

# Hap-Hazzard News

## April 2023



### Upcoming Events

- **April 11.** Chapter meeting at 7 PM. Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell (All regular Chapter meetings will be held here unless otherwise noted). Speaker will be Chris Calabrese with a presentation on Early Season Tactics for Trout on the Upper Delaware
- **April 29.** Annual Delaware River Cleanup. 9 AM. Deposit Fireman's Park, Deposit. Joint event with Chenango Valley. Dress appropriately and come ready for a rewarding day! Lunch provided.
- **May 6.** Annual Kids Fishing Derby. Chenango Valley State Park. 10 am -Noon
- **May 6.** Oquaga Creek tree planting. 10 AM. Oquaga Town Park. Details next page.
- **May 9.** Chapter meeting at 7 PM. Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell. Speaker TBD
- **June 10.** Al Hazzard Chapter Barbecue Picnic on the main stem of the Delaware. 55 Riverview Rd. Equinunk PA. Details to be announced.
- **June 24.** NYS TU general membership annual meeting. Hampton Inn, Albany NY.
- **Mid-Summer, Date TBD.** Tree planting. Details TBA.
- **September 12.** Chapter meeting at 7 PM. Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell.
- **October 10.** Chapter meeting at 7 PM. Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell.
- **November 14.** Chapter meeting at 7 PM. Endwell Fire Station, 3508 Country Club Rd., Endwell.

### Editor Notes

Welcome everyone to our newest Chapter newsletter. I'm Allen Peterson, a new member (2022) from Owego, recently retired and looking forward to contributing to the group. In addition to my Chapter activities, I am also the Region 7 representative to the NY Council of TU. The NY Council is the umbrella organization for New York that coordinates communications, events and projects between Chapters. The Council also coordinates communications to and from our paid professional staff and the national organization. The Council also has a modest budget to support Chapter activities. I will try to issue this e-newsletter quarterly and hope to cover the items you need to know as well as things you'd like to see. Please send

me any suggestions for improvement. I would like to include at least one or two cool fishing pictures and one member story each issue (Fish Tales). So right now I am making a standing request for contributions. My email address is in the Contacts section.

### Message from the President:



If you're like me, change is not a friend. I think about the years gone by, fishing with my father. The path from the parking area to the stream was not as wide or as worn. More often than not, we never encountered other anglers and only once that I remember, did I cross paths with party people swimming in the spot I had intended to fish (Woodstock story for another time). Catch and release was something new. My dad didn't like me tossing the fish back, so I did it when he wasn't looking. I did it mostly because I always got stuck cleaning them. But change doesn't care what we like, it happens anyways. There are more people out there fishing and less habitat. I am hoping to get Al Hazzard back where we were before Covid. Our conservation and education efforts just might push change to the positive side.

Welcome Back!

*John Swider*

**Region 7 Highlights From Staff (Jesse Vadala)**

## Improving tributaries of the Delaware and Susquehanna Watersheds

*(In partnership with US Fish Wildlife Services, Friends of the Upper Delaware, NYS Department of Conservation, the Town of Coventry, the Village of Deposit and more.)*

### Wylie Brook Reconnection Project



Wylie-Horton Road before and after culvert replacement 2022. Project designed and managed by Gian Dodici (USFWS), Town of Coventry completed the work and NFWF funded it (Photo USFWS).

Wylie Brook, a tributary to the Susquehanna River in Chenango County. A state identified priority Eastern Brook Trout sub-watershed; the Wylie Brook Reconnection Project is designed to help reconnect valuable spawning habitat for native trout. Historically, Brook Trout occupied the upper reaches of Wylie Brook, but changing climatic conditions and fragmentation caused by the culvert barriers limit their ability to move freely through the stream system. TU and our partners have been working to reduce habitat fragmentation by replacing undersized culverts that are a barrier. Three culverts were replaced last year and one more is planned for next year. Additional funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation was received to complete stream assessments this year. Keep an eye out on opportunities to get involved on the ground with this work or contact Jesse Vadala for more information.

