

SENECA VALLEY ANGLER

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OFFICERS

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SEPTEMBER 2023

GREETINGS MEMBERS!

The “summer break” is over, and we invite you to join our Fall Chapter events starting in September 2023!

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President’s Note

The big and bad news for this newsletter is the early August fish-kill that occurred on Beaver Creek. As you will see in this newsletter, the event was a real blow to our efforts to maintain a self-sustaining, brown trout population in Beaver Creek. The cause of the fish-kill is still under investigation by Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA). All we know now is that temperature monitors placed in the Creek confirm it was not a temperature shock. Water tests conducted by MDE are clean and do not provide any insight as to the cause. MDA has confirmed there was no commercial spraying in the area before the thunderstorm that came through the area the evening before the fish -kill was found.

President’s Note—continued on page 9

Upcoming Meeting/Event Schedule

September 9, 10	Beaver Creek Community Meeting
September 10	Smallmouth Bass Fishing on the Monocacy River
September 11	No Chapter Meeting
September 18	Fly Casting @IWLA R Lake
October 9	No Chapter Meeting
October 14	Beaver Creek Workday
October 16	Fly Casting @IWLA R Lake
October 21	Fly Fishing 101 @ IWLA R Lake
November 4	Beaver Creek Workday
November 13	SVTU Chapter Meeting
November 20	Fly Casting @IWLA R Lake
December 11	SVTU Chapter Meeting
	2024
January 8	SVTU Chapter Meeting
February 12	SVTU Chapter Meeting

Updates to our schedule will be provided via Chapter emails and posted on our website and social media presence in Facebook and Instagram.

Have Anything to Share?

We are always looking for contributions from our members, to share with the Chapter membership.

Upcoming 2023 Fall Chapter Meetings and Events

The Chapter's BoD is in the process of getting our fall events set up. Below is a list of what we have so far. Details will be added once we get all the information. But for your schedule purposes see the calendar and description of what events we have listed so far.

Beaver Creek Community Meeting: September 9 & 10

- When:** Saturday, September 9
Sunday September 10, 2023
- What:** Beaver Creek Community Meeting with various volunteer organizations
- Where:** Beaver Creek Schoolhouse Pavilion
- Time:** Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

On Saturday, September 9 and Sunday, September 10, the Beaver Creek Community is hosting an Open-House at the Beaver Creek Schoolhouse. SVTU will be attending and talking with residents about our work on Beaver Creek. Hopefully participating in this and other community events will increase access to the stream and encourage greater cooperation with residents. Since part of Beaver Creek fishing access depends on the willingness of private landowners to allow us to cross their land, we want to show that fly fishermen are responsible partners in the health of Beaver Creek and in the Beaver Creek Community.

September Chapter Fishing Outing for Smallmouth Bass on the Monocacy: Sunday, September 10

- When:** Sunday, September 10, 2023
- What:** Chapter Social Event
- Where:** Monocacy River – Buckeystown MD
- Time:** 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

On Sunday September 10, SVTU is hosting a fishing outing focused on smallmouth bass. We are going to the Monocacy River in Frederick County.

We will meet at 3:00 p.m. at the Buckeystown Community Park, 7221 Michaels Mill Road, Buckeystown MD.

Directions: From Gaithersburg, take I-270 toward Frederick. Exit at Urbana and take Route 80 West towards Buckeystown, cross the river and take a right onto Michaels Mill. The park is on your left. Whether you are an experienced bass fisher or have not ever targeted smallies, come out and wet a line with us.

Watch the website for the exact location. Please register using the online form linked to our website <https://senecavalleytu.org/>. We need your contact information in case there is a last-minute change of plans or cancellation due to steam/weather conditions.

In case of a water/weather cancellation, we will e-mail and text the phone number given, if you provide a number that can receive texts.

Fly-Casting Instruction: September 18

- When:** Monday, September 18, 2023
Monday, October 16
Monday, November 20
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
- What:** Instruction in casting a Fly Rod
- Where:** Izaak Walton League
Jim Berrier Memorial Lake
- Who:** Anyone who wants to learn or improve their cast using a fly rod

So, you have this awesome fly rod, but have NO idea what to do with it. Join Dave Cleaves a FFI-certified master caster who will be at the lake for those who want more fly casting instruction. If you want to fine-tune your cast, or you've never cast a fly rod, come out to the lake between 6 to 8 p.m. and have some time working with our master-caster Dave Cleaves as well as other caster-volunteers. Once you get it figured out, you can fish in the lake while practicing your new technique.

