As You Dust Off Your Vise...

With winter’s approach, our time on the water is limited by shortened days and colder winds. And with the holidays and fishing show season just around the corner, you might be compiling your wish list for next year.

As you consider which rod or reel to add to the arsenal, we hope that you’ll also take a few minutes to think about what you’d like to see from the Nor’East Chapter in 2011 and beyond. We’re in the process of developing the chapter’s strategic plan and want your input.

The strategic plan is a great tool for the chapter because it promotes discussion and helps us set and prioritize goals. Should we focus on culvert repairs on Fish Brook or salmon restoration on the Mill River? Do we lobby for a local catch & release area or push for an end to state stocking in streams known to hold wild fish? How do we attract the next generation of trout anglers to TU?

This is just a small sampling of the questions we hope to tackle with the strategic plan. I’m sure if you took ten minutes while tying flies or deckling the halls, you’d come up with several more questions or project ideas that address issues of importance to you.

Hope to see you soon,

Kevin Correa  
President  
Nor’East Chapter | Trout Unlimited
November Meeting Recap

We were fortunate to have had two guests speak at our November meeting. Melissa Winstanley gave a brief presentation on the Casting for Recovery program and Rick Little recounted his adventure fishing in Labrador.

Rick’s talk and photos gave a great feel for the trip and had those in attendance ready to book a trip north of the border.

Casting for Recovery is a fly fishing retreat tailored to women in any stage of breast cancer treatment or recovery. For more information on the program, please send Melissa an email at masscfr@gmail.com.

Thanks Rick and Melissa.

Groveland Stream Cleanup

On November 6th, a dozen chapter members took to a small brookie stream in Groveland to remove roadside trash from the water and its banks.

In addition to the typical Dunkin Donuts cups and beer cans, we hauled out several tires (including a tractor tire), decades old bottles, and more. We estimated the total weight of the trash to have been over 500 lbs — all in less than 200 yards of river. In spite of all the trash, some brookies were spotted in the stream.

Thanks to all who lent hand. Special thanks go to Thomas Wooldridge for bringing the meatball subs! Great job everyone.

Renew Your Membership Today

If you’re like me, that TU envelope urging you to renew your membership has been sitting on your desk for weeks or longer. Stop procrastinating and take the 5 minutes to renew today. Remember that a portion of your annual dues comes back to the chapter and helps fund our local efforts. Thanks for your support.
Trout in the Classroom in Full Swing

It took a lot of work and coordination, but the chapter has helped launch two Trout in the Classroom (TIC) programs.

With a generous grant from the Massachusetts/Rhode Island Council of TU, Lynn’s Breed Middle School has integrated the TIC program into the curriculum for dozens of fortunate students.

Lawrence’s Notre Dame High School initiated its TIC program with grants from the Greater Boston and Nor’East Chapters, and the National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Wayne Miller of Blue Stream Hatchery generously donated trout eggs to both programs, and John LeJeune served as the stork, ferrying the eggs from the Cape to their new classroom homes.

As of the end of November, both schools reported that the eggs are doing well, and that several fish have already hatched. And, of course, the kids are very excited about the fish.

Thanks to everyone who helped get these important educational programs off the ground on such short notice.

December Meeting Preview — December 6th

Harrison Anglers are the featured speakers at the December meeting. They’ll have you wishing winter away with their insights into floating the Deerfield and Millers rivers.

In the business portion of the meeting, we’ll give an introduction to the chapter’s draft strategic plan. We hope you come armed with ideas. We’ll also have copies of our FY2010 financial report available for chapter member review.

Ipswich River Watershed Association
143 County Road, Ipswich
6 PM Dinner (with $5 donation)
7 PM Presentation

Donations:
Keep ‘em Coming!

Thank you to everyone who has contributed items for use in our bucket raffles.

If you have anything new you’d like to contribute, please send it our way.

Thanks!
Save the Date:
Casting for Recovery Dinner and Auction
Sunday, January 16th

Join the Massachusetts CFR folks for a lovely dinner and auction to support the 2011 MA/RI Casting for Recovery retreat. A five course dinner will be served at the Parsons Table in Winchester, MA. Tickets are $125 per person, and space is limited, so please order tickets now and help support the survivors in our community.

Where: The Parsons Table, 34 Church St., Winchester, MA
Dinner will be served from 6-8pm with auction to follow.
Tickets can be ordered online at: https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=4a4d45

Checks can be made out to: Casting for Recovery
Please send checks to: Melissa Winstanley, 155 Monument St., Concord, MA, 01742

Questions? Email masscfr@gmail.com

Chapter Tee Shirts
Still don’t have your chapter T-shirt? Act fast as only Large and X-Large are left from this first run of shirts. Shirts cost $15 and are available online or at the meetings.

Visit the Nor’East Marketplace for Chapter Tees and the Angler’s Guide
www.tunoreast.org

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.