

# The Conservationist



PPTU.org

## Potomac-Patuxent Chapter Trout Unlimited

Sep 2018 • Published monthly except June, July, August and December

**\*Please note: the September meeting will be Wed. 9/26\***

## “What I did on My Summer Vacation: Travel/Fishing Photos by PPTU Members”

*Sep 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018*

Summer is about over and the kids will be going back to school spouting off about their many adventures to their teachers and friends. Many of us also took the time this summer to burn our vacation hours by celebrating the outdoors. As we get together for the first time in several months, the time has arrived for us to channel our inner child and show our friends and family PPTU members what we've been up to all summer.

The stories and photos all vary from close to home trips to wonders outside the states. Several members have jetted around the globe in search of relaxation, sightseeing, and the occasional elusive fish.

Come place yourself in the visual parade of travel and fishing from your fellow TU members. Kick back, grab some popcorn, ask questions or just relive some of the fascinating places our members are sharing.

If you wish to share your adventures, please send me your summer pics with location info: [singhkaranr@yahoo.com](mailto:singhkaranr@yahoo.com)

– *Karan Singh*

### Monthly Chapter Meetings

Time and Day: 7:00 PM, Third Wednesday except June, July, August and December  
Place: Margaret Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901  
DIRECTIONS TO THE SENIOR CENTER  
From Capitol Beltway: North on Georgia Avenue (Rte. 97). First Right on Forest Glen Road,  
then go past Holy Cross Hospital and across Sligo Creek Parkway. The Center is on the right.

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

## OFFICERS and DIRECTORS 2018 – 2019

President: Alan Burrows: president@pptu.org  
Past-President: Bob O'Donnell  
Vice-President: Position Open  
Treasurer: Bob Kaiser  
Secretary: Patrick Masler  
Directors: Randy Dwyer  
George Opryszko  
Karan Singh  
Motti Tadmor  
Chuq Yang

### Committee Chairs:

Fundraising: Rachel Dagovitz  
Forum Moderator: Chuq Yang  
Librarian: Lou Reichel  
Mentor Program: Ken Bowyer  
Membership Secretary: Jay Sheppard  
*Conservationist* Editor: Bob O'Donnell  
Outings: Lou Reichel: outings@pptu.org  
Speakers Program: Karan Singh  
Conservation Advocacy: Jim Keil  
Project Healing Waters: Larry Vawter  
Carl Smolka  
Publicity: Bob O'Donnell  
Raffles: Bob Kaiser  
Trout in the Classroom: Alan Burrows:  
Chuck Dinkel  
Water Quality: Carl Smolka  
Webmaster: Ken Bowyer  
Steve Fletcher  
Youth Program: Chuq Yang

### Stream Committees:

Paint Branch: Joe Robinson  
Northwest Branch: Joe Robinson  
Middle Patuxent: Bryan Sirotkin  
Patuxent: Jay Sheppard

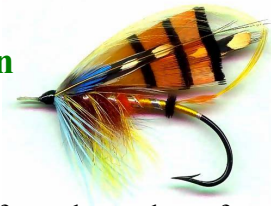
### Mid Atlantic Council Delegates:

Alan Burrows  
Bob Dietz  
Jim Greene  
Marc Hutzell  
Lou Reichel  
Carl Smolka  
Nick Weber: Secretary

### Contact Us:

mail@pptu.org

## Presidents' Column - Alan Burrows



A new year starts after a long slog of a summer. I would like to make this a year of inclusion. The board and I would like to encourage our membership to become more involved with everything we do whether its meetings, outings, conservation or youth education, By the way, if you have any stunning fishing pictures from your trip or trips, make sure to email them to Karan Singh so they can be included for our September meeting presentation of “What we did over the Summer”.

For those of you who stayed around, June was OK. Not really too hot, not too much rain, just a really nice month to fish. Then we got July and boy did it get hot and so did the water. Then we got torrential rainfall and muddy streams out of their banks. Tailwaters were high and hot. The poor Gunpowder spent several days with water well over 70 degrees. We can only hope that the fish were able to find a cool place next to a bank where they could hide out until normalcy returned. We can only hope that our wild and native trout survived the warm waters. Time will tell.