SVTU will be doing this the third Monday of each month until November. Put it on your calendar for when you can attend. This is FREE!

IWLA-Rockville Hunting & Fishing Day: September 23

When: Saturday, September 23, 2023
Time: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Where: IWLA Chapter House,
18301 Waring Station Road
Germantown MD 20874

Celebrating over 50 years of National Hunting & Fishing Day. Join the IWLA Rockville Chapter for a day of outdoor fun! There is a lot to do and participate in. Visit <https://www.iwlar.org> for more information.

October Chapter Meeting – Cancelled

There are many activities for members to meet and support our ongoing involvement @ Beaver Creek and help other organizations we partner with.

October 14 Beaver Creek Workday

When: Saturday, October 14, 2023
What: Trimming work on trees & trails
Meet at: Fly Fishers Parking Lot
9751 Beaver Creek Church Rd.
Hagerstown, Md.
Time: 9.00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

In addition to work several SVTU members helped to clear up the stream after the August storm, we still are committed to supporting ongoing improvements to the stream.

On Saturday, October 14 SVTU is sponsoring a workday to trim stream-side trails and perform any needed tree maintenance along Beaver Creek. Bring tools to trim trees. We will meet at the Fly Fishers parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Lunch and water will be provided, please bring your own water bottle.

SVTU FLY FISHING 101: October 21

When: Saturday, October 21, 2023
What: Fly Fishing 101
Where: IWLA-R Jim Berrier Memorial Lake
12057 Clopper Road
Time: TBD

Save Saturday, October 21 on your calendar for a Fly Fishing 101 course at the Izaak Walton League-Rockville Chapter's Lake. For directions go to <https://www.iwlar.org/jim-berrier-memorial-lake/>.

This will be a full-day course designed to provide beginning fishers with the basics of fly fishing. The course is also an excellent refresher for those that want to improve their fly-fishing skills. We cover it all, from casting to rigging, to flies. We provide lunch and snacks (contributions accepted, but not required.) Watch the website and e-mails for timing details. Registration is REQUIRED. Check your email and the SVTU website for updates on the time and registration information.

November Beaver Creek Workday

When: Saturday, November 4, 2023
What: Tree Tube Removal
Where: Albert Powell Fish Hatchery area
20901 Fish Hatchery Rd
Hagerstown, MD 21740
Meet: Park @ Rt. 66 Park & Ride
Time: 9.30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (or until done)

On Saturday, November 4, we will work with other volunteers from other organizations to help remove tree tubes and gather them for recycling or disposal.

This project is located behind the fish hatchery and park at the Route 66 Park & Ride (just north of I-70 interchange with MD 66). A shuttle will be provided to take you to site. We will start at 9:30. Please wear proper clothing, long sleeve, boots and bring gloves. Also, bring your own water bottle and lunch.

Winter & Spring Chapter Meeting and Event Recap

Read about some of the recent 2023 SVTU Chapter activities since January. It is nice to be able to return to "live/in person" activities. We also moved to "hybrid" Chapter meeting, offering both in-person and ZOOM attendance.

January 2023 Chapter Meeting

When: Monday, January 10, 2023
What: Steve Moyer, VP for Government Affairs,
Trout Unlimited (TU) National

After a distinguished career of more than 30 years leading TUs national conservation policy work, Steve Moyer, Vice President for Government Affairs, reflected on the successes and future challenges for saving fish and their habitat.

Seneca Valley Angler—September 2023

From Bristol Bay to the Klamath dams, from the Clean Water Act to the Endangered Species Act, and from the first Bush administration to the Biden administration, Steve has been at the forefront of every major fishery conservation battle and shared his experiences to offer a hopeful message for the future of fish conservation.

In addition to Steve's presentation Dave Cleaves, of Adaptive Caster, Chapter member, certified Fly-Casting instructor demonstrated how to do a cross-body cast during the "social hour" preceding the meeting.

February 2023 Chapter Meeting

When: Monday, February 13, 2022
What: Dale Thatcher, SVTU Member—Fishing Opportunities to fish within a 50-mile radius of Damascus MD

Dale walked us through some of his favorite places to fish in Maryland. This was, as usual, a great presentation and all the maps were updated with Google Map screenshots for the areas he was discussing. Download Dale's [presentation here](#).

