



Riffles

The Monthly Newsletter of the
East Jersey Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Volume 43

September 2012

Number 9

The Young Forest Project

Discussing forests in a Trout Unlimited newsletter (or cats, as on page 3) might seem to be off-topic but, after wandering through life for a while, fewer things seem to be stand alone entities; there appear to be too many interrelationships, sometimes subtle sometimes very evident, to be ignored.

Most of us probably see mature forests as related to our cool water interest because these forests provide shade, they filter water, they absorb water and CO2 while exuding oxygen and they are the home to a lot of fish food – the many terrestrial insects (I wonder when someone will start “Crickets Unlimited”). But what about that waist-high tangled mess of bushes, vines, young trees and weeds that pops up when a mature forest disappears after fire, flood or clear-cutting? Is it worth anything?

In a new book from the Wildlife Management Institute, *Under Cover: Wildlife Shrublands and Young Forrest*, Meghan Gilbert describes young forest ecosystems and explains how critically important they are to wildlife. While mature forests support some wildlife, young forests are needed by an array of wildlife whose populations have declined in recent years.

Young forests spring up in almost any opening and, in my experience, are either ignored or

When: September 12 at 7:30 PM

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

September's Speaker

Joe Fusco

Alaska on a Budget

Did you ever want to take the big trip to Alaska so you could fish for those big salmon that you heard about? Of course you thought about it but you probably felt that it was too expensive.

Joe Fusco has made several trips to Alaska and has learned how to do it as inexpensively as possible

His talk at our meeting may cause you to think again about heading Northwest.

Welcome to August's New Members



Matthew Berge Haledon
Michael Marucci Hillsborough

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.

Summer/Fall
[Dates TBA]
planting along
Cresskill
Brook



- Sep 14/16** Frost Valley trip
- Sep 15** [Sat] LL Bean event at Paramus Park
- Sep/Oct?** Weir repair & Rock Propping (Depends on water level)
- Sep 22** [Sat] Nat'l Hunting & Fishing Day; Congers Lake, NY
- Sep 28/30** Camping/fishing Housatonic River

People who fish for food, and sport be damned, are called pot fishermen. The more expert ones are called crack pot fishermen.

All other fishermen are called crackpot fishermen.

This is confusing

**East Jersey Chapter
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

EJTU 2012 Fly Tying Classes

Ten Tuesday Nights 7-10 PM

Westbrook Middle School (Cafeteria), Paramus, NJ

Classes Tuesdays, September 25 to November 27

Fee: \$70

Register On-line at: <http://www.ssreg.com/paramus/>

Enter SR13 in the search box.

Beginners will learn the techniques and materials needed to tie trout flies. Patterns will include a selection of nymphs, streamers, wet and dry flies. Students will gain the basic understanding needed to tie flies that will catch fish. Beginners will be supplied with tools, all materials and a Fly Tying Course syllabus. Beginner's material fee is \$20.00 payable to instructor at the first class.

Intermediate students will learn additional techniques and patterns to advance your understanding of the basic materials and techniques learned in the beginner's course. Intermediates

must supply their own materials.



All instructors are volunteers from East Jersey Trout Unlimited with many years of experience in the art of fly tying. The class is divided into small groups of two to four persons per instructor.

**Trout in the Classroom
Egg Deliveries**

Next month EJTU will again deliver fertilized trout eggs to the schools in our area that take part in the Trout in the Classroom program. We don't know the date yet (last year's deliveries were on Wednesday, October 26, 2011) but, when the State coordinator tells George Petersen, we will ask for help.

George, 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 participating schools.

This is always a fun event because the children tend to greet the deliveries like Santa Claus has just arrived. Look for the notice and come out and help George and the kids.



**National Hunting and
Fishing Day**

Saturday, September 22, 2012 is National Hunting and Fishing Day and we have been invited to take part in the celebration that will take place at Congers Lake, NY. The event will be held rain or shine

We will need a few people to hand out our literature, show people how to fly cast (if there is enough room) and generally talk to visitors about Trout Unlimited and our conservation efforts.

Congers Lake is in Clarkstown, NY so it is nearby and easy to get to. We will set up at 9 AM and will be finished by mid-afternoon.

If you have a few free hours and can help us, contact Ray Cappock at raycapp@optonline.net.



New Research Suggests Outdoor Cats Kill More Wildlife Than Previously Thought

A study released this month by The Wildlife Society and the American Bird Conservancy suggests that nearly one-third of free-roaming house cats are capturing and killing wildlife, reports the Wildlife Management Institute. Conducted by the University of Georgia, in partnership with the National Geographic Society's Crittercam program, the study attached "KittyCams" to 60 outdoor house cats near Athens, Georgia. The cameras recorded their outdoor activities during all four seasons with study participants averaging five to six hours outside every day.