Now it is September and time to gear up for another great TU year. September will feature PPTU's one fly event, which may qualify someone to be a participant in TU's Mid Atlantic Council 2 fly event later that month. If you have access to a boat, September is a great month to fly fish for striped bass (rock fish) on the bay as schools of fish drive bait to the surface to feed. These fish may be under sized to keep but they are a blast to catch. I also understand that there is going to be a Lefty Celebration Day at Bass Pro at Arundel Mills September 8th.

I know that Lou Reichel is planning some great outings this fall. We really want to increase participation so we are encouraging everyone to come out with us and go fishing. These outings are fun and can be very educational. I'll bet we can even assign you a mentor for a day!

There are always conservation opportunities in the Fall. Whether it is clearing paths on the Patuxent or picking up litter on the river or near its bridges, there is always some work to be done. While for

some, this is not as much fun as fishing, it's a good thing to do and will make our streams healthier so please try to pitch in and help us keep our water clean. As these events get put on the calendar we will get them posted on our web page.

Speaking of web pages, many thanks to Ken Bowyer and Motti Tadmor for their continued efforts to move us into the digital age with grace and style. They are responsible to our web presence and out digital communications. If you have not noticed a difference over the summer than they will have met their goal of doing major updates without disturbing the flow of information. If you run into them on the stream or at a meeting, make sure to thank them.

As a chapter, we are committed to introducing youth to fishing. Chuq Yang is our Youth Education Chair and through him we have done several youth fishing activities. We continue to look for more chances to impact young people, introduce them to fishing and, eventually, fishing for trout. If you know of a youth group who would be interested in a fishing event, please let Chuq know. This could be any organization from a school, church or scout troop to a martial arts class (yes this was really one of our groups).

Speaking of education, Bob Dietz will be giving a special class this winter on tying wet flies. These little devils are amazingly effective for trout and they have to be the most productive method for prospecting for fish. There is still room to get into this class so contact Bob and let him know that you are interested.



There are several ways to become more involved with the chapter and its activities. In order to fund our conservation, education and philanthropic activities, (Casting for Recovery, Project Healing Waters, Mayfly Project, TU Youth camp) we need to raise funds. We have the start of a fund raising committee but we desperately need 2 or 3 new members to round out that committee. Since many hands make for light work, I encourage you to join this committee. Additionally, Bob Kaiser is still looking for a volunteer to run the bucket raffle at our meetings. This is a great opportunity to get to meet all the members who attend meetings.

Let's make this next year a great inclusive one. Make a commitment to go on an outing, help with conservation and youth education or get involved with fund raising so that we can continue or philanthropic endeavors.

Until next month, tight lines!

Alan Burrows  
President, PPTU



## **PPTU Mentor Program Beginners & Beyond**

Ken Bowyer 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. at 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 Ken at 301-627-7154 or by E-mail:  
[kenbowyer@verizon.net](mailto:kenbowyer@verizon.net) 🐝

## **Tackle and Tactics – Leaders - Bob O'Donnell**

We all do it... stand mesmerized in front of the wall of colorful leader packs at the fly shop wondering what to buy. It can leave you numb if you're not sure what you need.

Most leaders are tapered monofilament nylon, meaning they are a larger diameter at the butt end, which attaches to the fly line, and smaller in diameter at the tip, where the tippet or fly is tied.

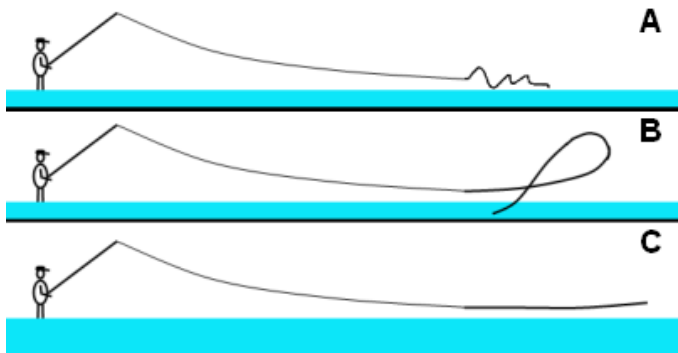
During the cast, the taper allows the leader to shoot through the air more efficiently, unroll, and rest softly on the surface of the water. Leaders come in different weights and strengths. The correct leader weight is primarily determined by the size of the fly.

