

# The Conservationist



PPTU.org

Potomac-Patuxent Chapter Trout Unlimited

Nov 2022 • Published monthly except June, July, August and December

## “Trout Resources in Washington and Frederick Counties, with MD DNR's Michael Kashiwagi”

***Tuesday! Nov 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 7:00PM***

Our November meeting will be on a new date - **Tuesday, Nov. 15th** -- so as not to conflict with the Nov. 16 date for the 2022 Fly Fishing Film Festival.

This month, PPTU will be joined live and in person at our Columbia meeting location by Michael Kashiwagi of MD DNR. Michael will talk with us about the state of the trout populations in west-central Maryland.



Michael Kashiwagi is the Western II Regional Fisheries Manager for Frederick and Washington counties and the upper Potomac River. Born and raised in Montgomery County, Michael has a graduate degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Mississippi State University. He has been with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for the past 15 years. He initially worked with the Maryland Biological Stream Survey before transferring over to the Freshwater Fisheries Program.

– **Karan Singh**  
[singhkaranr@yahoo.com](mailto:singhkaranr@yahoo.com)

### Monthly Chapter Meetings – Hybrid Meeting – In Person/Virtual!!!

Time and Day: 7:00 PM unless a new time is stated, Third Wednesday except June, July, August and December  
**NEW Meeting Location: Harkins Builders - 10490 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 400, Columbia, MD 21044**

**Virtual Link:**

**[Click Here to JOIN the Meeting on Nov 15th!](#)**

Visit our website: [www.pptu.org](http://www.pptu.org)

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### Mid Atlantic Council Delegates:

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Bob Dietz: Secretary  
Randy Dwyer  
Marc Hutzell  
Lou Reichel  
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### Contact Us:

[mail@pptu.org](mailto:mail@pptu.org)

## Presidents' Column - Joe Taylor



This is a great time of year, for sure! Recently I spent the weekend fishing Penn's Creek in the Pennsylvania mountains. It was tough fishing but the scenery was superb. For me, catching fish is secondary to the overall experience of what nature can offer and spending time with friends. We have some great events plans this fall/winter as a chapter, like our steelhead fishing trip to Erie, PA. I would strongly encourage you to take a break from raking leaves and join the fun.

Imagine catching a jumbo rainbow trout that is so strong they can easily take you into your backing in a matter of seconds. Once you catch your first steelhead, you will be "hooked" forever. On top of having a chance to catch a fish of a lifetime, we plan to host a party and hire a couple guides to show us the way. The crazy part is it is easy wading (if you even need to get in the water) in a stream that isn't much larger than the Gunpowder when the conditions are good. So....maybe this year is the year to give it a try!



Not only has the chapter been busy hosting some great outings and social events but we will be working on clearing a couple fishing trails, posting educational signs along streams and tackling some new conservation projects in the upcoming months. Please consider helping out and getting involved!

I also want to ask our members to consider supporting PPTU with your Annual Supporting Contribution or a general donation by going to our [Donate Page](#) and choosing your payment method. As you might know, it helps support our Chapter activities, which in turn brings value to your trout

fishing experience. Thanks in advance for your help and support!

As you can probably tell, we have a lot to offer to our members and I'm excited about introducing a couple new ideas as well. My goal is to deliver educational content, recognize our members and have some fun in the process. As I have mentioned before, if you had something you would like us to do differently, topics of interest or just feedback to provide, don't hesitate to send me an email at [president@pptu.org](mailto:president@pptu.org). I am always looking for ways to improve PPTU. Stay in the know by visiting our website, facebook page or listserv to learn more about what's in store in the weeks ahead. In the meantime, enjoy the fall weather and fishing.

Joe Taylor  
President, PPTU

## PPTU Mentor Program Beginners & Beyond

PPTU provides one-on-one streamside fly fishing instruction to PPTU members. Participants must show commitment by having waders or hip boots, a rod and reel outfit, and leader. Discussions will include equipment, knots, casting, flies, dry fly and nymphing techniques, entomology, reading water, conservation, etc. all on nearby streams. Instruction will be tailored to individual needs. Members who have not made an **Annual Supporting Contribution (ASC)** will be asked to contribute \$20.

Contact us by e-mail: [mentor@pptu.org](mailto:mentor@pptu.org)



## Toast to Trout! - Maryland TU's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

You're invited to help Maryland TU Celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

Please join us on Wednesday, November 2nd at [Union Craft Brewing](#) for a special celebration of MDTU's 50th Anniversary! Enjoy slide shows featuring past and present chapter activities, a silent auction, completely true stories about giant trout, and more!

