

DFTU NEWS ARCHIVE – 2014

November 17: Quittapahilla gets long-awaited rehab in Quittie Nature Park

Construction work was begun to restore streambanks and improve habitat along a 1750' stretch of the Quittapahilla Creek where it flows through the Quittie Nature Park in Annville. Funded by PADEP Growing Greener and PFBC grant money, this first phase of a two-phase restoration project which will eventually improve the stream all the way down to the SR934 bridge begins about 150 yards above the remnants of the old mill dam which will be removed in the process. [Click here](#) to see pics of the work in progress.

September 20: Another restoration project completed on Manada Creek

About 15 chapter volunteers turned out to build a significant streambank deflector along Jim Smith's property in the lower end of the DHALO special regulation section of Manada Creek. Working with Karl Lutz of PFBC's Habitat Section, utilizing heavy equipment to excavate and place 16 large logs and move nearly 40 tons of stone, the resulting project will provide protection and improve habitat along over 60 feet of badly eroded streambank. [Click here](#) to see pics of the workday.

September 14: DFTU receives two 2014 annual awards from PA Council

At the 2014 PATU Annual Meeting on September 13, our chapter received awards for Best Chapter Project (Rausch Creek diversion wells) and Best Chapter Website. The chapter previously won Best Project awards in 2000 for restoration work on Quittapahilla Creek and again in 2005 for restoration work on Spring Creek in Harrisburg. The PATU Best Website award was previously won in 2012. Our thanks go out to all those chapter members who helped to make these awards possible! [Click here](#) to view the award banner.

July 23: Electroshocking survey completed on Manada Creek

As part of the watershed assessment currently being conducted on Manada Creek by the Dauphin County Conservation District, electroshocking of 2 areas in the main stem below plus 2 smaller tributaries in the upper end of the DHALO section revealed a good diversity of fish species, but very few wild trout. [Click here](#) to see pics of the activity. The watershed assessment report will be completed this fall.

July 12: Rausch Creek diversion wells are back in working order

Volunteers turned out on July 12 to perform required maintenance on the diversion wells which had not been functioning properly due to an accumulation of dirt and smaller stone particles preventing proper flow-through of the water that is designed to grind the stone and flush the particles into the stream. At the same time, the pile of limestone was moved closer to the wells for the convenience of the workers who perform the weekly maintenance on a year-round basis. [Click here](#) to see pics of the workday.

June 28: Manada Creek gets another dose of TLC

About a dozen chapter volunteers turned out to work alongside 4 employees of PFBC's Habitat Improvement Section to build two rock/log structures in the lower end of the Manada Creek DHALO section. These structures will help prevent further streambank erosion and will be supplemented by a larger structure to be built downstream on September 20. Using logs scavenged from the stream and 7 tons of stone purchased with PFBC Adopt-a-Stream funds, the group completed their work in about 3 1/2 hours after which a barbequed pork luncheon was served. [Click here](#) to see a few pics of the work in progress.

June 7: DFTU hosts yet another successful Home Waters disabled vets event

Beginning in 2009 with Project Healing Waters serving as our guide for organizing a disabled veterans fly fishing event, the chapter's Home Waters program celebrated its 6th. annual event with 21 volunteers serving as guides for 17 wounded and disabled veterans from Dauphin and Lebanon counties. Once again hosted by the O'Gormans on their Clarks Creek property, it was reported that a great time was had by all....and all participants were successful in catching fish! For pics of the event, see <http://tcotrouttales.blogspot.com/>

June 3: Dr. Frank J. Viozzi Scholarship awarded to Williams Valley graduate

Luke Wynn, a graduate of Williams Valley Jr.-Sr. High School in Tower City, was selected as the recipient of the chapter's 2014 Dr. Frank J. Viozzi Scholarship award. Luke, who is an avid sportsman and participated in his high school environmental club and TU's Trout in the Classroom program, will be attending Kutztown University, majoring in environmental science. He plans to use his education to teach and conduct research in environmental science at the university level. [Click here](#) to see a picture of Luke receiving the award.