Leaders come in various lengths and sizes to fit numerous fishing situations. The length of your leader mainly depends on the water conditions, not on the length of your fly rod. While it is easier to cast shorter leaders, especially in the wind, fish in shallow water are far more easily frightened by a fly line landing on top of them than a leader landing above them so use the longest leader you can comfortably cast.



For the beginner fly fisherman, a standard 9'5x leader is a good starting point. We'll talk tippet another day, for now what you're looking for is a leader that will turn over the fly you're using. Your leader should lay out

straight on a normal cast. (C) If you find it piling up or bouncing back, (A) its too short. If it doesn't unroll completely (B) its either too long or your fly is too heavy. To cure both, you simply add or subtract material length.



Leaders can be expensive, if you want to make your leaders last longer, you can add tippet to the leader as soon as it comes out of the package! That way, as you use up tippet by changing flies or cutting "wind knots," you are not shortening the leader until it's too thick at the end. So, if you want to fish a 9' 5x leader, for example, you can buy a 7½' 4x leader and add 18 inches of 5x tippet to it. When the tippet

starts getting short, you simply replace that part, leaving the leader intact.

General leader size guidelines:

- 6' Sinking fly lines of all types, panfish, bass, trout in tiny, brushy streams
- 7.5' Trout in streams from 10-20 feet wide, intermediate and sinking tip lines in lakes and saltwater conditions where the fish are not terribly spooky. Also streamer fishing for trout with big weighted flies.
- 9' Trout streams larger than 20 feet wide where the water is mostly riffled, or else the fish are not spooky. In salt water, fish in shallow water under bright, clear conditions.
- 12' Trout in lakes with floating lines. Trout in streams when the water is flat, low, or very clear
- 15' Spooky trout in extremely clear water in both lakes and rivers.

Next month we'll explore tippet material in detail, knots, and include some additional tips to make your fishing purchases last longer and work for you.



If you spot poaching please place a call to the

**Catch a Poacher Hotline**  
At  
**1-800-635-6124**



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





## 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 assess 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:

- Room rental for the monthly Chapter and board meetings at the Schwienhaut Center.
- 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.
- Free copies and mailing of the Conservationist for local fly shops.
- Conservation projects that restore trout habitats in rivers & streams across Maryland.

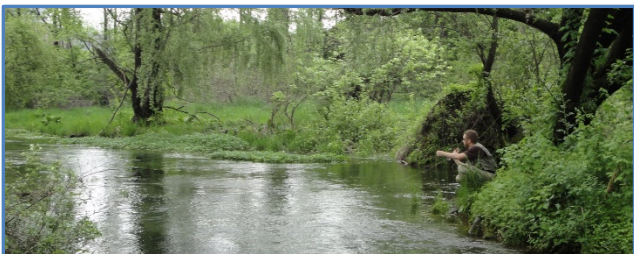
You can pay the ASC in several ways:

- At the next chapter meeting by cash, check, or credit card.
- Go to [pptu.org](http://pptu.org) and use our PayPal portal: <https://pptu.org/j-d/donate>
- Mail a check payable to PPTU to our PO Box (see last page).

Your contributions are most appreciated!

*"A man is the substance of the things he loves.  
The love of nature was passed on to me and I in  
turn am passing it along."*

~ Charles K. Fox, Dean of the LeTort



## PPTU Beer Tie - PPTU

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month. Old Line Wine Spirits and Bistro is our host. Stop by and check us out and try your hand at fly tying. We always have an extra vice and tools available for the curious or new tier.

**Old Line Fine Wine, Spirits and Bistro**  
11011 Baltimore Ave. Beltsville, MD 20705



<http://www.oldlinewine.com/>

## Why Volunteer for a TIC Event - Bob Kaiser

I received this from one of the Montgomery County teachers and I thought I should post it so that you understand why we do this. Be sure to check out the video.

