eligible for a free fishing license if you are in any of the following categories:

- You are blind.
- You are an active member of the U.S. Armed Forces and can prove that you are in the state for a maximum of 30 days.
- You are a resident patient at U.S. Veterans Administration hospitals
- You are a Native American member of the Shinnecock and Poospatuck tribes, or the Six Nations residing on reservations in New York State



## Ramapo Ramblin'

Summer has finally come to a close and according to the reports from our members it has been a great year for trout fishing. We've had enough rain to keep the rivers flowing and the water temperatures appear to be on the cool side. By the time you read this, Ed Sikorski will have retrieved the water monitors and we will have a printout of the temperatures for the summer.

High water caused by the heavy rain that we've had has affected our projects and we had to cancel the electro-shocking of the Ramapo because low water is required for the testing. A rate of flow of 100 cubic feet per second (cfps) or lower is needed for the test and after hurricane Jeanne the rate of flow was 1,910 cfps; on October 1 the flow was 554 cfps. Wading is not advised when the flow is over 200 cfps and boating is not advised if it is over 400 cfps! To get information on the Ramapo's rate of flow and depth of water go to <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/nj/nwis/uv?01387500>; for information on all rivers in NJ go to <http://nj.usgs.gov>.

John Roetman arranges fishing trips for EJTU members, including day trips to the famous Connetquot River in Long Island, so if you are interested in going on a trip you should contact John at the Ramsey Outdoor store in Paramus.

There appear to be a lot of hold over trout in the Ramapo and this month more will be added. On Friday October 8 we assisted Fish and Wildlife in stocking the Ramapo at Britt's Tackle Shop in Oakland, at Halifax Road in Mahwah and at the Glen Gray bridge where we will float stock.

Recently we assisted the Wayne Boy

Scouts when they placed 200 small trout in the Singac Brook. This occurred because the town had a grant to purchase trout and do a cleanup and they asked us for assistance. Singac Brook is a small stream running from Barbour's pond to the Passaic River and, although I have never fished the brook, it appears to be quite nice with runs and pools - just right for light gear.

Your conservation committee is working with the town of Mahwah in planning for a handicap fishing deck at Henry Lake which is just south of Halifax Road. There is a need for an engineer to assist with the project. If you know of anyone who would like to volunteer some time please contact me at 201-797-9043. The town of Mahwah is also building bridges at Henry Lake so that you will be able to walk completely around the lake and have more access to the Ramapo beyond the lake. Their plan is to build a nature path from the Ramapo Reservation up stream to the New York border. The New York Parks Department will continue the path to Sloatsburg. When the path is finished you will be able to fish the entire length of Mahwah! One problem that still has to be solved is how to build the path in the section that has to pass under Route 17.

The parking lot off Colfax Road at Potash Lake in Oakland is open now, and repair work has been done to the bridge over the Ramapo. This is a real nice place to fish off the bank or if you prefer from a boat. This is really the head of Pompton lakes and you can travel there if you wish. Colfax Road is on the West side of the river and is a continuation of Skyline Drive.

As Dame Julianna wrote in 1496: "Be sure to close the farmers' gates and keep only the fish you need". She also de-

signed the cow dung fly that is still available in stores!

God Bless America

*Herm Drenth*

## EJTU in Wayne's World

EJTU's Doug Penna is moving his display piece to Wayne for the month of October. If you have a chance go to the Wayne library and take a look at it. Doug has put a lot of time into setting up this display in towns throughout the County.

## Connetquot Trip

On Monday, November 22 there will be an EJTU trip to the Connetquot River on Long Island. It will be a full day of fishing for Brown, Brook and Rainbow Trout. We will meet at the park anytime after 8:00 AM and end our day at 5:00 PM.

Cost for the trip is \$45.00. Bring your own lunch.

To make a reservation see Bill or Karen Canning. All reservations must be paid in full. Sorry but refunds for no shows will not be available.

## Monthly Conservation Committee Meeting

The East Jersey Trout Unlimited Conservation Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM at

The Bergen Community Center  
327 East Ridgewood Avenue  
Paramus, NJ 07652



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