Our generous hosts at Union Craft Brewing and their pizza partners Well Crafted Kitchen will be donating \$1 for every pint and pizza sold.

The party is free and open to all, so invite all of your family, friends, and colleagues! (No charge to attend; food and beverages will be available for sale by the brewery.)

RSVPs not required, fine to just show up, but helpful for a rough head count so if you plan to attend, please sign up below, thanks!

**When:** Wednesday, November 2, 2022  
from 6:30 PM to 10:00 PM EDT

### Where:

Union Craft Brewing  
1700 W 41st St  
Baltimore, MD 21211

[Register Now!](#)

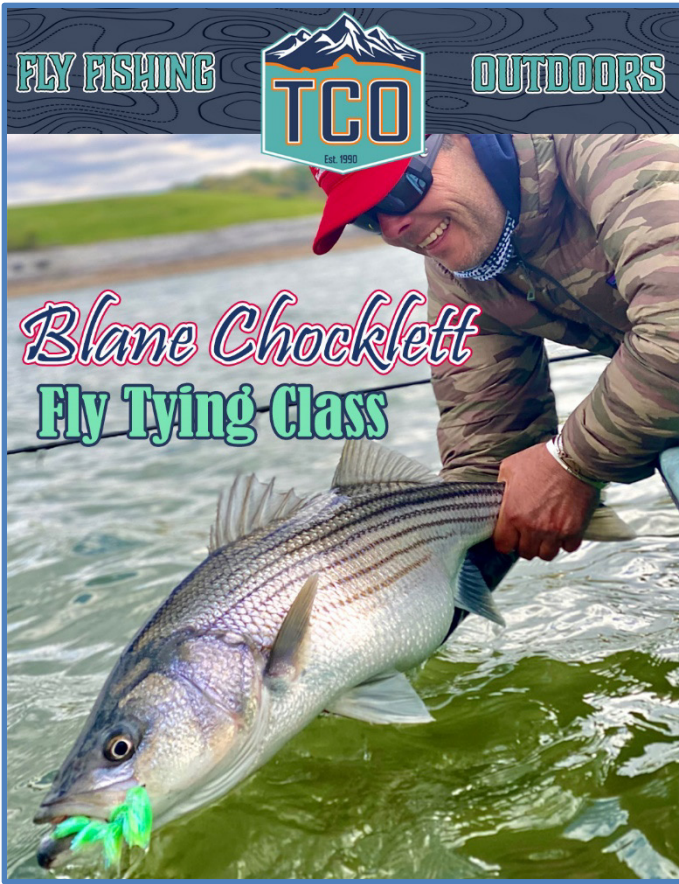


## Continued Social Outings - Craig Vanderkolk

Our next social event will be a casual "Movie Night" with pizza, snacks and drinks provided free of charge for our members and guests.

Come join us for a viewing of a movie about fishing icon Joe Brooks - **"Finding Joe Brooks"**  
**November 10th - 6-8:30 pm**  
Movie held at [PowerTrain, Inc.](#), Landover MD.





**Fly Tying with Blane Chocklett**  
**- TCO Fly Shop**

Join us for a very special tying class hosted by Blane Chocklett! Blane will be teaching his patterns and techniques for some of his classic game changer patterns as well as some newer patterns and ideas he's had in development for a few years.

This is an amazing opportunity to learn from one on the most innovative fly-tiers in the world. Space is limited for this class so sign up soon.

Blane will be in shop after the class to sign some books and talk about his patterns. We'll have some fantastic in store promotions as well. Classes will be held at State College & Bryn Mawr locations.

[Sign Up Here!](#)



**Knotweed!!!**  
**- Bob Dietz**

I know I harp on the subject, but there's an interesting article on Japanese knotweed on the BBC website: [World's most invasive weed.](#)

If you've fished the Gunpowder in the last few years, you know it's taking over along its banks, and I suspect is responsible for the increase in fallen trees over the last several years (knotweed destabilizes banks)

The article referenced is mainly about the problem in the UK, but notes that America may have it worse; in the UK it can only reproduce via rhizomes and roots as all the plants there are descended from a single female plant imported there in the 19th century; there are no male plants. That's not the case here; it can reproduce via seeds as well.