"The results were certainly surprising, if not startling," said Kerrie Anne Loyd of the University of Georgia, who was the lead author of the study. "In Athens-Clarke County, we found that about 30 percent of the sampled cats were



successful in capturing and killing prey, and that those cats averaged about one kill for every 17 hours outdoors or 2.1 kills per week. It was also surprising to learn that cats only brought 23 percent of their kills back to a residence. We found that house

cats will kill a wide variety of animals, including: lizards, voles, chipmunks, birds, frogs, and small snakes."

The finding that cats are only bringing back less than one quarter of their kills to their residence counters previous studies that tried to gauge the impacts of domestic cats on wildlife. Those earlier estimates of a billion birds and animals per year were based on mortality counts from animals that the cats brought home with them. The KittyCams showed that nearly half of the time (49 percent) cats would leave the prey at the capture site and 28

percent were eaten and never brought home. The new study does not take into consideration the impacts of the estimated 60 million feral cats that roam the United States. A University of Nebraska study from 2010 states

that cats have been responsible for the extinction of 33 bird species worldwide.

"If we extrapolate the results of this study across the country and include feral cats, we find that cats are likely killing more than 4 billion animals per year, including

at least 500 million birds. Cat predation is one of the reasons why one in three American bird species



are in decline," said Dr. George Fenwick, President of American Bird Conservancy.

The researchers also found that the cats were engaging in risky activity. The study found that 45 percent of the cats crossed roads and 20 percent each entered crawlspaces and storm drain systems where they could become trapped. In addition, 25 percent of the study cats interacted with strange cats increasing the potential for fights or disease transmission. Eighty-five percent of the project cats exhibited at least one risk behavior with male cats and younger cats being more likely to take risks.

As a result of the risk behaviors and the higher than anticipated predation, the researchers developed a brochure for cat owners with an overview of the findings and recommendations for cat owners.

September Fly of the Month

Hopefully the dog days of summer are behind us and the weather will start to cool off and the fishing will improve.

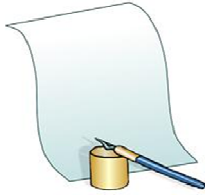
Early in the month we should still see Tricos in the morning and have plenty of action on Terrestrials. Isonychias and a few different Blue Wing Olives should also be around.

Because of the summer's low water levels many of us didn't get to fish the Trico hatch yet and are still hoping to do so.



Have Your Say

Do you have an interesting story about fishing, conservation, EJTU or anything outdoorsy? Why not write it up and have it published in a future issue of Riffles.



We welcome your submissions and would really like to put more member-written articles in Riffles but it seems that our members

are reluctant to send their stories to us.

No sex, politics or religion but you may lie all you like when writing about your obviously fantastic fishing exploits. If you can't quite get your article to sound right, send it anyway and we will try to edit it for you.

**Visit the East Jersey TU
web site for
up-to-the-minute
Information:

www.eastjerseytu.org**

The Young Forest Project

(Continued From Page 1)

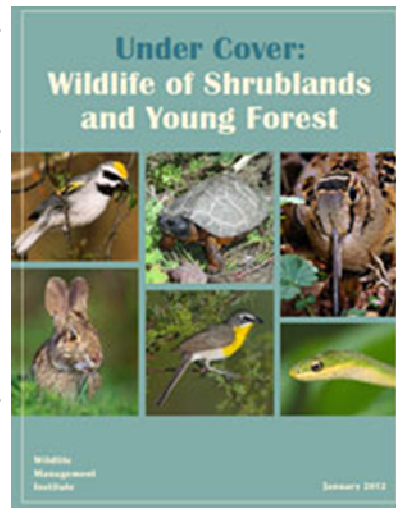


looked down on because they have none of the beauty of a stand of tall trees that guard an expanse of leaf-covered open ground. But, that's the problem! That stretch of beautiful, shaded and open forest doesn't supply the low growing berries and plants that provide both food and cover for rabbits, birds and small animals; and if the rabbits and other small animals are absent, so are the predators such as snakes and bobcats. Even larger mammals like deer have to have low growing cover to hide their offspring until they are self-sufficient.

The Wildlife Management Institute has developed a new website that explains young forests, describes and has photographs of the animals that need them and has links to other information about the Young Forest Project. The URL is

<http://www.youngforest.org/>

Meghan Gilbert's 92 page book *Under Cover: Wildlife Shrublands and Young Forrest* will be published as a soft cover book but you may download a free pdf of the same book from the home page of the Young Forest Project's web site.



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