Hi Everyone,

Thank you all so much for your volunteered time and effort during our trout release last Friday. This message is overdue and should have been sent last Friday upon our return. We truly appreciate the time you spent and the work you did to ensure a successful trout release event and instill an appreciation of ecology and outdoor recreational in each of our students.

As I escorted students from each station throughout the day, students would either directly share with me or I would overhear them with their friends saying "that was so awesome," "I'm asking my parents for a rod for my birthday," "that was so cool how they made the fly tie look like an actual fly," "I can't believe I touched a larva," and the list goes on and on. Our students truly enjoyed the entire experience and that is all thanks to the enthusiasm, passion, knowledge, (patience), and expertise that you brought last Friday.

On a side note, I currently have the unique opportunity to teach 8th grade sections as well as 6th grade sections and as I was speaking to my 8th graders about the trip, those who were involved two years ago shared their memories from their trip. This trip has the power to spark student interests in recreational fishing, ecological/environmental careers, and an overall use and appreciation of the outdoors.

I have attached a few great action shots that captured some of Friday's events. Two 6th grade students also put together and self-edited a video that they have posted at the link below.

<https://trouttalesofroom120.blogspot.com/2018/04/trout-release-field-trip.html>

We hope to remain in contact for future releases and events. Thank you again for everything you did to make last Friday a truly invaluable and memorable experience for our Julius West students.

Thank you,  
Chad Lenz and the 6th Grade Science  
Department of Julius West Middle School

## Shop Amazon Smile! - PPTU

Don't forget to shop Amazon Smile! Add the *Potomac-Patuxent Chapter* as your charity of choice to your Amazon account. If your company purchases through Amazon, ask them to help support us as well. Its free money to the chapter.

**Shop at AmazonSmile**  
and Amazon will make  
a donation to:  
**Potomac Patuxent Chapter  
#236 of Trout Unlimited**

[Get started](#)

**amazon**smile

## Colorful Fly Line Backing - Cheeky

For those of you looking for something different, love color, or just like to stand out in the crowd Cheeky Fishing is offering a colorful series of premium fly line backing. With a low friction, abrasion resistance fly line backing, you'll have the perfect foundation to help you tire out that trophy fish and look good doing it.

Available in high visibility orange, blue, green, pink, and purple, Cheeky's Premium Fly Line Backing comes in individual 250 yard, 20 lb spools for at home or in-store rigging.



<https://cheekyfishing.com/products/premium-fly-line-backing>

## The Mozart of Fly Casting - The New York Times

Maxine McCormick began fly casting when she was 9 years old. At 14, she has back-to-back world titles. In the five years since Maxine began fly casting — which she describes as “fly fishing without the fish” — she has become the sport's youngest champion. And on August 19th, at 14, she defended her accuracy title at the world championships in England with a score of 52 in the women's division — 21 points clear of the second-place finisher.



<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/19/sports/maxine-mccormick.html>



More here – Live interview with Maxine:  
[http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-](http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-lifestyle/maxine-mccormick-interview-august-2018/)



[lifestyle/maxine-mccormick-interview-august-2018/](http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-lifestyle/maxine-mccormick-interview-august-2018/)

## Fundraising Campaign for the Flood Damaged YBAC Nursery - Richard Lewis

To my fellow anglers,

The Yellow Breeches Anglers and Conservation Association's cooperative trout nursery suffered a devastating loss due to flooding of the raceways during our recent 10 inch deluge. When the 78° flood waters flooded the spillways thousands of trout died.

Please make a donation to YABC to help with the repairs to the trout nursery and to help YABC get back into trout production. Please consider donating!



<https://www.gofundme.com/flood-damage-to-ybac-nursery>

Thank you,

Richard Lewis  
Life member – Trout Unlimited  
Vice president – PFBC  
rlewis7575@aol.com  
Cell 301-452-4202

## International Fly Fishing Film Festival - NCC-TU

The National Capital Chapter of Trout Unlimited is proud to present, for the second year in a row, the Washington DC area showing of IF4: The International Fly Fishing Film Festival!