## Oquaga Creek Restoration & Community Tree Planting Opportunity



Over 100 logs and rootwads were installed along 200 linear feet of Oquaga Creek by JB Excavation (Photo

Oquaga Creek is a tributary of the West Branch Delaware River. Thousands of anglers each season find a lifetime of memorable experiences floating and wading along the many miles of world class trout waters in the Delaware watershed. To support our ongoing restoration efforts on Oquaga Creek, we are organizing a planting event at the restoration site. Join local volunteers as we plant trees to improve and restore natural wooded habitat along the streambanks. After a fine planting effort last Fall with the help of SUNY Cobleskill Fisheries students and local community volunteers, we will return on May 6th, to plant more trees. Link to the event:

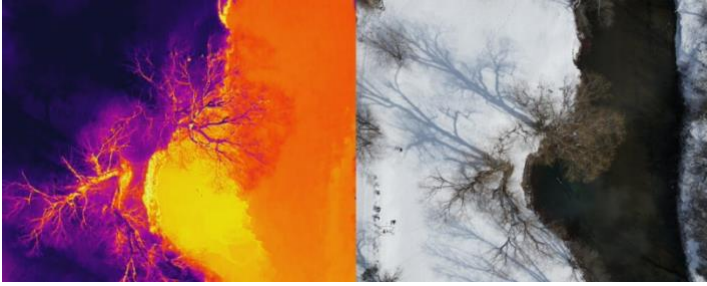
<https://tu.myeventscenter.com/event/Oquaga-Creek-Tree-Planting-75708>

Meet us at the town park at 10am. We will have coffee, snacks, water, and plenty of shovels. Please bring any additional shovels you might have along with gloves and a reusable water bottle. We will conclude the planting by 2pm and enjoy the remainder of our day fishing and recreating along the riverbanks. \*Rain or Shine Event\* See you there!

### Exciting Technology for Coldwater Restoration

Our cold-water fisheries are ever changing and require creative solutions for monitoring and reporting. Trout Unlimited restoration staff in New York recently received their FAA certification to allow the flight and image capture of streams and rivers by way of drone technology. Additionally, these drones have been outfitted with thermal imaging software that provides insight on water temperature variance and specific areas of thermal refuge along a given watershed. This is a critical (and wildly exciting) tool to

rapidly identify the highest priority stream reaches for protection and restoration.



To learn more about this exciting new advancement and how Trout Unlimited staff have begun using this technology around the country, check out this recent article from our media partners at [Flylords](#). [How Trout Unlimited is Using Drones to Change Conservation - Flylords Mag](#)

### State Council Update from Allen Peterson (Region 7 Representative)

**Environmental Bond Act:** The State Council has formed a committee to investigate how we can best use Environmental Bond Act monies to further cold-water protection, restoration, resilience and enhancement projects. Because so many of the stream restoration and management projects that TU supports are expensive earth-moving and construction endeavors; fund-raising is a priority. The recent passing of the NY Environmental Bond Act allocated \$4.2 billion over multiple years for a variety of environmental projects including climate change mitigation, flood risk reduction, open space land conservation and water quality improvement. Specifically:

- \$650 million for projects including:
- Flood risk reduction projects, such as moving, lifting, or raising flood-prone infrastructure or structures; relocation, repair, or raising flood-prone roads; removal, alteration, or right-sizing dams, bridges, and culverts.

- Restoration projects, such as floodplain, wetland, and stream restoration; forest conservation; endangered and threatened species projects; or land acquisition
- Not Less Than \$100 million to support climate adaptation and mitigation projects
- \$300 million for other projects to combat climate change including urban forestry, urban heat projects and projects that utilize natural and working lands to sequester carbon and mitigate methane emissions
- Not Less Than \$200 million to support other programs such as Green infrastructure, projects to reduce agricultural nutrient run off and promote soil health and projects to reduce the frequency of harmful algal blooms (HABs)
- Not More Than \$75 million for fish hatcheries
- Not Less Than \$150 million to farmland protections and easements
- Not Less Than \$300 million for open space land conservation projects
- \$125 million for other projects including recreational infrastructure projects, including build-out of State and municipal parks, fish hatcheries, campgrounds, etc.

**NY Council June Annual Membership meeting:** The State Council will be holding its summer general meeting for all TU members on Saturday, June 24 at the Hampton Inn and Suites Albany Downtown, 25 Chapel Street, Albany, NY 12210. Agenda details are being developed now and will be posted as available. This is a great opportunity to meet with TU members from around the State, share stories and good times, discuss interesting projects and learn from a great agenda of speakers. We highly encourage everyone to carpool up and head for Albany!

### Diversity update from Dee Brown (VP Diversity Initiative – NY Council)

On Monday March 20, the NY Women of Trout Unlimited met for a fun virtual spring warm-up via Zoom. We visited the DECinfo Locator website then discussed our favorite streams by region. From Wiscoy Creek out west to the Connetquot down on Long Island, we covered a lot of trout streams. Sharing tips and finding nearby fishing buddies means we're ready to hit the water now! Thanks again to Tara Tornello, Tammy Angus and Lindsay Agness for your help, everyone had a great time catching up and learning about new waters.

