

# EVERY RIVER NEEDS A CHAMPION



## *Connecting Currents*

The Mohawk Valley Trout Unlimited Chapter  
Newsletter    Edition: 2026-1  
Mohawk Valley Trout Unlimited-112, New Hartford, NY  
<https://mohawkvalleytu.org>  
[mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com)

MVTU  
Facebook page

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## ***Upcoming Events and Chapter Gatherings***

Monthly Meetings, 6:30 PM each month (September to May) (confirm location and date on website or Facebook)

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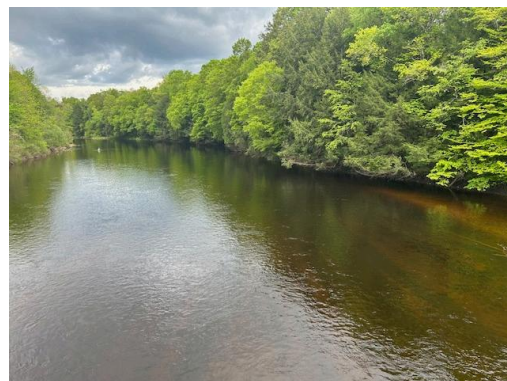
***Thu Jan 29 7:00pm - Fly-Fishing Film Tour Night - An evening of great fishing films in Little Falls.***



**Thu Feb 12 6:30pm -**  
**Learn a Local River - West**  
**Canada Creek & General**  
**Meeting**

***The first in our new Learn a  
Local River Series!***

***A evening devoted to The West  
Canada - Led by Bob Janiga***



***Come out and learn more about one of our favorite local rivers and share your experiences on this hidden gem.***

**69 Steakhouse Whitesboro**



**Sat Feb 21 11am - Fun with Fly Tying at the Utica Children's Museum** Bring your son or daughter or grandkids to the UCM during the winter school break for a intro to fly tying. Free with admission to the new museum, a fun experience for kids.

**Thu Mar 12 6:30pm - "The Rabbit Hole of Getting into Bamboo" & General Meeting**

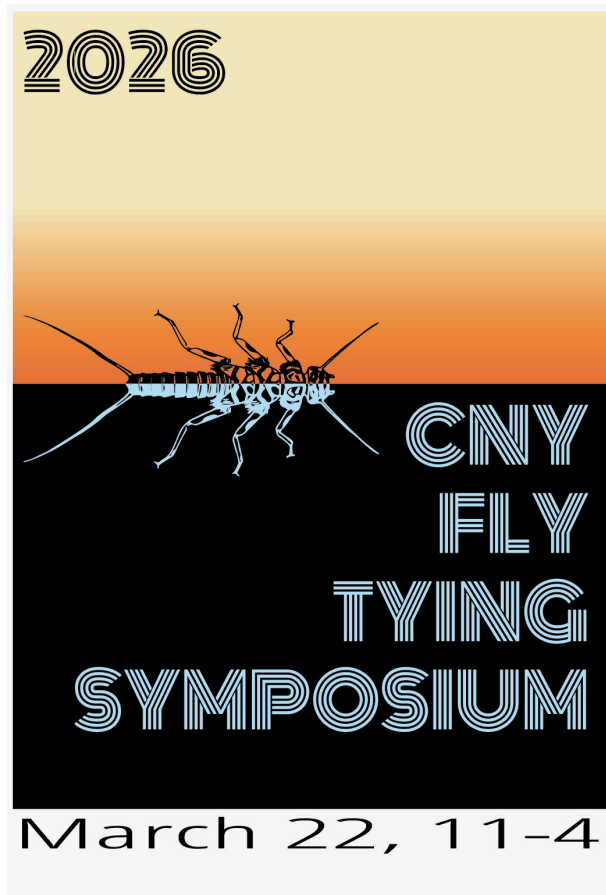
***A fun evening with Guest Speaker Mitch Marsden, learn about local rodmaking history and this intriguing process (rescheduled from December)***



