May: A Healthy Mix of Work and Play

Memorial Day signals the unofficial beginning to summer. For me, and I’m sure many of you, this means weekends spent racing between kids’ athletic events, family barbecues and birthday parties — which all leaves precious little time to pursue fish with creations of fur and feather.

So when I do have a couple hours to hit the water, I often find myself running out the door to a local stretch of water, crashing through the underbrush like a rabid gorilla, and firing a fly blindly in hope there might be a fish somewhere in the county that I haven’t spooked.

I have to constantly remind myself that fishing isn’t just another task to check off the list. When I take this attitude, my time on the water — limited as it may be — is much more enjoyable.

Your participation in the chapter should be just like fishing. We hope you enjoy it and don’t simply view it as something else in your schedule that you feel you have to cram in.

As the months of summer roll by, the pace of chapter activities will slow because we don’t want to burn anybody out. That said, we still have activities on the docket, and we welcome your participation in whichever events you feel most passionate about — work or play.

See you soon,

Kevin Correa
President
Nor’East Chapter | Trout Unlimited

June Chapter Meeting – Wednesday June 2nd

Chapter Member and Ipswich River Watershed Association naturalist Jim MacDougall will present: Taking Action on the Ipswich River. This angler-focused talk aims to stimulate more sharing of information about the river. It will include examples of past action by fishermen and suggestions for future engagements on the river.
North Shore Fly Fishing Classic:

The Nor’East Chapter hosts the inaugural North Shore Fly Fishing Classic on Saturday June 5th, 2010.

This is a Fly Fishing Only, Catch & Release event aimed at bringing together conservation-minded anglers in a fun environment. This isn’t a fund raiser, but if the chapter makes a little money to put toward local conservation, so much the better.

Date: Saturday, June 5, 2010. This is a FREE FISHING WEEKEND in Massachusetts. No fishing license is required. And rain or shine, we’re fishing! The number of participants will be capped, and the first 25 to register receive a FREE North Shore Fly Fishing Classic hat.

Entry Fees:
$20 for Adults
$15 for Juniors (between 12 and 18)

Register with a credit card or PayPal account at www.tunoreast.org, or in person at First Light Anglers at 21 Main St., Rowley, MA. In-person registrations are CASH ONLY.

Registration Raffle: Your registration earns you a FREE entry into our Rod Raffle. At the end of the event, all contestants will have one chance at winning a new fly rod. No additional tickets will be sold toward this raffle.

Event Area: Anglers can fish any public water on the North Shore of Boston. (See complete rules for more specific guidelines.)

Awards: Prizes will be given out to the winners of each class. For complete details and registration info go to www.tunoreast.org.

Questions? Contact kevin.correa@tunoreast.org.

May Meeting Recap:

Most of us have approached an unfamiliar stretch of water and wondered what will entice the resident fish. Those in attendance at the May meeting will not face that same conundrum fishing the Pemigewasset. Scott Evans of the Squan-a-Tissit Chapter outlined in great detail where to fish and what to use on the river. We thank Scott for sharing such a wealth of information.

Raffle Donations: Keep ‘em Coming!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed items for use in our bucket raffles. Without these donations we’d have to go out and purchase items to raffle off.

So again, we ask that if you have anything new you’d like to contribute, please send it our way.

Thanks again to everyone who has helped on this front.

Scott Evans
Recap: Indian Hollow Council Weekend

A solid group of chapter members (and friends) made it out to the Mass/RI Council Weekend at the Indian Hollow campground on the banks of the Westfield River. All but Tom Leahy were first-timers, but it’s fair to say that everyone that went will be marking the date for next year’s outing. Perfect weather, cooperative fish and good company made for a fun and memorable weekend.

We want to thank the Mass/RI Council for hosting the weekend.

Ipswich River Cleanup - June 5th

The Reading/North Reading Ipswich River Stream Team presents the 20th Annual Ipswich River Cleanup.

Saturday June 5, 2010
8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Light Rain or Shine

Please meet at Gazebo in the Ipswich River Park, Central Street, North Reading.

Lunch will be provided by Cenci’s Catering and a limited number of T-shirts will be given out.

Please bring Canoes, Saws, Trash Scoopers, and your Enthusiasm.
For More Information, contact: Butch Conary: buttie36@verizon.net or (781) 942-7505.

Action Update: Float Stocking the Parker and Ipswich Rivers

Several members got out and helped the state float stock portions of the Parker and Ipswich Rivers this month. Rather than being released at the typical bridge stocking sites, hundreds of brown and rainbow trout — many in the 14-15 inch range — were released in areas on both rivers known to holdover trout. We want to thank MassWildlife for allowing us to help stock the fish, and First Light Anglers for providing their float stocking barges.

Education Front: Zach Johnson to Lead Fly Fishing Introduction

On June 16th, Nor’East Chapter board member and Taking Out Line Guide Service owner Zach Johnson will introduce several students from Lynn Vocational Tech to the sport of fly fishing. Zach has taught English at the school for eight years, and now wants to share his passion for fly fishing as well.
Action Update: Mill River Work Day

All the pieces were in place to haul loads of trash from the steep banks of the Mill River in Newbury. Then thunderstorms forced postponement of the work day, and our chapter did not remove the trash. However, this is a success story. In the process of networking to find a home for the riverside refuse, Kevin Correa raised the issue with our friends at the Parker River Clean Water Association. A small group of PRCWA members organized by Jack Van Loan removed “a washer machine, a large TV, and wall-to-wall carpeting from the banks of the Mill.” Great work PRCWA!

Nor’East Chapter Marketplace Open For Business
Look for Both at Our June Meeting

Chapter Tee Shirts
We have received the first batch of chapter T-shirts from the printer and they look great. This first run of shirts is available in sizes Large, X-Large, and XX-Large. Shirts cost $15 and will be available at the June meeting.

An Angler’s Guide
An Angler’s Guide to Trout Fishing in Massachusetts could have been called “The Spot Burners Guide to Trout Fishing In Massachusetts.” This book really is a must if you fish around the state. It lists everything you need to know from hidden holes to flies. $20.

These items and more will soon be available at www.tunoreast.org.

We Want to Hear From You
Have information you’d like to share with the chapter? Send it to our newsletter editor at newsletter@tunoreast.org.