March 2023 Chapter Meeting & Elections

When: Monday, March 13, 2023
What: "Member's Night"

We continued our popular format that was very successful in 2022. This was a very informative meeting from some of our members who have fished around the USA, as well as the Bahamas. The presenters were:

- Jack Higgins: Wind River Wyoming near Dubois
- Dale Thatcher & Greg Cwalina: Harman's Cabins West Virginia
- Greg Cwalina: Bahamas for Bones
- Noel Gollehon: Conejos River in Southern Colorado

April 2023 Chapter Fishing Day

When: Saturday, April 15, 2023
What: Fishing @ the Patuxent

What better way to celebrate "Tax Day" than go fishing, and that is what a group of SVTU members did on Saturday, April 15.

Six SVTU members gathered at the Howard Chapel Road Parking lot in Patuxent River State Park and fished on the Patuxent River. The water levels were low, and

the fish were spooky. We split up and even with three going upstream and three downstream the trout were safe, and none were landed. But we had a pleasant morning in the company of good people.

April 2023 Chapter Picnic & Casting Extravaganza

When: Saturday, April 22, 2023
What: Picnic, casting extravaganza, and mini fundraiser

On a cooler and wetter day than much of April, SVTU held a picnic and Casting Extravaganza at the IWLA-Rockville Lake and Pavilion on April 22, 2023. Over 25 SVTU members, family and friends enjoyed each other's company and Mission BBQ under the Pavilion.

We did some casting under the watchful eye of Dave Cleaves, Chuck Abbott, and Terry Cummings, all certified casting instructors. We held a mini fundraiser, tipped an adult beverage, and generally had a great time!



Casting instructor, Chuck Abbott, discussing his casting stroke with SVTU member, Jack Higgins.

May 2023 Chapter Meeting

When: Monday, May 8, 2023
Who: Jamie Gold and John Lipetz of the Potomac Smallmouth Club
What: Potomac Smallmouth on the Fly

This was a great presentation by John Lipetz (founder of Fish & Explore), and Jamie Gold who talked about fishing for smallies on the Potomac River. They talked about what kind of gear you need, as well as different types of useful flies. If you want more information, you can download a copy of the presentation [here](#).

SVTU & Education

Seneca Valley Fly-Tying: 2023 Edition

In February, March, and April 2023, SVTU hosted six fly tying sessions using a “hybrid” platform. Instructors and most participants attended the sessions at the IWLA-R Chapter house. Our tyers and their patterns were:

- Walt’s Worm & Simple Caddis Larva – Noel Gollehon
- Hare’s Ear & Soft Hackle Hare’s Ear – John Smith
- Woolly Bugger & Shad Dart -Joe Walther
- Pheasant Tail Nymph & Griffith’s Gnat – Leslie Gollehon
- Elk Hair Caddis Dry Fly - Joe Walther
- Poppers – Greg Cwalina

You can see a photo of the fly and the pattern materials on the SVTU website’s main navigation bar—Fly Tying Info/[Fly Tying Videos](#).

Photos from the introduction class



Look for an announcement for our 2024 classes later this year.

Seneca Valley Fly Casting Classes June–August 2023

SVTU with the help of our resident “Master Caster” David Cleaves offered free casting instruction to anyone that has interest on the third Monday of the month. Held in cooperation with the Izaak Walton League Rockville Chapter—we use their lake for the event—the numbers of students continue to grow. We started the classes in June with just a handful, July with 6 students and August with a dozen. Some of the students have never held a fly rod so for them it starts at ground zero. Others of us have too many bad habits to count so the challenges to the instructor vary. Dave does a great job of working with all of us one-on-one to help with our unique stroke and casting problem.

The classes will continue through November.

SVTU & Conservation

Beaver Creek Emergency Tree Removal August 12, 2023

The same storm that brought the August 7 fish kill on Beaver Creek also did damage to a tree along the creek. Normally, the removal of a tree in the creek would be left to nature or be a part of our normal fall Beaver Creek workday (see notice in this newsletter for fall 2023). However, due to the need for DNR to conduct a fish population assessment to determine the remaining trout population, the removal of the tree became an immediate priority.

On August 12, SVTU members Emiliano Morales, Doug Hutzell, and Noel Gollehon, along with PPTU (Potomac-Patuxent TU) member Jason Simon tackled the task of removing enough of the tree to enable DNR to conduct an electro-shocking the following week.