The International Fly Fishing Film Festival consists of short and feature length films produced by professional filmmakers from all corners of the globe, showcasing the passion, lifestyle and culture of fly-fishing.



IF4™ will be held at the Avalon Theater in Washington D.C. on Tuesday September 25th at 8:00 PM (Doors 7:30 PM). Tickets can be purchased for \$20 [online](#) and, if available, will be offered same day via the Avalon Theater box office.

**Date:** Tuesday, September 25th  
**Time:** 8:00 PM (Doors open 7:30)  
**Venue:** The AVALON THEATER DC  
**Address:** 5612 Connecticut Ave NW

<https://www.showclix.com/event/IF42018WASHINGTOND>

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual 2-FLY Tournament - Mid-Atlantic Council

Join us for the 2nd Annual Mid-Atlantic Council 2-FLY Tournament to be held on the Savage River, September 22, 2018. The tournament reception is

included with the tournament participant's entry fee and is also free to all tournament volunteers, judges, and officials.

Reception tickets for all other attendees are \$50.00 each and will feature an open bar (beer, wine and soft drinks) and lots of heavy hors d'oeuvres. The Two-Fly Tournament is to benefit the Council's conservation efforts. This is our major fundraiser.



### **Enter the Tournament**

Tournament is limited to 12 teams of two people. Entry fee is \$200.00 per person or \$400.00 per team. Please send fees and names of team members to:

Jim Gracie  
296 Edgemere Drive  
Annapolis, MD 21403  
410-303-3829  
[jgracie@brightwaterinc.com](mailto:jgracie@brightwaterinc.com)

### **Volunteers Needed:**

We'll need volunteer judges to accompany each team on the river. Judges document the catch! Please sign up to be part of this event! If you'd like to volunteer, contact Jim or your Chapter leaders.

Encourage your Chapter or business to sponsor a team or purchase a table.

## **Foster the Rise 2-Fly Tournament - The Mayfly Project**

Join us on October 28, 2018 for our first annual Foster the Rise Two-Fly Tournament. This event will take place at Rose River Farm, Syria, Virginia. This tournament and fundraiser will help us support our growing nationwide projects. Twelve (12) teams of two anglers will chase after trout on this pristine farm using only two flies of their choosing for the day.



Team registration is \$500 per team and each team member will receive gifts, food and drink for the day, great fishing on private water and satisfaction knowing that you are helping get foster kids out on the water! Additionally, each angler will have the potential to win some great prizes!

<https://www.themayflyproject.com/foster-the-rise-registration/>

## **Wade Rods: Fish Now. Pay Later. - Bob O'Donnell**

Found this in my In box one day and thought it was an interesting option for buying a rod. I don't know anything about the company but the concept was a unique selling point and caught my eye. Thought I would share it with our members.

All of their rods are available on subscription (or paid up front) and come with a 30 day Love It or Leave It Guarantee. If you don't love your new rod, send it back in 30 days and they'll refill your wallet!

All the reviews I saw were positive. If anyone checks this company out please post a note and review on the PPTU forum.

