



# *Connecting Currents*

The Mohawk Valley Trout Unlimited Chapter

Newsletter    Edition: 2025-3

Mohawk Valley Trout Unlimited - 112, Whitesboro, NY

<https://mohawkvalleytu.org>

[mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com)

MVTU  
Facebook page



## ***Upcoming Events***

4/16 Envirothon -TIC  
4/26 Spring Cleanup - Sauquoit Ck  
5/10 Tree Planting - Sauquoit Ck  
5/16-18 Paddlefest  
5/17 Trek for Trout  
5/30 Farm Fest - TIC

## ***Upcoming Meetings***

4/10 HCCC - Mark Usyk  
5/14 NYMCC -  
6/11 Streamside TBA  
7/9 Streamside TBA  
8/13 Streamside TBA

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## ***Upcoming General Meetings***

**Monthly Meetings, 6:30 PM 2nd Wednesday of each month (September to May)  
(confirm location and date on website or Facebook)**

**Thursday April 10 6:30 PM - HCCC,  
Herkimer**

Robert McLaughlin College Center Amphitheater, Room  
Number 288

**Mark Usyk** Author, Artist, and Marginal Fly  
Fisherman; Mark Usyk. Mark is the author of  
three books: Reflections of a Fly Rod, Carp Are  
Jerks, and Not All Trout Are Geniuses.



**Welcome to non-members.**

**Wednesday May 14 6:30 PM - NY Mills Community Center**  
Wrap-up, Survey, Stream Stewardships and other items



**March Meeting:** Thanks to DEC  
Biologist Dave Erway and  
Environmental Conservation Officer  
Steve Lakeman for giving an update on  
recent and upcoming DEC activities in  
Region 6

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[View Local Events](#)

## **Events**

### **CNY Fly Tying Symposium and Outdoor Celebration**

We had a great turn-out of folks at the symposium on March 23rd at Hart Hill. Several hundred people attended the event. About 30 fly tyers participated and 20 vendors/exhibitors. Activities included speakers on fishing throughout the day, a successful bucket raffle with many prizes and the drawing of our annual raffle. All to raise funds for our local Trout in the Classroom program. If you were unable to attend, we hope you make it next year!

**THANKS to All the volunteers, participants, sponsors, donors and visitors!!**



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## Sauquoit Creek Cleanup Day April 23

Date: Saturday April 26 9 AM start

Location: Starting at Piggy Pats

Save the Date! Bring friends, guests and family members to help pick up trash on this local urban fishery.

Public is welcome

Any Questions contact Don Hahn at [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com)



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## Spring Streamside Tree Planting May 10

Date: Saturday May 10 - 10 AM start



Location: Washington Mills Park, New Hartford

Save another date! Bring your family and friends to help plant 100 samplings along Sauquoit Creek in Washington Mills Park near pavilion where the was recent bank flood prevention work.

Public is welcome

Contact [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com) for more info



## Trek for Trout Day - May 17

Help protect brook trout ponds in the Adirondacks. Trout Unlimited members are invited along with other organizations to help place signs at many ponds throughout the region.

*Trek for Trout Signup*





DEC and other like-minded organizations, all while helping native brook trout.

**New York State DEC invites New York Trout Unlimited Members to participate in an exciting opportunity to help update some 400 Adirondack Brook Trout ponds with improved conservation signage!**

There are more than 400 brook trout ponds in the Adirondacks. That's a lot of ponds to post signs and it could take years for DEC to accomplish this on their own. Organizations including NY Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, Trout Unlimited, Trout Power, Native Fish Coalition, as well as students from Paul Smith and SUNY ESF are banding together to "Trek for Trout" and post as many signs as possible on a single day (**Saturday May 17th, 2025**).

To register to help, [SEND AN EMAIL TODAY](#).