We left a part of the tree underwater for woody habitat. In about two hours on a hot, humid Saturday we had the tree trimmed back where access was possible to a fish population assessment.



Picture as we started work, note the tree reaches almost to the far bank. Emiliano and Jason are in the stream.



Picture as we finished with the main channel cleared and woody debris along the near bank. Doug is in the foreground in his chainsaw chaps. Emiliano and Jason are across the stream moving branches away from the water.

Beaver Creek Fish Kill Update

There are other articles that describe the recent fish kill in Beaver Creek as devastating. But “devastating” is in the eye of the observer. The point of this piece is to define what is meant by the term devastating.

Maryland DNR surveyed four sections of Beaver Creek about a week following the event. All these sections had been surveyed in the past, most annually for the past 17 years, starting in 2006. The four sections surveyed were:

- **Put-and-Take:** this is the area downstream of I-70 and upstream of the Black Rock confluence, think behind the fly shop. Last surveyed in 2022.
- **Upper Jackson:** this is in the fly fishing only area downstream of the Black Rock confluence and upstream of the bridge for Beaver Creek Church Road, think the stream behind the parking lot. Last surveyed in 2022.
- **Lower Jackson:** this is in the fly fishing only area downstream of the horseshoe and upstream of the spring house, think just below the footbridge at the foot of the horseshoe across the road from the parking lot. Last surveyed in 2022.
- **Zimmerman’s:** this is the fly fishing only area downstream of the spring house and upstream of the red post marking the end of the fly-fishing only area, think the area where a stream restoration was done a few years ago. Last surveyed in 2018.

The table below shows the number of brown trout found in the section during the last survey year and the number found the week after the fish kill.

Number of Brown Trout found in Beaver Creek surveys in prior years and after the August fish kill

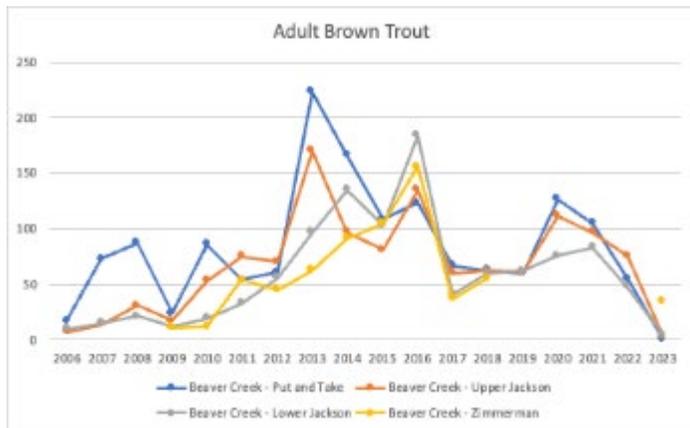
Fish age & Location	Number in last survey year	Number in August 2023	Percent decline
Adult Brown Trout			
Put-and-Take	55	0	100
Upper Jackson	76	3	96
Lower Jackson	48	4	92
Zimmerman’s	55	34	38
Young-of-Year Brown Trout			
Put-and-Take	57	0	100
Upper Jackson	19	0	100
Lower Jackson	66	4	94
Zimmerman’s	10	7	30

Two facts are obvious from the data. *First*, the impact was greater upstream with 100 percent mortality in the Put-and-Take area of both adult and YoY brown trout, compared to the Zimmerman location where the mortality was between 30 and 40 percent. The conclusion from this is that the origin of the kill source was near I-70 because there were fish found above I-70 and none below.

Second, by any stretch of the word the kill was devastating with 100 percent adult mortality in the Put-and-Take area, and over 90 percent mortality in both

the Upper and Lower Jackson locations. While there was a 38 percent decline in the Zimmerman site, it is unknown if that is due to natural variation or the event.

To provide context to the decline in numbers, the following graphic shows the number of adult brown trout in survey years from 2006 to August 2023. The greatest numbers of adult browns were in the 2013 to 2016 period. But even in 2006 there were more adult browns than were found in August 2023.



Proposed Regulation Changes to Beaver Creek

Comments due by Sept 4

Maryland DNR, in response to the fish kill on Beaver Creek, is proposing a revision to the regulations specific to Beaver Creek.

What is being considered?

The Department would like to reduce the creel limit of brown trout in Beaver Creek to zero, from the confluence with Antietam Creek upstream to the Albert Powell State Trout Hatchery.

Why is this change necessary?