***Sun Mar 22 11:00am - 4:00pm - D.S. Smith Memorial CNY Fly Tying Symposium - A day of family fun activities, vendors, exhibits, speakers, and raffles to prep you for the upcoming season.***

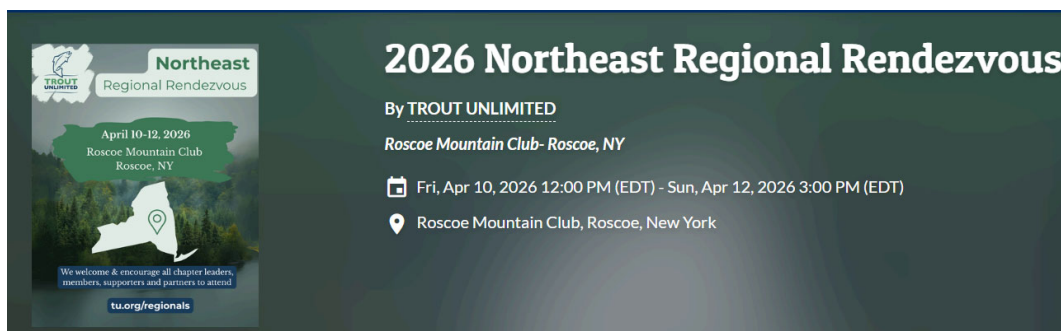
### **Harts Hill, Whitesboro, NY**

Over 30 Incredible Fly Tyers, Vendors, Exhibitors, Presentations, Bucket Raffles. Refreshments from Hart's Hill will also be available. Last year we raised over \$6000 for Trout in the Classroom. This year we hope to raise a similar amount for TIC and for new MVTURK stream monitoring equipment and sampling expenses.





# 2026 Northeast Regional Rendezvous



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## Check out more upcoming TU Events

Click the buttons below to link to the list of activities at local, state, and chapters throughout the US including expos, film festivals, surveys, improvement projects, outings, stream explorers, etc.

Chapter  
Events in New  
York

View Local  
Events

Chapter  
Events  
Nationally

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## MVTU Annual Raffle

Link to Raffle Tickets

Click the button to get your MVTU annual raffle tickets from the MVTU website. Three great prizes.

- 1st prize - 12 ft Raddison Canoe from Mountainman Outdoor Supply – CRW – MVTU.
- 2nd prize - Lamson Liquid 8 wt Fly Rod & Reel Outfit from Fat Nancys Tackle Shop.

- 3rd prize - Fishpond San Juan Chest Pack with leaders, tippet etc. from the Adirondack Angler.



Lamson Liquid Fly Rod Complete Outfit



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## *Presidents Line*

Hi All,

Hope to see you at one of the upcoming chapter events. Even though it's winter there's still a lot to do in the Mohawk Valley.

Our Annual Raffle Tickets have been emailed with three great prizes to be won this year. Tickets are also available at our upcoming events. Along with the CNY Fly-Tying Symposium, this is our primary fundraising event for chapter efforts.

The board welcomed Gary Bartell as a director, and is finalizing the chapter's strategic plan. See below. Please contribute any comments you feel may be helpful to this effort.

Member input is always appreciated. We are seeking new board members who will take an active role in our chapter activities. If you have a particular interest, please reach out to one of our board members to get more involved.

TU National has initiated an overall planning review with comments and surveys from state councils and chapters due in April. We will be discussing chapter input at the next few gatherings.

Also, you can give your input at the link below to the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust on priorities for this important region to cold water fisheries such as the Fish Creek, Salmon River and Black River watersheds.

Stu Miller

President, Mohawk Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited #112

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## Mohawk Valley Trout Unlimited Strategic Plan 2026-2028

**Mission:** A multifaceted effort to protect aquatic ecosystems through a combination of hands-on conservation, community involvement, and a commitment to ensuring the long-term survival of cold-water fisheries in the Mohawk Valley, southern Tug Hill region and Adirondack foothills.

