



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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October 2012

Number 10

NY/NJ Harbor Estuary

The NY/NJ harbor estuary includes the area from the Troy Dam down to Middlesex County, including most of north central and northeastern New Jersey and the lands on both sides of the Hudson River in New York and New Jersey. Most of the local streams and rivers with which we are familiar eventually flow into this estuary so its health is important to us.

The Harbor Estuary Program (www.harborestuary.org) a group that focuses on protecting and improving the estuary has issued its 2012 State of the Estuary. Here are some pertinent items from the report.

Habitat; threats remain but loss and degradation has slowed

Harbor Herons; disappeared by the 19th century but have returned with relatively stable populations.

Fishes; striped bass populations have recovered but American shad populations are at historic lows.

Climate Change; consequences of climate change could be catastrophic and will be worse if we fail to act; numerous efforts to mitigate and adapt are ongoing.

Nutrients and dissolved oxygen; oxygen killing nutrients have lessened but further reductions will require complex and ex-

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When: October 10 at 7:30 PM

Where: American Legion Hall
33 West Passaic Street
Rochelle Park, NJ

October's Speaker

Ryan Bunn

Autumn in the Aspens

Ryan is the manager of the fishing department of Ramsey Outdoor.



His presentation will cover bits of Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. According to Ryan fishing in the west post labor day is an excellent time to be there.

Welcome to
September's New Members



- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Davis Bock | Ridgewood |
| Paul Bogaards | Glen Ridge |
| William Doka | Saddle Brook |
| Gregory Kowtko | Bloomfield |
| Alexander Levchuk | Jersey City |

EJTU Calendar

If you wish to go on one of the fishing trips contact Ed Higgins at (easyedh@gmail.com) well in advance. If the trip requires reservations or other arrangements openings are often limited and the reservations must be made in advance.

Other events marked with an M are being sheperded by Rich Malizia. If you have questions or wish to volunteer contact Rich at 973-304-0789 or remqcp@optonline.net

Please consult EJTU's web site's "Upcoming Events" for the most up-to-date information and details.

Oct 10 [Wed] Members meeting, Speaker Ryan Bunn

Oct 12 [Fri]
Ramapo trout stocking by the State



Oct 16 [Tue] TIC egg deliveries

Nov 3 [Sat] Ramapo trout stocking by EJTU

Visit the East Jersey TU
web site for
up-to-the-minute
information, photos and links
to dozens of outdoors sites:

www.eastjerseytu.org

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Trout Unlimited
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Monthly General Member Meeting: The East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30PM.

Location: The American Legion Hall,
33 West Passaic St, Rochelle Park, NJ. 07662.

Monthly Board Meeting: Board Members of East Jersey Trout Unlimited meet on the last Thursday of each month at 7:30PM.

How to contact us: Website <http://www.eastjerseytu.org> Mailing Address: East Jersey Chapter, Trout Unlimited Box 366 HoHoKus, NJ 07423-0366
For Membership Information call Ken Barile at: 201-391-9214 or email to: kenbrile@optonline.net.
For Information on trips and other Chapter Activities go to www.eastjerseytu.org
For East Jersey and National Trout Unlimited information, visit our website at <http://www.tu.org>. Go to chapter number 091 and you will get the latest information about our chapter.
Riffles is your publication so we invite and encourage every member to contribute articles, tips, and stories. The articles may relate to trout, trout fishing, fishing in general or conservation but all articles are published at the discretion of the editors and should meet EJTU standards regarding protecting our environment and the merits of 'catch and release' techniques. Pseudonyms may be used but the editors must be informed of the name of the member who writes the article. Email to raycapp@optonline.net

Fall Stocking by the State



Huge, beautiful fish will be stocked beginning October 9.

The State's fall trout stocking program will begin on October 9 this year and on **Friday, October 12** the stocking truck will visit the **Ramapo River**.

The schedule calls for a solo truck to go from the hatchery directly to the Ramapo and to arrive at 9:30 AM but, if this changes, everyone will be alerted via an email and a posting on the EJTU web site.

We intend to float stock from Glen Gray Road if water conditions permit and, as usual, we will bucket stock other areas such as Drenth Drive and Halifax Road.

As usual there will be coffee and munchkins for the stockers.

Trout in the Classroom October 16, 2012 Egg Deliveries

On Tuesday October 16 EJTU will again deliver fertilized trout eggs to the schools in our area that take part in the Trout in the Classroom program.

George Petersen, who runs



EJTU's TIC program will drive to the Pequest Hatchery, pick up the eggs and then return to meet the volunteers at Willowbrook Mall. The volunteers will then deliver the eggs to local participating schools.

This is always a fun event because it only takes a couple of hours and the children tend to greet the deliveries like Santa Claus has just arrived.