The severe fish kill greatly reduced the brown trout population in Beaver Creek. The most productive spawning and juvenile nursery habitat occurs within the Put-and-Take Trout Fishing Area. Allowing the harvest of the few remaining or transplanted adult brown trout would limit the ability of the population to recover.

Who will this affect?

This would affect anglers that want to harvest brown trout in Beaver Creek. Beaver Creek is stocked with

adult hatchery rainbow trout that would remain available for harvest.

When would this be effective?

The Department projects that this change could be effective in the late fall of 2023. However, the exact date cannot be determined. The Department will follow our normal proposal procedures if this concept moves forward.

Has this change been discussed with advisory commissions?

The fish kill occurred on August 7 - 8, 2023, with fishery assessments occurring shortly thereafter. The Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission and Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission held their most recent meetings on July 18 and 20, respectively. Rather than wait for the next commission meetings, the Department has decided to begin the public scoping process so the regulation may be able to go into effect and be included in the "2024 Maryland Guide to Fishing and Crabbing" before the spring stocking season when most harvest occurs.

SVTU Stories

The Ruby River in Montana

By: Noel Gollehon, SVTU Chapter President

Leslie and I joined a group organized by Dusty Wissmath, a PA guide, to the Upper Canyon Outfitters in the Ruby River Valley. The trip included fishing guides for five days, meals and lodging. We flew to Bozeman MT on July 28, shuttled to a hotel (not included in the package price). Upper Canyon Outfitters picked us up at the hotel the next day and we proceeded to the ranch about 2.5 hours away. The last 12 miles of the journey (above Ruby River Reservoir) was on a well-maintained gravel road.

The Ruby, upstream of the reservoir, has mountain-meadow fishing. It is dry-fly or maybe dry-dropper river, then changes into a tailwater nymphing river below the reservoir. We booked the late July trip in anticipation of hopper fishing to rising trout, but the best laid plans do not always work out.

Montana, like most of the west, had big snows in the winter of 2022-2023, so spring was late, and the hoppers were just getting started when we were there.

We fished the meadow portion of the Ruby for three days, using primarily caddis, stimulators, and trying a few hoppers. Both Leslie and I caught fish, 5-10 per day each up to 14 inches, mainly rainbows. It was fun with easy access to private leases on two days and Forest Service land on one day. If the hoppers had been active, we could see the potential to catch a lot more fish. In the meadows there were big Trico hatches and some PMDs as well. Droppers netted us a few fish, but dropper fishing is tough when you need to cast the dry right against the bank, and you have a 2-foot dropper that gets in the way. We could only use droppers effectively in the pools.

We fished the tailwater below the reservoir for two days. The fish there were bigger and almost all brown trout. The first day we each caught about 10 fish all good sized and up to 20 inches. The second day, Leslie was on FIRE, landing at least 25 fish in the 14-to-20-inch range. I did OK (12 or so to the net) but nothing like Leslie!

On the tailwater, because the water level is relatively constant, we used drop-shot rigs with two files above the shot on a tag below the last fly. The float indicator bounces along as the shot drags against the bottom. This rigging presents the flies very effectively, but you need relatively constant depth for it to work.

The food was solid, not 5-Star, but good. The room was not fantastic but adequate. The hosts were fantastic! Anything you requested they would make available if possible. We took our own waders and used their boots. We took our own rods but used mainly their flies. (I did tie some flies that I wanted to try so I substituted a few for the guide's flies.) One of the nice things about Upper Canyon Outfitters is the flexibility.

In addition to guided fishing, they offer horseback riding, guided hiking, and ATV tours. You can customize a trip with something for everyone that enjoys the outdoors.

We went with Dusty who organizes two stays lasting a week in July, but you can book directly with Upper Canyon Outfitters anytime and customize an outing to suit you. The lodge is in the Ruby River Valley surrounded by mountains. It is a great location with fantastic hosts.

Dusty Wissmath: <https://www.dwflyfishing.com/>

Upper County Outfitters: <https://ucomontana.com/>

Mighty Mo Trout to Shenandoah Smallmouth

By: Bob Irvin, SVTU Chapter Board Member

What could be better than fishing two of America's premier rivers in one summer? That was a question I happily asked myself this year when I was fortunate enough to fish the Missouri River in Montana for wild trout and the Shenandoah River in Virginia for smallmouth bass.