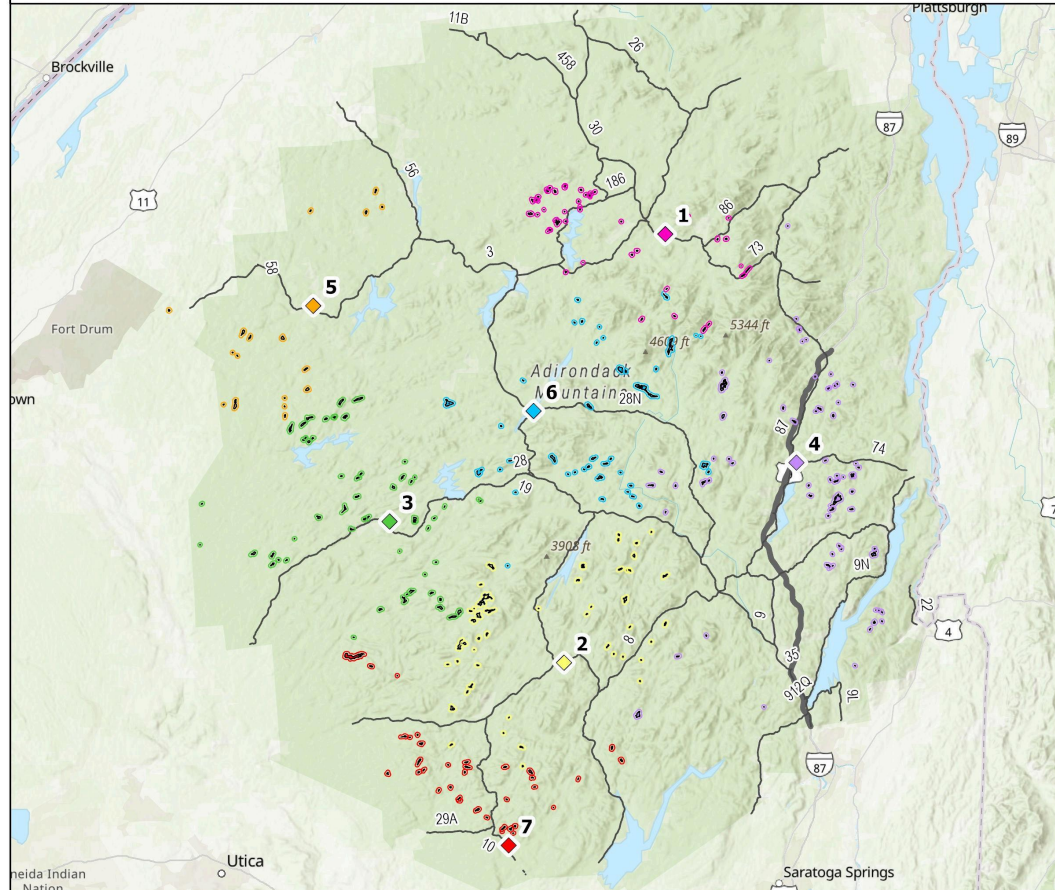
You'll have the opportunity to sign up for a pond(s) of your choosing on a user-friendly, map-based interface when volunteer registration goes live on April 15th. A range of trek distances are available, from short to multiple mile round trips. Be on the lookout for a follow up email that will include a link to sign up, as well as information on social networking activities that will take place after the Trek.

This is an exciting opportunity to partner with DEC to get meaningful, on-the-ground work done to support brook trout management and conservation, so lace up your hiking boots and get ready to Trek for Trout!

The New York State Council is asking for your help in spreading the word of this event through your membership to get as many volunteers as we can. We will be sending this opportunity broadly to our membership across the state on April 1.

# Trekking for Trout 2025

## Adirondack Brook Trout Ponds and Meeting Hub Locations



### Meeting Hubs

- ◆ 1- Ray Brook DEC Office
- ◆ 2- Speculator Boat Wash Station
- ◆ 3- Rocky Mountain Trailhead Boat Wash Station
- ◆ 4- Northern Schroon/Paradox Boat Wash Station
- ◆ 5- Star Lake Boat Wash Station
- ◆ 6- Long Lake Boat Wash Station
- ◆ 7- Caroga Boat Wash Station

### ADK Major Roads

- 1-Interstate
- 3-Major Road

### Brook Trout Ponds

- Caroga Boat Wash Station
- Long Lake Boat Wash Station
- Northern Schroon/Paradox Boat Wash Station
- Raybrook DEC Office
- Rocky Mountain Trailhead Boat Wash Station
- Speculator Boat Wash Station
- Star Lake Boat Wash Station

0 20  
Miles



DEC | Bureau of Fisheries  
March 14th, 2025

## Additional Mohawk Valley TU Upcoming Activities

April 16 - Mohawk Valley Envirothon - Utica Zoo

May 16-18 - Paddlefest - Mountainman Supply - Old Forge

May 30 - Farm Fest TIC event for grade school students

May-June - Trout in the Classroom Fry Release Field Trips

May-June - Stream Monitor Volunteer Training - TBD

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### *Presidents Line*

Hello everyone,

As we begin a new fishing season, many things pop into my head. Are my rods all set with clean lines and new leaders? Are my waders still waterproof and are my wading shoes in good shape? Where's my wading staff? Did I get my license?

All these things are important of course, but once the season opens, I realize so many other things that are important too. Once I'm on the stream or pond, I begin to think about the important things in life. I notice the peace that suddenly grabs me. I notice the water. Is it still clean and pristine or has it become another place to dump garbage and waste? We need water to live, so I ask, why do we treat it this way? I breathe in the air far away from traffic and factories and smell the aromas that you can only get out here and wonder if it could be even better. I notice the vegetation around me. Is it natural and healthy, or is it sickly looking because its being overtaken by invasive plants and insects, and wonder can we ever fix the mess we have

unintentionally made of our environment? Will our children and grandkids be able to experience what we have now?