### Chapter Goals - Cold-water fisheries, Community Engagement and Youth Education

**Conservation, Protection, and Restoration:** Focus on the health of the Mohawk Valley, lower Tug Hill and Adirondack Foothills cold-water fisheries and the watersheds they depend on.

**Science-Based Approaches:** Use scientific principles to set current stream baselines and find solutions to conservation challenges.

**Landscape Approach:** Focus on connected river systems to improve their resilience against events like droughts, and floods.

**Community Engagement:** Bring together local residents to actively participate in repairing and renewing local rivers and streams.

**Community-Focused Actions:** Engage in local conservation projects, community events, and educational programs.

**Connecting People to Rivers:** Foster a deeper connection between communities and their local water bodies.

**Future Generations:** Teach children the impact of water quality on the health of fish and wildlife through hands on learning experiences and provide opportunities to increase their connection to our local streams

**Strategy:** Develop a new engagement model that expands the corps of volunteers, partners, supporters, and advocates taking action to care for and recover our local waters.

#### Objectives and Actions:

##### 1. Increase volunteer leaders and chapter membership

Enhance monthly gathering experience and participation – new venue and subjects

Engage new and lapsed members – membership coordinator

Create more opportunities for community and member involvement – fun and work events

Active recruitment by board and long-term members

Advocate student chapter memberships through local colleges and universities.

##### 2. Increase events with community participation - monthly activities and annual calendar plan

MVTURKS – stream monitoring – equipment funding primarily via raffle and CNY Fly-Tying Symposium

Community and volunteer involvement events – board leads - 1 event per year, annual calendar

Advocacy – local governments and community events – advocacy coordinator

Engage other community groups by outreach to companies and organizations.



3. **Increase Trout in the Classroom and Conservation participation of local schools**

Recruit and train 8-10 active volunteers (3-5 classrooms/volunteer)

Promote TIC to grow to 25- 30 classrooms

Adequate funding primarily via raffle and CNY Fly-Tying Symposium for chillers, equipment, field trips

Additional field trips – hatcheries and streamside events (even w/o TIC)

4. **Develop a set of local promotional tools for local print and social media – publicity lead**

Build a list of periodical and media contacts for event promotion – send for each event and gathering

Newsletter and blog or periodic articles on conservation topics

Develop connections to engage political leaders, other organizations, govt agencies, and companies in events

5. **Target watershed – Oriskany Creek 5-year comprehensive improvement plan**

Assess current health status and potential improvements

Seek participation from key stakeholders (DEC, local govt, adjacent landowners, public, other non-profits, state/national TU)

Develop and implement action plan to improve water quality, ecosystem health, angler and visitor experience.

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## **Youth Education News**

### **Trout in the Classroom**

Winter class visits in progress, with presentations about trout. See more about the MVTU TIC program on our new [TIC website](#) page. To volunteer, please email [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com). or contact Bill Jackson or Gary Bartell.

*Interested in helping with Trout in the Classroom?*

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## **NYS TU SUMMER TROUT CAMP**

### **Teen (14-17) Fly Fishing Camp on the Delaware**

▸ Sunday, June 28 thru Friday, July 3, 2026

▸ Lodging at Camp Amahami, 434 Page Pond Road, Deposit, NY

▸ Lessons on fly tying, casting, fly fishing, entomology, ecology and conservation.

▸ One-on-one lessons on the water of the Delaware River system.

- All equipment , lodging and meals provided.
- Fully insured by Trout Unlimited
- Cost \$850.00 (contact mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com for MVTU Scholarship)

View and download brochure and application

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## **Conservation News**

### **Mohawk Valley TU River Keepers (MVTURK) Stream Monitoring 2026**

The 2025 MVTURK report is available on the [www.mohawkvalleytu.org](http://www.mohawkvalleytu.org) website. Please consider volunteering in 2026 on part time or montly basis. It's a great way to get out and learn about our local waters. If you would like to lead a stream monitoring team, please contact mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com. We will also be planning a DEC WAVE macroinvertebrate collection day this year.