We still need a few people to help out so contact George at grpetersen44@verizon.net and join the fun.

Fall Stocking by EJTU

After the State finishes its fall stocking program EJTU will again purchase trout and distribute them in the Ramapo River. Ken Vander Pyl already has our permit to stock the fish and has ordered them. Now all we have to do is to wait a month.

Our EJTU stocking date will be **Saturday, November 3, 2012**.

We schedule the EJTU stocking on a Saturday so members who cannot join us when the State stocks because of their work can join the fun.

In most years the fish that we put into the Ramapo in November stay in the area and are caught – and released – throughout the winter months.

Remember to keep the morning of Saturday, November 3 free so you can meet us at Glen Gray Road for coffee and to replenish the Ramapo's supply of trout. We will alert everybody via email as we get close to the date

The Blue Jay



From the October issue of Field and Stream magazine

"A blue jay can cache as many as 4,000 acorns – and find them months later most likely by triangulating from trees and other landscape elements. These birds may be the most important seed disperser for eastern oak trees"

Frost Valley Trip



Apparently September's trip to Frost Valley was successful, at least for Ken Barile. Here's Ken with a nice rainbow.

Ken also handled all of the arrangements for the camping and fishing trip to Connecticut's Housatonic River.

For the Deer Hunters

If you are one of the EJTU members who are also hunters and you're going to hunt for deer this season make sure that you know how to report your harvest. The check stations that were used in the past have been replaced by New Jersey's Automated Harvest Report System (AHRS). Instead of going to a check station you now call AHRS to report all of the necessary data.

Go to www.nifishandwildlife.com and at the center top of the page there is a note about the new reporting system. Click on this and you will be brought to a page that explains what has to be done to report your deer.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife

If you have further questions and are going to hunt in northern New Jersey Counties (Bergen, Essex, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex Union or Warren) call Dan Roberts the Regional Deer Project Biologist at (908) 735-7040

No-Shows On Trips

EJTU has experienced problems recently when people said that they were going to go on trips and then cancelled.

This is annoying and wasteful when the trip is a one day, local trip because quite often the organizer has bought food, coffee, etc. for the expected number of attendees. However, it is very costly to the Chapter when the trip is overnight and involves reservations and monetary deposits. The owners of the facilities do not return the deposits that are paid up front so EJTU's funds are needlessly depleted.

If you tell a trip organizer that you intend to take part in a trip please fulfill your commitment unless you have an emergency.

Dam Safety

In 2011 New Jersey had 1,676 dams, 575 of which had significant or high hazard potential (this refers to the consequences of failure, not condition of the dam), that were monitored by 13 employees. The budget was \$1,254,000.

No particular administration can be blamed since the numbers have remained relatively stable since 2005.

Want to know more about dams, not just in New Jersey, but in every State? The Association of State Dam Safety Officials has a web site that can tell you everything you want to know – www.damsafety.org

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pensive improvements.

Pathogens; improved wastewater treatment has reduced pathogens, improvement in streams without good tidal flushing will be slower, ongoing and planned effort should bring us closer to clean waters.

Toxic Chemicals; concentrations are decreasing slowly but much more work is needed.

Floatable Debris; may already be decreasing but more monitoring is needed to see if the trend is real.

Franklin Lakes Nature Preserve – Update



The lake usually attracts a nice assortment of migratory ducks which hang around for a few days on their way south. There are resident Canada geese and a pair of swans with this year's brood of five signets. I've watched these birds go from fluff balls to nearly full grown flight-ready young of the year. Their plumage is

still mostly gray. I enjoy watching them practice take offs and landings under the tutelage of the adult birds.

Since I last wrote about this little park, trail improvements were completed. The ankle grabbing low thorn bushes have been cleared and a bridge and a few elevated wood walkways have been added. Most of the trail is level but you have to watch out for some roots and rocks. Also, there must have been a sale on blaze markers because there is now a white blazed trail circumnavigating the lake and white markers seem to be on every other tree.

On the west side of the lake, there is a blue trail which takes you to some of the points of land that jut out into the main body of water. It is a dead end so you have to retrace your steps but it provides access to several fishing locations.



The summer heat turned the water green and it still has not cleared so the water is still off-color. There are always a few fishermen around the dam and I

have heard reports of a few big bass and carp being caught but I've not seen many hardcore types. Most of the fishermen seem to just poke around for a while and go home.

It should be a pleasant place to take the family for a walk to enjoy the changing leaf colors since a picnic area on the east side of

The path on the west shore is close to the lake and provides excellent viewing of water fowl.

the dam and a port-a-john in the parking lot make it a bit more family friendly.

So, take a hike!

Limp leader



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