



The Mayflyer

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Emerging

New administrations bring new teams, new leaders, new projects, and this year a new website for DTU. Chapter leaders recognize the need for more and better communication with DTU Members and the conservation community at large. To that end, improvements and new approaches to using information technology is a key focus area. Chapter members and DTU partners will be better served. The Board of Directors will work to better understand the ins-and-outs of social media. Key to this effort is Billy Clauser, DTU's new webmaster.

The initial website is the base on which a future, award winning website is built. The evolution will be quick. Two goals for the new website were to be sure it was portable, showing well on smart phones and user friendly. Let us know what you think.

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Chapter planner

Conservation Committee

Information from Governor Wolf's office listed the work that DTU does as an essential service, and so a small group of conservation volunteers was able to complete planting the buffers on the Beiler farm in the Fishing Creek Watershed. That finished the large project on the Herr/Beiler farms, a stretch of nearly two miles. In the fall, buffer plantings were completed on two more farms on Fishing Creek, fulfilling DTU's obligation under the C2P2 project. The final project of the year was completed in November. It was a restoration project on the main stem of Climber's Run plus one of its tributaries.

Two more restoration projects would have been completed in 2020, but COVID protocols for key partners plus mandatory Fish and Boat lockout periods kept DTU from them. The new year will get off to a quick start with stream work starting on on the Glick and Yoder farms in the Fishing Creek Watershed. The starting gun will go off as soon as the permits for the work are issued. Assuming health protocols do not slow down normal timelines too much, five or six projects will be completed in 2021.

“The next two years are going to be very busy.”



USFWS builds a mudsill to stop severe erosion, reduce pollution, and improve aquatic habitat on Climbers Run.

More Good News

DTU had great success with grant applications in 2020. Federal 319 grant dollars flow from the US EPA to the PA DEP to combat pollution. DTU has been awarded \$541,000 in grants from this fund for projects in several watersheds and expects to receive more. In addition, Lancaster Clean Water Partners has awarded two grants totaling \$100,000. Expectations are high that PA Fish and Boat will provide grants of \$150,000, and there is a pending grant application with DCED for nearly \$200,000. The next two years are going to be very busy.



Completed restoration on Climbers Run will allow nature to heal this stream.

The Best Laid Plans . . .

In the Fall of 2019, Immediate Past President Tom Hall and his team of Directors and Committee Chairs started his final year in office. Planning for the usual mix of conservation projects, Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs, community outreach and education forums, and membership meetings was well underway. Spring Fundraiser Co-chairs Rick Purnell and Allen Tate assembled their team and began planning for the event that provides most of the operating capital for DTU. A few of those busy volunteers even found some time to squeeze in a little fishing.

And a few months later, COVID happened.

. . . And Plans Changed

DTU was permitted to continue its work in groups of less than 10, following all protocols. The Beiler project was completed in the Spring and other projects throughout the year. Many DTU partners implemented protocols which slowed down other projects. TIC was a moving target as schools struggled with “a new normal”. The only community outreach meeting was completed in January. Membership meetings were cancelled and then offered virtually in the Fall.

The Spring Fundraiser was rescheduled twice but finally cancelled. An online auction plus the generosity of sponsors and ticket holders brought in enough money to pay the necessary operating costs for the year without invading the emergency fund.

Hope springs eternal for 2021.



Teachers in grades 3 through 12 use Trout in the Classroom across several disciplines to help meet STEM requirements.

Activities

There will be no winter fly tying events this season.

December 2020

2nd Officers Meeting (Virtual)

9th Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)

16th Membership Meeting (Virtual) Speaker: Greg Hoover
Entomologist, fly tier, PSU professor

January 2021

6th Officers Meeting (Virtual)

13th Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)

20th Membership Meeting (Virtual)

February 2021

3rd Officers Meeting (Virtual)

10th Board of Directors Meeting (Virtual)

17th Membership Meeting (Virtual) Speaker TBD

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General Information

DTU will continue to follow all government and Trout Unlimited National protocols. For the present, there will be no indoor meetings. Membership meetings, director meetings, and committee meetings will be conducted using Zoom. Notification about how to join in meetings will continue to be sent directly to members for whom the Chapter has email addresses.

Outdoor activities will be held, again following all protocols. Opportunities will include buffer plantings and maintenance and tree nursery work. In order to control numbers at a given event, those wishing to participate will be required to register.

Trout in the Classroom will continue to depend on school scheduling. Community meetings and speaker requests are postponed indefinitely. The traditional banquet fundraiser will not be held in the Spring. More information will be posted about the event later.

Donegal Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Donegal Trout Unlimited is a nonprofit organization affiliated with Trout Unlimited National, located at 1300 North 17th Street, Suite 500, Arlington, VA 22209