***Stream Monitoring  
Volunteer Info***

***MVTURK 2025 Report***



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### **Oriskany Creek Watershed Commission**

The Oriskany Creek Watershed Commission meetings are open to the public.  
Next meeting Jan 27 4:30 PM Oriskany Falls

2025 Meetings  
Schedule

OCWC  
Website

October 2025  
Minutes

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## **Sauquoit Creek Basin Commission**

The Sauquoit Creek Basin Commission meetings are open to the public.

Next meeting Feb 17 Oneida County DPW

SCBC Website

October 2025 Minutes

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## **DEC News**

**DEC Announces Release of Final Adirondack Brook Trout Pond  
Management Plan**

**Plus Regional Water Quality and Climate Resiliency Project Grants**



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**FERC News**  
**West Canada Creek**  
**Hinckley 2701/Jarvis 3211**

- 6/22/25 WCC Below min flow - ala 0 CFS - 10/17/25 FERC ruled no violation
- 9/28/25 WCC Below min flow - ala 0 CFS Status of DO sensors installation?

**Herkimer 15359**

- 9/30/25 Response to deficiency of license application
  - 1/9/26 Service address and contact change
-

## **Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust Survey**

If you are interested in the Tug Hill Region Watersheds, and the activities of the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust, here's a way to give input to their future plans. They have asked that we share this survey for our members input.

[THTLT Survey Link](#)

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## **Recent MVTU Events**

### **Saranac River Dam Presentation**

We had an informative zoom general meeting in January with a presentation by Rich Redman on the Saranac River dam removals and restoration efforts. An ongoing effort to open this river to migrating landlocked salmon by removing the Imperial Dam.



### **Regional Water Sampling Event Update**

Samples are at SUNY ESF with plans to do analysis in February and March. Hopefully results will be available soon after.



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## **Membership Information**



If you have any questions or issues with your meembership please contact Bryan Kimball our new membership coordinator.

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## ***Share the Fun***

Submit photos of your recent fishing adventures.

Submit your fishing or nature photos for the next newsletter.

Submit a Photo

Local expert steelhead fishermink



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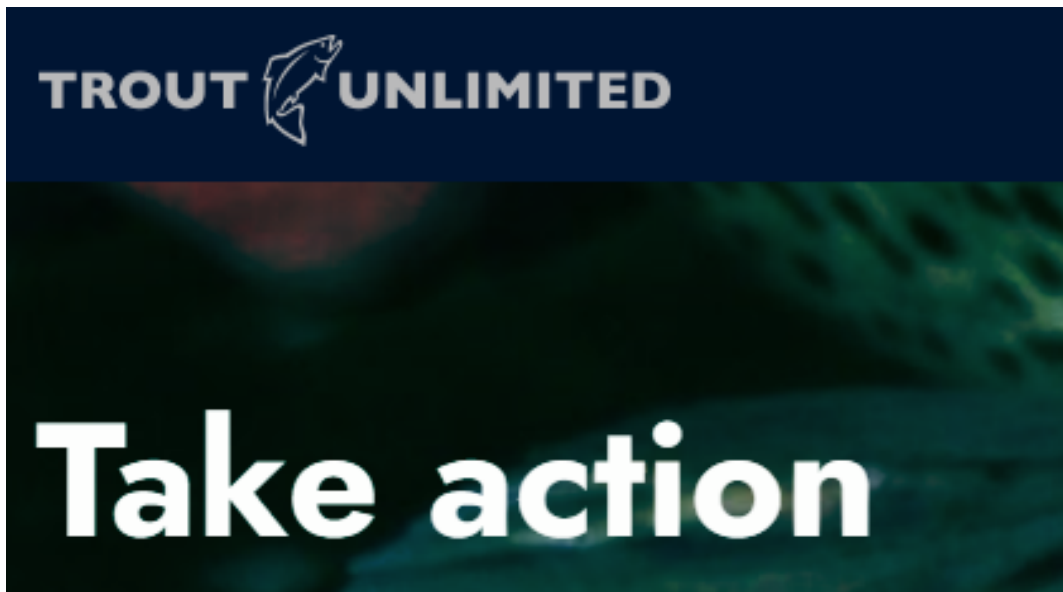
## ***Helpful Links***