I'm sure I'm not the only one that gets these thoughts while I fish. It's the reason I joined Trout Unlimited so many years ago. TU is a group of like-minded people who want the same things I do and work tirelessly in their spare time to do what they can do to fix the things broken in our environment and make them better. Government and gobs of money can't do it alone. All of us working together can. We can't fix every environmental problem, but our TU Chapter and its volunteers in this area work diligently to find the issues and see how we can help repair them by working together with local Government, plus the many conservation groups that also volunteer their time and effort. As the saying goes, "There is more to fishing than just catching fish!"

I am glad that I chose Trout Unlimited as a platform to help me right the things I see wrong in our environment, and I ask that you to join us too. Anything is possible when we work together.

Best regards,

Ken Ziobro

President, Mohawk Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited #112

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***Youth Education News***

**Trout in the Classroom**

The Trout in the Classroom is having good year so far, despite a few hiccups and fry losses. The CNY Fly Tying Symposium gave us a big fund boost. Thank you to all participants and donors. This will help us support all the classrooms with new and spare equipment.

We have a busy schedule of field trips to local streams for fry release in May and June. The chapter is also participating in a few promotional events this spring. Plans are coming together for additional classes in 2025-26 school year.

If you know a teacher interested in participating, or would like to volunteer please email [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com).

## **Conservation in the Classroom**

We offer another program that brings elementary students to their nearest waterway to explore insect life and other creatures. Contact the chapter or Jordan Ross to learn more about this great one-hour hands on learning experience for kids.





## Trout Waters Youth Camp

Do you know a teen (girls or boys age 14-17) that would be interested in Trout Unlimited Summer Camp? The Mohawk Valley Chapter will help pay for the 2025 summer camp on the West Branch of the Delaware River from July 6-11. Contact [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com) for an application.



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## *Conservation News*

### **Mohawk Valley TU Stream Monitoring**

Want to help check the water quality of your favorite small stream?  
We are gathering a list of volunteers for local stream monitoring.

Stay tuned for more information. Email [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating. We are planning to hold streamside learning sessions in May or early June.

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## **Oriskany Creek Watershed Commission**

The Oriskany Creek Watershed Commission meetings are open to the public.

2025 Meetings  
Schedule

OCWC  
Website

March 2025  
Minutes



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## Sauquoit Creek Basin Commission

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

[SCBC Website](#)

[March 2025 Minutes](#)



Where are the perched culverts and dams on Sauquoit Creek?

All hinder trout movement and heat water. Should some be removed?

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## **Sauquoit Creek Tributary Solar Farms**

No additional updates on proposed Mud Creek solar projects.

[New Hartford Planning Board Agendas](#)

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## **State and National TU**

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

[New York Chapter Events](#)

[National Chapter Events](#)

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## ***Membership Information***

**Mohawk Valley Chapter Member Survey**



Thanks to the chapter members who provided input into the member survey. The board will be using the results in planning future initiatives. We'll be drawing the winner of the \$50 JP Ross gift raffle at the meeting tomorrow night.

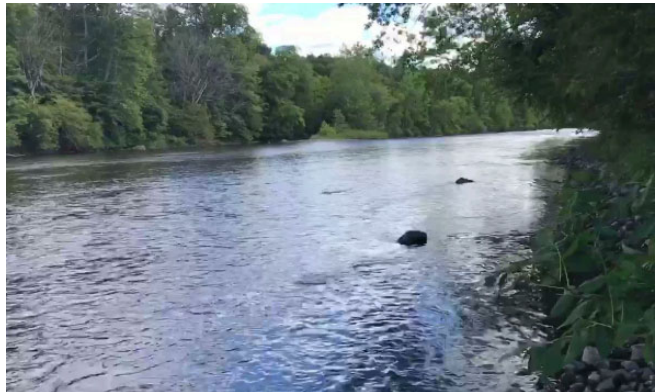
### MVTU Chapter Survey Results

If you have any questions about your membership or would like to volunteer to participate in any chapter activities, please email [mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkvalleytu@gmail.com).

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## ***Field Trips***

We are restarting monthly streamside summer outings at some of our favorite local streams this June, July and August. Keep an eye out for locations, dates and times.





## *Share the Fun*

Submit photos of your recent fishing adventures.

Submit your fishing or nature photos for the next newsletter.

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



[View insights](#)



Some Early Season Action

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## *Helpful Links*

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

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## **MVTU Board and Contacts**

### Officers

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

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

Treasurer- Steve Prievo [sprievo@gmail.com](mailto:sprievo@gmail.com)

Secretary– Rick Bach [rickback@ymail.com](mailto:rickback@ymail.com)

### Directors

Director Emeritus – Chris James [cristoefisher@yahoo.com](mailto:cristoefisher@yahoo.com)

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

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

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

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

Conservation in the Classroom - Jordan Ross – [jpross@jprossflyrods.com](mailto:jpross@jprossflyrods.com)

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

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

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

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

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