June 2: DFTU receives 2nd. place award in TU's Chapter Origin Stories contest

Doc Fritchey TU's origin story which was entered in National TU's Origin Stories contest recently did not garner enough votes to win the grand prize, an opportunity to host the Fly Fishing Film tour, but enough votes were registered to win two rod & reel outfits that the chapter can use for future fundraising efforts. Our thanks to everyone who took the time to vote for our story!

May 15: Three Harrisburg schools release TIC trout at the Ned Smith Center

On May 7, 36 students from the Harrisburg Catholic Elementary and Holy Name of Jesus schools arrived at the Ned Smith Center in Millersburg to conclude their year of Trout in the Classroom by releasing their fingerling trout in Wiconisco Creek and participating in activities that supplemented their environmental studies during the school year. On May 15, 42 students from the Harrisburg Math-Science Academy did the same. Students rotated through educational stations for hands-on learning about the macroinvertebrates that trout eat and the watershed in which they live.

[Click here](#) to see pics of the May 7 event. On the 15th, Steve Knight from CBS21 News filmed the release and interviewed two students. To see the interview, go to CBS21.com, select "Community" and "Cool Schools" and look for the thumbnail for Trout in the Classroom.

May 4: Chapter volunteers plant white pine seedlings along Clarks Creek

About 15 chapter members turned out again this year to plant white pine seedlings along Clarks Creek downstream from the rifle range parking lot. The seedlings, furnished by the PA Game Commission, are being planted each year in an ongoing effort to compensate for the loss of hemlocks suffering from infestations of the woolly adelgid, an aphid-like insect that sucks the sap from hemlock trees. [Click here](#) to see pics of this activity.

May 4: DFTU participates in Fort Hunter's Garden Faire

For the second year in a row, Doc Fritchey volunteers demonstrated fly casting and fly tying at Fort Hunter's Garden Faire. Chapter members were on hand to teach anyone interested in learning these skills, while at the same time delivering our message about TU's conservation mission. [Click here](#) to see pics of the event.

April 23: DFTU assists DCCD with macroinvertebrate survey of Manada Creek

Doc Fritchey volunteers assisted Megan Blackmon of the Dauphin County Conservation District in collecting macroinvertebrate specimens from 5 locations on Manada Creek. A good variety of mayflies, stoneflies and caddis flies (which will be cataloged at a later date) was found at most of the sites. [Click here](#) to see pics of the survey which is part of a larger watershed assessment project currently being conducted by DCCD.

April 4: Three Dauphin County students accepted for TU Youth Camp

We are pleased to announce that 3 students from Dauphin County schools have been selected to participate in this year's TU Rivers Conservation & Fly Fishing Youth Camp at the Allenberry Resort in June. Alex Carney from Hummelstown, Dustin Clough from Middletown and Olivia Ramsey from Harrisburg were chosen based on their submittals on why they wanted to attend the camp, along with recommendations from their respective teachers. For more info on the camp, please see www.riverscamp.com.

March 17: Another successful DFTU Banquet effort for 2014!

This year's conservation banquet drew 125 members and their guests to the Holiday Inn of Grantville on March 15 to celebrate the chapter's 44th anniversary amidst a casual atmosphere of camaraderie and good plain fun. The live and silent auctions, as well as various raffles, were well patronized by those who attended, helping to ensure that our chapter is adequately funded for future conservation efforts in Dauphin and Lebanon counties. Click on [Celebrating 44 Years](#) to see pictures of this event.

Jan. 22: PADEP Growing Greener Grant awarded for restoration work on Quittie

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) announced today that \$444,126 in Growing Greener Grant funding has been approved for streambank restoration work along Quittie Creek in Annville. The overall goal of the project is to restore 3,450 linear feet of the Quittie, from 150 yards upstream of the old mill dam in Quittie Creek Nature Park to just upstream of the Route 934 bridge. Work on the first phase covered by this Growing Greener Grant is expected to start this spring and will restore approximately 1,750 linear feet, starting at the most upstream point and working downstream. For more information, see the Quittapahilla Watershed Association's website, www.quittapahillawatershedassociation.org.