Have you visited the Catskill Fly Fishing Center and Museum lately? The countdown to opening day has begun! Come out to Roscoe on Saturday, April 1st for the start of the 2023 trout season. Kick it off at Junction Pool for the ceremonial first cast, then join in for a day of food, fun, and fish tales at the Museum. Agnes Van Put will serve her famous soup. (Yes, she's still making soup!) They will have free coffee from the recently opened Dry Fly Coffee

Company. Connor McCausland has drawn a super fun kids coloring sheet depicting the infamous Beamoc two-headed trout. AND... master tyer, John Apgar, will be on hand showing off some traditional ties.

On Wednesday March 22, I was happy to help Canandaigua Lake chapter president Gordon Mueller introduce fly tying to his Cornell students. The fly fishing class at Cornell is a six week PE elective with 20 students. We had a great time teaching the wooly bugger and a soft hackle wet fly together. The students were great, I loved their curiosity and enthusiasm. I was especially delighted to hear that several of these students are also in Trout Unlimited's Costa Five Rivers College program. If you're unfamiliar with the program, it is a community of over 140 college conservation-focused angling clubs around the country that seeks to engage the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts through recreational fishing and advocacy for the fisheries that unite us.

Also, do not miss the Catskill Cane Revival event, being held at Roscoe High School Gymnasium. Mike Canazon leads you through an opportunity to cast some traditional bamboo. If you've never cast a true beauty, now's your chance. Or, for some pointers, feel free to bring your go-to rod for a casting tune-up by any of the instructors. Of course, the whole community is part of the day. Visit our friends at Dette Flies, Roscoe Motel, & Roscoe Campgrounds, all of whom have special activities planned. Roscoe Chamber is hosting a slew of events including dinners on Friday and Saturday night.

Finally, Livingston Manor's town-wide scavenger hunt for Trout Bucks (redeemable at the Center and other area locations) will likely produce more greenbacks than trout for the average angler. You can read more about it [HERE: First Cast - Opening Day @ The Catskill Fly Fishing Center & Museum — Catskill Fly Fishing Museum \(cffcm.com\)](https://cffcm.com/events/calendar/2023/3/3/opening-day-cffcm) <https://cffcm.com/events/calendar/2023/3/3/opening-day-cffcm>.

There's a few women's events coming up I'd like to share with you. First, the WNY chapter of TU is holding their first Fly Fishing Clinic geared toward women on Saturday, May 20th at Sprague Brook Park in Glenwood NY at 10am. It's a day of instruction, casting, fishing and a whole lot of fun. If you are interested, know someone who is, want to attend or help with the event itself please contact Dolores at [womensgroup@wnytroutunlimited.org](mailto:womensgroup@wnytroutunlimited.org). Do you live closer to Central NY? If you're a female angler (or aspiring angler) looking for another in-person event, don't miss the Chenango Valley Chapter's Women's Free Seminar Flyfishing Day on Sunday, May 21 at the South Otselic Fish Hatchery. There will be an introduction to the sport for beginners, as well as intermediate/advanced instruction. I'm delighted to help out with casting instruction for the day and learn more about the folks in the Chenango Valley chapter. Come out to the beautiful Otselic River, it's going to be lots of fun! Tight Lines, Dee Brown Vice President Diversity Initiative | NY State Council of Trout Unlimited 607.379.0314 | <https://newyorkcouncil-tu.org/>

**DEC Update:** I have copied here the anticipated 2023 stocking list from the DEC website for Broome, Tioga and Delaware counties:

Broome County					
Water	Town	Number	Date	Species	Size (inches)
Arctic Lake	Sanford	2500	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Chenango Lake	Fenton	5100	March	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Chenango Lake	Fenton	3000	April	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Chenango Lake	Fenton	3000	May	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Dudley Creek	Lisle	330	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Dudley Creek	Lisle	37	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
East Branch Nanticoke Creek	Maine	18	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
East Branch Nanticoke Creek	Maine	158	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Finch Hollow Site 1	Union	1000	April	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Greenwood Lake	Nanticoke	2000	April	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Little Choconut 2e	Chenango	200	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Nanticoke 7a	Maine	600	April	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Nanticoke Creek	Maine	1778	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Nanticoke Creek	Maine	197	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Nanticoke Creek	Union	840	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Nanticoke Creek	Union	93	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Nanticoke Lake	Lisle	2300	May	Rainbow Trout	8 inches