*" The finest gift you can give to any fisherman is to put a good fish back, and who knows if the fish that you caught isn't someone else's gift to you?"*

~ Lee Wulff

If you spot poaching please call or text:

**Maryland Wildlife Crime Stoppers**  
**At**  
**443-433-4112**



*Add this number to your cell phone contact list!*





## Current PPTU Outings - Lou Reichel

### Steelhead Trip, Erie, PA, Dec 3-5

Craig Vanderkolk skillfully planned this trip and he has arranged for some guides. Block out your time and sign up on our web page for this exciting trip.

### November Outing???

A November outing is still in the works! Stay tuned for more information.

## Nailless Nail Knot - John Coles

Here's a great demonstration of how to tie a nail knot when you don't have a special tool or an actual nail. This comes in handy when you have to attach a leader to a fly line on the water. This isn't a knot you'll use every day, but when you need it, you'll really need it. So learn this and commit it to memory. Someday, you'll thank yourself.

### [How to Tie the Nailless Nail Knot](#)



## Tagging Fish on Morgan Run - Arthur Senkel

Thanks to everyone who helped. About 400 brown trout were bucket stocked, 75 trout were

tagged, and 41 trout had lengths and weights measured

average length = 14 inches

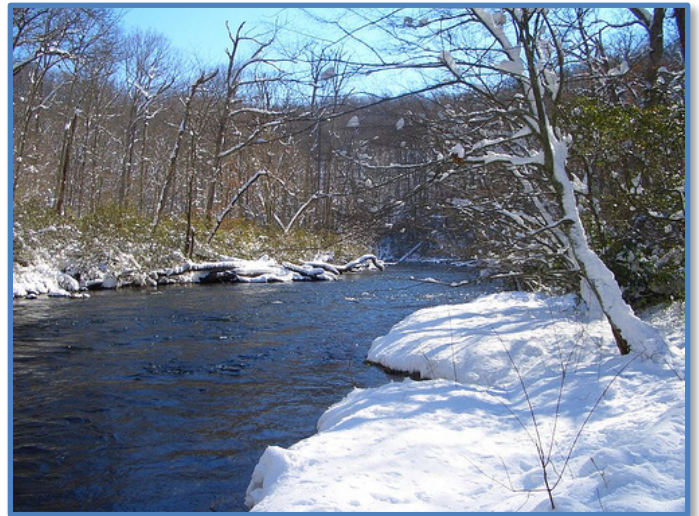
average weight = 1.25 pounds

Please report all tagged fish catches in accordance with the posted streamside signs on Morgan Run to [PVTUTrout@gmail.com](mailto:PVTUTrout@gmail.com)

## Tackle and Fishing Tips - Notes from Kirk Deeter

Winter fishing can be highly rewarding. It's possible to arrive at your favorite location and have the entire stream to yourself! Time to relax, soak in the outdoors and let the solitude wash away the worries of the day. You can also catch fish!

There are a couple of simple rules you can follow to increase your chance of hooking up this time of year: Slow Down; Size Down; Tone Down.



**Slow Down** - When water temperatures drop, the trout themselves slow down. Their metabolisms decrease. They become more lethargic. They don't chase flies as actively as they would when the water temperatures are in the ideal trout zone of 45 to 65 degrees. One way around that, of course, is to fish in tailwaters - the water released from those dams remains at a relatively constant temperature (usually in the 40s or 50s) throughout the whole year.

When trout are moving slow the angler should slow down as well. Rivers are usually at their lowest and clearest in midwinter. Bright-white, snow-covered banks reflect light and exaggerate shadows more. While winter trout typically aren't as "jumpy"

as they are in the summer, that doesn't mean they are much less spooky. Try to slow your pace and movements by at least 25 percent when you fish in the winter. Be careful where you stand so not to cast long shadows over the runs you target. Relax a bit, spend more time high on the riverbanks spotting fish before casting. If you can see and then specifically target trout, your odds of hooking up are exponentially greater than they are when blind casting in the winter.

**Size Down** - Fish with smaller flies in the winter, and most of your winter fly fishing is nymph fishing. At any time of the year, midges comprise more than 50 percent of a trout's diet. So these small insects are extremely important for anglers to understand and imitate in every season. But the midge game is especially important in winter, because there is not much mayfly or terrestrial activity going on.

Black Stoneflies are a good bet on our local streams. A little black stonefly is a good fly to have in your winter box. While these stoneflies share the same basic shapes and dark colors as their spring and summer counterparts, the winter insects are typically much smaller (like size 16 or smaller). You cannot go wrong in most streams fishing little black stoneflies and small midge patterns (like zebra midges, juju midges, and black beauties) the vast majority of the time.