Mohawk Valley Trout Unlimited	<a href="https://mohawkvalleytu.org/">https://mohawkvalleytu.org/</a>
New York State TU	<a href="https://newyorkcouncil-tu.org/">https://newyorkcouncil-tu.org/</a>
National TU	<a href="https://www.tu.org/">https://www.tu.org/</a>

National TU Action Center <https://www.tu.org/conservation/take-action>  
NYDEC Region 6 <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/places-to-fish/north-central-ny>  
NYDEC Interactive Fishing Map <https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/places-to-fish/trout-stream-fishing-map-guide>  
US Geological New York Streamflows <https://waterwatch.usgs.gov/?m=real&r=ny&w=map>  
TU Priority Waters Interactive Map <https://prioritywaters.tu.org/explore-the-map/>  
Trout in the Classroom <https://www.troutintheclassroom.org/>  
Fish Creek Atlantic Salmon Club <http://www.fishcreeksalmon.org/>

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## **Take Action**



**Tell your congress person how you feel about pending legislation.**

**TU's Action Center provides good links for your voice to be heard.**

Contact J.Manion NY-22

Contact E Stefanik NY-21

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## **MVTU 2025-26 Board and Contacts**

### Officers

President– Stu Miller [stumill67@gmail.com](mailto:stumill67@gmail.com)

Vice President - Bill Jackson [nmyrtle2119@gmail.com](mailto:nmyrtle2119@gmail.com)

Treasurer- Steve Prieto [sprieto@gmail.com](mailto:sprieto@gmail.com)

Secretary – Alvin Montana [ahmontana2@hotmail.com](mailto:ahmontana2@hotmail.com)

### Directors

Past President - Ken Ziobro [kziobro@twc.com](mailto:kziobro@twc.com)

Bob Janiga – [r4janiga@gmail.com](mailto:r4janiga@gmail.com)

Bryan Kimball – [bryank09@gmail.com](mailto:bryank09@gmail.com)

Gary Bartell - [gbartell80@gmail.com](mailto:gbartell80@gmail.com)

Jordan Ross – [jpross@jprossflyrods.com](mailto:jpross@jprossflyrods.com)

Rick Bach - [richbach@ymail.com](mailto:richbach@ymail.com)

Tom Taverna - [doubletrees@aol.com](mailto:doubletrees@aol.com)

Region 6 Vice President and Director Jordan Ross – [jpross@jprossflyrods.com](mailto:jpross@jprossflyrods.com)

Trout in the Classroom – Gary Bartell [gbartell80@gmail.com](mailto:gbartell80@gmail.com) or Bill Jackson

MVTU River Keepers - Stu Miller [stumill67@gmail.com](mailto:stumill67@gmail.com)

Website - Jordan Ross – [jpross@jprossflyrods.com](mailto:jpross@jprossflyrods.com)

Facebook/Instagram - Bryan Kimball – [bryank09@gmail.com](mailto:bryank09@gmail.com) and Alvin Montana [ahmontana2@hotmail.com](mailto:ahmontana2@hotmail.com)

Newsletter - Stu Miller - [stumill67@gmail.com](mailto:stumill67@gmail.com)

Membership - Bryan Kimball - [bryank09@gmail.com](mailto:bryank09@gmail.com)

Chapter Email - [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com)

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[View email in browser](#)

Mohawk Valley Chapter Trout Unlimited, Whitesboro, NY 13492-1730

[update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