Broome County (cont'd)					
Water	Town	Number	Date	Species	Size (inches)
Oquaga Creek	Sanford	266	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Oquaga Creek	Sanford	2394	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Palmers Pond	Sanford	200	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Patterson Pond (#1)	Union	800	April	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Delaware County					
Water	Town	Number	Date	Species	Size (inches)
Beaver Kill	Colchester	239	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2146	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	239	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2146	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	239	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2146	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	239	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Beaver Kill	Colchester	2146	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Big Pond	Andes	250	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Big Pond	Andes	212.5	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches
Cannonsville Reservoir	Deposit	6375	May	Brown Trout	8 inches
Charlotte Creek	Davenport	418	April - 2nd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Charlotte Creek	Davenport	3762	April - 2nd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown	158	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown	1425	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown	89	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Middletown	804	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Roxbury	548	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River East Branch	Roxbury	61	April - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	180	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	180	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	180	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	1620	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Delhi	180	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1327	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	147	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	147	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1327	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	147	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1327	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	1327	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Hamden, Walton	147	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	644	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	71	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	71	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches

Delaware County (cont'd)					
Water	Town	Number	Date	Species	Size (inches)
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	644	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	71	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	644	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	644	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Harpersfield	71	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	23	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	208	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	208	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	23	April - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	23	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	208	May - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	23	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Delaware River West Branch	Kortright	208	May - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Launt Pond	Tompkins	700	April	Brook Trout	8 inches
Little Delaware River	Delhi	218	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Little Delaware River	Delhi	24	April - 1st week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Little Pond	Andes	200	Spring	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Little Pond	Andes	200	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Little Pond	Andes	85	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches
Mud Pond	Colchester	85	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches
Mud Pond	Colchester	300	Spring	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
Pepacton Reservoir	Colchester	4250	Spring	Brown Trout	8 inches
Tioga County					
Water	Town	Number	Date		Size (inches)
Catatonk Creek	Candor	498	April - 2nd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Catatonk Creek	Candor	55	April - 2nd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Cayuta Creek	Barton	155	March - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Cayuta Creek	Barton	1396	March - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
East Branch Owego Creek	Berkshire, Richford	100	March - 4th week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
East Branch Owego Creek	Berkshire, Richford	1008	March - 4th week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
East Branch Owego Creek	Newark Valley, Owego	521	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
East Branch Owego Creek	Newark Valley, Owego	58	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Owego Creek	Tioga, Owego	2972	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
Owego Creek	Tioga, Owego	330	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches
Tri-county Pond	Richford	200	May	Rainbow Trout	8 inches
West Branch Owego Creek	Richford	1849	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	9 - 10 inches
West Branch Owego Creek	Richford	205	March - 3rd week	Brown Trout	12 -15 inches

## **Fish Tales: Shortest Trip Ever (Allen Peterson)**

We live in the woods on top of a hill, above the Owego Creek. It was a great place to raise free-range children and from the driveway to the first cast was eight minutes. Downhill all the way. It was late Spring, I don't remember exactly when, but the creek was running clear and full. The fish were calling so down the hill I went.

Owego Creek is like the proverbial box of chocolates. You never know what you are going to get. If anything. Early in the season you can pick up large wild brook trout over a foot long all the way down to the Village of Owego. Late in the summer you can spot 24" Browns hiding under a bank way up the watershed where the wild things spawn. In fact I recall one Fisheries Society meeting where a biologist was complaining about all the oversized Browns there that spend all day sitting under a bank not feeding and that only come out at night when the fishermen and birds are gone and slurp up all his beloved native minnows. But I digress.

I parked at the dead-end of the old town road, all by myself, geared up and walked over to the streambank, eying the fallen tree at the far side. On the first cast,

there was a strong hit and I found myself in a struggle with a large and irate Brown. Once I got him out from under the tree, it was just a matter of time. Nineteen inches of salmonid grace lay in my net. As I admired him, I realized that nothing else I did on the water that morning would match that first perfect cast. I put my gear in the car and went home.



## **Officer Contacts**

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## **Web Links**

Al Hazzard Chapter Website <https://alhazardtu.org/>  
Al Hazzard Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/alhazardtroutunlimited>  
NYS Council Website <https://newyorkcouncil-tu.org/>  
NYS Council Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/newyorktu>  
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