Go smaller with your Strike Indicator: Never throw big, gaudy strike indicator in the winter. Instead, try using small pieces of yarn, pinch-on foam, or when the water is really low and slow, use a dry fly such as parachute Adams for an optional strike indicator.



**Tone Down** - Be Dull (Seriously): As a rule of thumb, winter demands duller, darker colors more

than any other season. That applies to everything-- from the flies you fish, to the colors you wear on your body. Typically, small black flies are best in winter. Tans, browns, and greens also tend to work well. Black or glass beads tend to work better for weighted flies. Put that bright Hawaiian shirt away until spring and summer, in winter wear white, black, tan, or sky blue. On a snowy riverbank, a bright red baseball cap is going to be a dead giveaway to the trout, and it could negatively impact your fishing.

## **Reminder – Get Your Tickets!!! Fly Fishing Film Fest – Nov 16th - NCCTU & PPTU**

**Get your tickets!** We are proud to jointly host this event with our friends at NCCTU.

Tickets are \$25 and if you get there early, there is a cash bar across the hallway from the theater that sells food and beer. [Tickets and Preview of IF4](#)

**AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center**  
8633 Colesville Road  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Doors open at 6:30 PM. Film begins AT 7:00 PM. Let's get a good PPTU crowd to show up for this event. More reminders to follow!

### **Shop at AmazonSmile**

and Amazon will make  
a donation to:

**Potomac Patuxent Chapter  
#236 of Trout Unlimited**

[Get started](#)



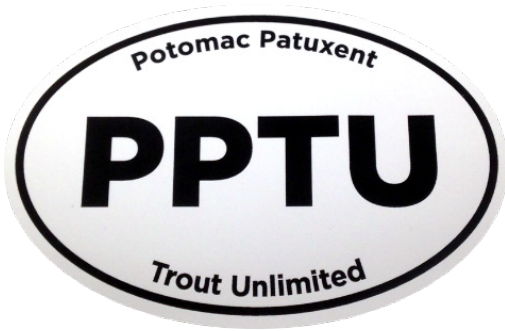
## **Annual Supporting Contribution (ASC) - Jay Sheppard**

September starts our annual cycle and now is the time to consider making your Annual Supporting Contribution (ASC). As a Chapter we are not allowed to require chapter dues or fees for membership. Along with other fund raising events, we therefore ask for a \$20 ASC each September, to



sustain the chapter's administration costs, educational programs, and community service projects including:

- Trout in the Classroom program that teaches primary & middle schoolers the importance of cold water fisheries to our environment.
- Support to TU fly fishing & conservation camps in Virginia and Pennsylvania, sponsoring attendance by high school students.
- Support of the Project Healing Waters program at Ft. Meade and Walter Reed that provides recreational activities to wounded warriors.
- Support the Mayfly Project for foster kids by being taught to fish and use fly rods.
- Free copies of the Conservationist for local fly shops, State agencies and other conservation organizations.
- Conservation projects that restore trout habitats in rivers & streams across Maryland.



You can make your ASC donation in several ways:

- At the next chapter meeting (whenever that might be) by cash or check.
- Go to [pptu.org](http://pptu.org) and use our PayPal portal: [Donate to PPTU](#)
- Mail a check payable to PPTU and send to our PO Box (see last page).

## Members Catch - Bob O'Donnell

Don't hesitate to share your adventures. Post a note and some photos to the PPTU forum. There should be some decent winter fishing coming up. Let's see some snow pics!



## Contributions & Questions Welcome!

Send your contributions, article suggestions or fly fishing questions to the Editor in an email or as an MS Word.doc attachment. The deadline for submissions is typically the twelfth (12th) day of the month prior to the month of publication.

**Editor: Bob O'Donnell**

Phone: 410-733-0638

Email: [TroutWrangler@Yahoo.com](mailto:TroutWrangler@Yahoo.com)



## Egg Patterns for Trout & Steelhead

No eggs in your fly box? Well, don't be caught with egg on your face when you're on stream chasing fish and they're eating up the eggs. Huge Fly Fisherman along with About Trout has taken a couple of easy patterns and unscrambled them for you in this joke filled video.

Thanks to Ben Sittig for another "eggcellently" entertaining video.

[2 Easy Egg Flies](#)



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