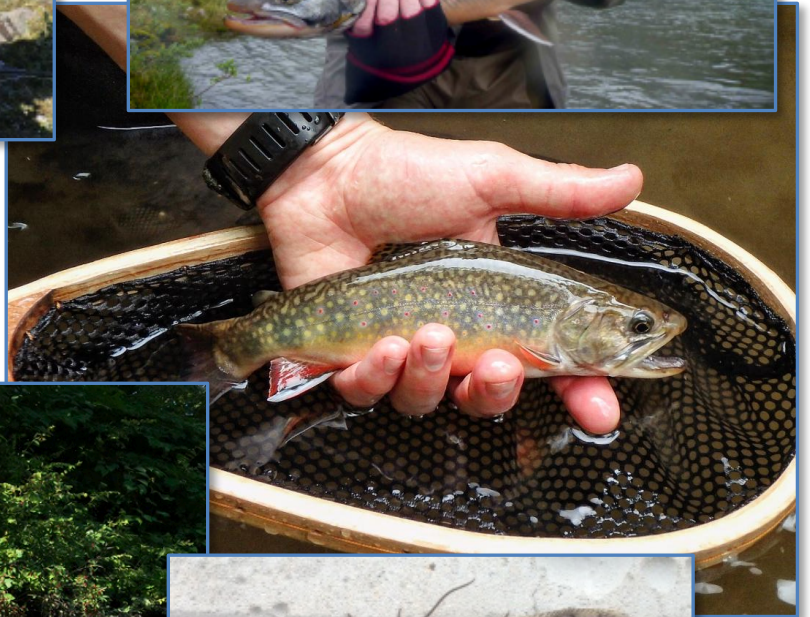
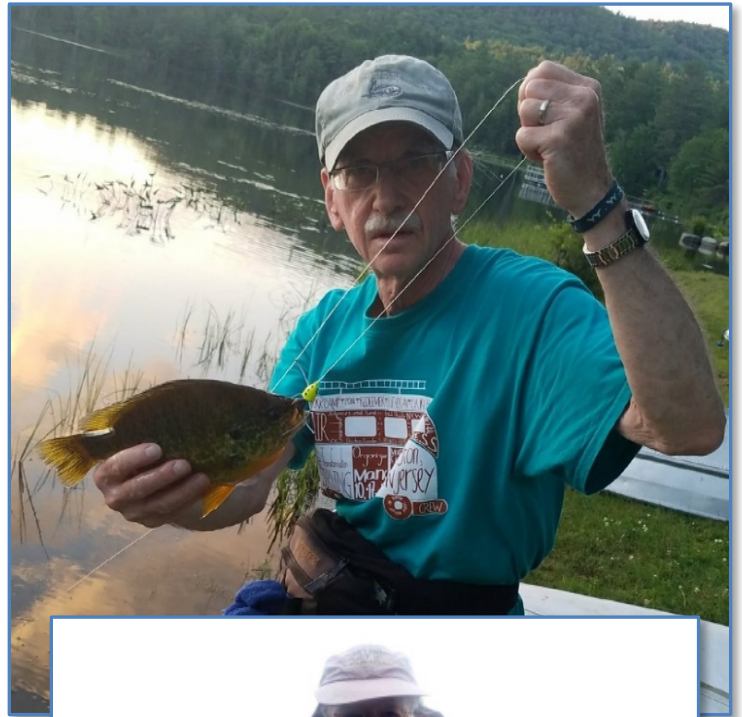
<https://www.thewaderodco.com/>





## Members Catch - PPTU

Folks were surely busy over the summer and submitted a ton of pictures. If you come to the next meeting, you'll see a lot more.



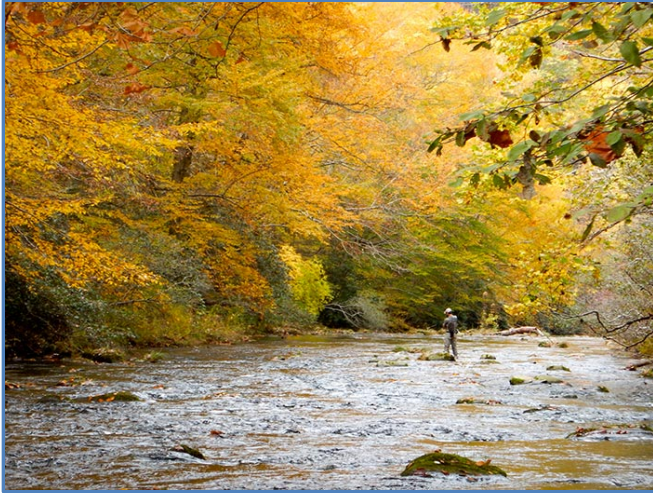


Contributions should be sent to the Editor as plain text in an email or as an MS Word.doc attachment. The deadline for submissions is the twelfth (12th) day of the month prior to the month of publication.

**Editor: Bob O'Donnell**

Phone: 410-733-0638

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



## Ask the Experts – Top 5 Fall Flies

Its getting close – FALL! Take a look at the experts top 5 fly list for Fall fishing and compare it with your own. Or use the list to build a box with your own favorite Fall fishing patterns.

<https://news.orvis.com/fly-fishing/ask-expert-top-5-fall-flies>



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