The week after Memorial Day, my wife Nancy and I rented a house in Craig, Montana, where we were joined by our son Tom and daughter-in-law Nicole and their two adorable corgis, Bella, and Barlee. I had booked two days of guided float fishing on the Missouri River with Tony Reinhardt of Montana Trout Outfitters (<http://mttroutguides.com/>).

Craig (population 29, two bars, three fly shops) and the Missouri River below Holter Dam and the famed Gates of the Mountains is a fly-fishing mecca, listed in the book 50 Places to Fish Before You Die.

The Mighty Mo, as the river is known, has an estimated 7,000 wild trout per mile in this tailwater stretch. Montana has not stocked trout in its rivers for nearly 50 years, so the brown trout and rainbow trout are all strong, wild fish. In addition, as a tailwater, this reach of the Missouri is fishable in late spring and early summer when other Montana rivers are in runoff from snowmelt.

With Tony's expert guidance, Tom and I had the best two days of fishing either of us had ever experienced. We put in just below Wolf Creek on the first day and, within 10 minutes, Tom had hooked a large brown. We were nymphing with midge patterns mostly. When you got a take, it was off to the races, whether it was a rainbow or a brown. These powerful fish would take 5 to 10 minutes each to bring to the net. Fishing was unbelievable, with Tom and I each netting more than a dozen beautiful fish, all in the 15"-20" range. We even had a double, with me landing a nice 'bow and Tom an even nicer brown.

The second day we floated the canyon section that begins below Craig. The scenery was beautiful and the fishing great. We did not catch as many fish but the browns and 'bows and even a few whitefish were feisty and strong. At the end of our second day, Tom and I agreed it was the best fishing trip we have been on. We

both hope to share another trip on the Mighty Mo in the future.



Bob and son, Tom with some Missouri River Trout

My second great guided fishing trip this summer was a day in early August floating the South Fork of the Shenandoah River with my friend David Hoskins. We booked a trip with Bob Kramer who founded Mossy Creek Fly Fishing (<https://mossycreekflyfishing.com/>).

We put in shortly before 9:00 a.m. and, after waiting for a group of kayakers to head downriver, we began casting a minnow pattern on top. David landed a couple of smallmouth, switching between a spin rod and a fly rod. I stuck to my 7-weight fly rod and joked with David that he was straying from the path of righteousness by using a spin rod.

After Bob Kramer tied on a crayfish pattern, I began steadily catching smallmouth for the rest of the day. I landed 8 nice smallmouth, including a couple in the 14"-16" range. I finished the day with a 10" sunfish, the biggest I have caught.

The smallmouth were strong fighters, each taking several minutes to land. David caught about the same number of smallmouth and landed a nice 14" largemouth bass. The day was beautiful, not too hot with low humidity. Bob Kramer shared some good stories about his guiding career and included some of his wife's homemade macaroni salad to complement the country ham sandwiches he provided for lunch. David and I had a great time and look forward to fishing the South Fork of the Shenandoah River again next summer.



Bob with one of his nice Shenandoah Smallmouth

The Adaptive Caster

The Chapter has been the benefactor of excellent casting instruction and tips throughout the years thanks to Chapter member Dave Cleaves.

He has provided live instruction at various Chapter meetings and events, often with assistance from other instructors. In addition to live instruction, Dave has authored many great articles on "the cast" and fishing that are posted on the Chapter website.

You can find Dave's Adaptive Caster articles on the SVTU website in the top navigation bar.

President's Note—continued from page 1

Because there are fish above the I-70 bridge, in Black Rock Run and some distance downstream it appears that a toxic substance was washed into Beaver Creek near I-70 and then dissipated as it moved downstream. (Note this theory is not confirmed. We hope the fish tissue tests will determine the actual substance.)

This means that mortality rates were very high just below I-70 and for a considerable distance downstream. The heart of the fly-fishing only area took a real blow. We lost a decade of work but the work continues. We have workdays scheduled at Beaver Creek in both October and November. Hopefully by the October workday we will know the cause of the kill and DNR will have a recovery plan in place. We will see what Seneca Valley TU can do to assist in that plan.

In addition to the workdays, we have some fun events coming up in the next few months. It starts with our run to Monocacy on September 10 for some late

afternoon bass. The fun continues with a learning opportunity on October 21 when SVTU will host Fly Fishing 101; Learn to Fly Fish. While the title is “Learn to Fly Fish,” we have found that fly fishers of almost any skill level can learn something new at this event. Consider bringing a friend, a kid, and yourself to the event (see the notice in this newsletter).

