

# Nor'East Chapter | Trout Unlimited

## April 2012 Newsletter



### Off to the Races

Well after the mild winter, it's time to get going again. The chapter has plenty of events lined up so hopefully you can find at least one that you can attend. April will be a very busy month starting with our chapter meeting this coming Monday, April 2nd. We'll host Robert Michelson for a presentation packed with incredible images documenting the life cycles of Eastern Brook Trout and Atlantic Salmon.

Later in the month we'll get our hands dirty with a little spring cleaning at the Ipswich River Watershed Association, and we'll close out April with one of our most popular events, the Parker River Paddle/Fish/Cookout. If you haven't paddled the Crane Pond section of the Parker, you're missing out. It is a diamond in the rough.

There's lots of information in the following pages, so please read on.

Now that the warm weather is on the way, the chapter activities will pick up. While we have a number of events in the works, we're always interested in hearing your ideas. Please send them our way.

As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with any questions or concerns.

Warm regards,

Kevin Correa  
President  
Nor'East Chapter | Trout Unlimited  
[www.tunoreast.org](http://www.tunoreast.org)

### Around the Bend

**April 2, 2012**

**April Chapter Meeting**

6:00PM Dinner  
7:00PM Robert Michelson Presentation (See Article)  
IRWA  
143 County Road  
Ipswich

**April 17, 2012**

**Shawsheen River Restoration Presentation**

Andover Conservation Commission Hosts a meeting on Shawsheen River dam removals. (See Article)  
Andover Town Offices  
36 Bartlet St., 3rd Floor  
7:00PM

**April 22, 2012**

**IRWA Work Day**

9:00AM  
Come pitch in on a little spring cleaning at the Ipswich River Watershed Assn. (See Article)  
143 County Road  
Ipswich

**April 28, 2012**

**Parker River Paddle**

Meet at Thurlow Street Bridge in Georgetown at 8:30AM. Cookout to Follow. (See Article)

**May 18-20**

**Indian Hollow Weekend**

Mark your calendars for the Mass/RI Council's annual camping weekend at Indian Hollow on the banks of the Westfield River. More details to come.

## April Meeting Preview

This month photographer/videographer Robert Michelson will present “The Life Cycles and Spawning Behavior of Eastern Brook Trout and Atlantic Salmon.” Bob will share his photos and short videos during his presentation.

Photography By Michelson, Inc. is based in Braintree, Massachusetts. Bob is an underwater photographer and videographer who has been diving for 31 years. His images and articles have appeared in numerous national publications, and his video footage and programming has aired on numerous broadcast and cable networks. Bob is also working with the MA/RI Council of Trout Unlimited to produce a documentary on several river restoration projects that the council is supporting.



© 2012 Photography by Michelson, Inc.

Monday April 2, 2012  
6:00 Dinner (\$5.00 donation)  
7:00 Meeting  
Ipswich River Watershed Association  
143 County Road  
Ipswich, Mass

## Ipswich River Watershed Association Work Day

We all know how fortunate we are to have such a wonderful meeting space at the Ipswich River Watershed Association. It's time to say “thank you” with a little spring cleaning at IRWA's Riverbend property. If you can pitch in, please bring along some landscaping tools. We'll have a little cookout once we're done.

April 22, 2012  
9 AM  
Ipswich River Watershed Assn.  
143 Count Road, Ipswich

## Time to Count Some Fish

Both the Ipswich River Watershed Association and the Parker River Clean Water Association are looking for volunteers to help count herring this spring. With the warmer than normal temps, herring have already entered the local rivers. If you would like to participate in this fun program, please use the contact information below..

**Parker River - Amy Madden** [amymadden185@comcast.net](mailto:amymadden185@comcast.net)  
**Ipswich River - Ryan O'Donnell** [rodonnell@ipswichriver.org](mailto:rodonnell@ipswichriver.org)

## **3rd Annual Parker River Paddle/Fish/Cookout Saturday, April 28th**

Let's kick off the fishing season with our annual chapter paddle of the Parker River through the Crane Pond Wildlife Management Area. This beautiful stretch of water is home to a vast array of wildlife (including holdover trout, bass and monster pickerel) and is best accessed by canoe or kayak. As we have in the past, the plan is to meet at the Thurlow Street bridge (off of North Street in Georgetown) at 8:30 a.m., paddle downstream through Crane Pond to the Hemlocks section of the river, then fish our way back to the bridge at our leisure. While the river is home to plenty of trout, come prepared to battle bass and huge pickerel as well (think wire tippet). Cookout to follow the paddle. Please RSVP to [kevin.correa@tunoreast.org](mailto:kevin.correa@tunoreast.org) if you're interested in attending and indicate if you have access to a canoe or kayak so that we can match boatless participants with those with an extra seat.



## **Andover ConsComm to Host Meeting on Shawsheen River Restoration Project**

On Tuesday, April 17, the Andover Conservation Commission and NOAA Restoration Center will host an informational meeting on the Shawsheen River Restoration Project. The purpose of the project is to restore annual spawning runs of native migratory fish such as river herring and American shad, while improving the natural river ecosystem. The project partnership is now working to remove Balmoral and Marland Place Dams in Andover.

The NOAA video documentary, "Relics and Rivers: Dismantling Dams in New England," will be shown at the meeting. The video examines the history of our rivers and presents the example of a dam removal in Plymouth, Mass.

After the video, there will be a discussion of two warrant articles regarding Balmoral Dam, which will be up for approval at the 2012 Andover Town Meeting on April 30. The articles authorize the Town to take possession of the dam, at no cost to the Town, for purposes of removing it.

The video showing and discussion will be followed by a regular meeting of the Conservation Commission.

Andover Town Offices, 36 Bartlet St., 3rd Floor Conference Room, 7 p.m.

## Attention Anglers & Fishing Tackle Retailers

# 2012 IS THE TIME TO GET THE LEAD OUT!

As of January 1, 2012, it **is illegal** to use lead sinkers and lead jigs weighing less than 1 ounce in Massachusetts' **freshwater** lakes, ponds, rivers and streams.



Ingestion of lead sinkers or jigs has killed loons in New England

What **You** Can Do:

**Anglers:** Use non-lead sinkers and jigs. It is the law!

**Sporting goods stores:** Stock non-lead fishing tackle alternatives.

**Spread the word about the new law.** Tell other anglers and retailers about the problem with lead and loons.

For More Information:  
[www.mass.gov/masswildlife](http://www.mass.gov/masswildlife)



Note that the Massachusetts Lead Ban is now in effect. The text of the regulation is below. Weighted flies are not included in the ban

“Fishing Prohibitions: Lead Sinkers, Lead Weights, and Lead Jigs Weighing Less Than an Ounce. Any sinker or weight made from lead that weighs less than 1 ounce, and any lead jig (meaning any lead-weighted hook) that weighs less than 1 ounce, is prohibited for use in all inland waters of the Commonwealth. **The term lead sinker shall not include any other sinkers, weights, fishing lures or fishing tackle including, but not limited to, artificial lures, hooks, weighted flies, and lead-core or other weighted fishing lines.**”

*The Nor'East Chapter of Trout Unlimited is dedicated to conserving, protecting and restoring Massachusetts' north shore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.*