As a volunteer organization, we always need more hands, ideas, and time. You do not have to be a full-time volunteer, but if you can give us a little time, we will put it to good use. The time commitment can be as much as you want, or only a few hours a month. What we need are new ideas and a desire to help make those ideas become a reality. We are all volunteers.

If you like to fish, you need someplace to do it. The recent catastrophe on Beaver Creek reminds us that if we do not protect the resource, it can be negatively impacted. Bad things can happen to resources even with us working to improve it. The trout populations will rebound, but it will take time and effort. We look forward to your support and participation as SVTU works to bring the wild browns back.

Stay safe and Tight lines!

Noel Gollehon, President SVTU

MD DNR: Proposed Regulation Changes in the Works for Trout

NONTIDAL – Trout COMAR 08.02.11.01

The Department is proposing to create a youth-only trout fishing day, change the trout fishing start time on trout season's opening day from 5:30 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. in all of the Closure 1 and Closure 2 put-and-take trout areas, establish a put-and-take Trout Fishing Area on Little Pipe Creek in Carroll County, MD, modify the Delayed Harvest Area in Catoctin Creek, and remove Jones Falls from the list of Youth, Senior, and Blind special management areas.

See the details in the links below.

- [Youth Only Trout Fishing Day Summary](#)
- [Fishing Hours for Trout Summary](#)
- [Addition of Little Pipe Creek Put-and Take Trout Fishing Area Summary](#)

- [Catoctin Creek Delayed Harvest Area Summary](#)
- [Removal of Jones Falls Special Management Area Summary](#)

Other News

Beaver Creek Fly Shop

If you have not had the opportunity to visit the shop, it is worth your while especially if you head to Beaver Creek in search of its elusive trout. The shop is owned/managed by **Precision Fly and Tackle** out of Lancaster PA. This is their third store with another in Mt. Holly Springs PA.

The store carries Orvis, Sage, and Scott rods (for those that wish to spend more) as well as other more moderately priced rods.

They also maintain a full fly shop complete with a full selection of fly-tying materials. The manager is Ben John, who was our speaker for the December 2021 meeting. Stop in and see him and let him know you are a member of Seneca Valley TU.

Support SVTU Make a Donation!

We have made it easy to make a monetary donation to SVTU by clicking the “Donate Button” on our site. Or you can [go directly to the donation page here](#). It will redirect you to a donate page where you can donate as much as you wish. We thank you for your donation.

Stay Informed About Happenings in our Chapter

Website

<https://www.senecavalleytu.org> is the primary manner we reach all friends of the Chapter. Check it out for info on upcoming events/activities.

Social Media

We are now on social media, follow us on [Instagram](#) and/or [Facebook](#).

eMail

Our email is a secure opt-in email alert and event invitation system that is used only by the Chapter for functions that we sponsor or support. This service, along with the Chapter's website, provides up to the minute details of upcoming activities. **We do not share or sell our email listing.** Our database is separate from National TU's email system. If you wish to opt-in or opt-out to our email list, please contact the Chapter at svtroutunlimited@gmail.com.

Trout Unlimited Online Community

TU National has an [ONLINE COMMUNITY](#) which is open to the entire Trout Unlimited membership.

In the past, the online community has been specific to volunteer leaders. A separate forum for leaders-specific conversations will be maintained for volunteer leaders.

The Open Forum enables both leaders and all TU members to participate in the discussions in all the communities.

Supporting the conversations in both the Open Forum and the Leaders Forum helps to grow engagement in the online community and our local communities as well.

To sign up for the new community go to his link: <http://community.tu.org/browse/welcome-guide>

Verify Your TU Membership Status

There has been a lot of chatter on the TU website regarding membership by many chapter reps around the country. One key issue is that many members do not review and update, if necessary, their profiles.

As newsletter and email communications editor I utilize the Chapter membership roster that TU National provides to approved Chapter Officers.

Login to www.tu.org and check your profile information in the TU national database. Membership reports from TU national indicate the email or mailing address for several chapter members needs to be corrected. **Also, don't forget to renew your membership!**

Note from the Editor

If you have articles, photos, fish stories, fishing/stream reports, that you think might be appropriate for inclusion in the newsletter or the website, send an email to me @ wjunium1@hotmail.com or to the Chapter @ svtroutunlimited@gmail.com. We hope to see you at future events.