



Madmen Chapter #477

2015 Accomplishments

Conserving, protecting and restoring Ohio's cold water fisheries and their watersheds

PROTECT

- Working to improve the Adopt-A-Bridge/Stream Watch Program and working to identify volunteers and post on the web site. Conducted litter cleanup at selected bridges.
- Supported watershed protection in coordination with the Mad River Watershed Joint Board and Advisory Group as well as the Scenic Mad River Committee (SMRC). Mad River Watershed Joint Board submitted the revised Watershed Action Plan to ODNR & Ohio EPA but denied endorsement for lack of action items.
- Coordinated with ODNR-Div. of Wildlife on its 4 year Ohio Brown Trout Study and follow-up fishing survey.
- Conducted 4 stream monitoring events at 6 locations within the Mad River Watershed.
- Participated in stream monitoring events with sister TU chapter (Clear Fork River TU) on Apple Creek, Wooster, OH.
- Working with watershed groups, including the Grand, Ashtabula and Conneaut Partnership, and other organizations and agencies, related to protecting Ohio's steelhead and trout fisheries, as well as the Ohio native brook trout. Attended the ODNR trout and steelhead summits.
- Involved with national TU workgroups, including the Great Lakes and Responsible Energy workgroups, in an effort to protect cold water fisheries. Also, supporting TU on national issues.

RECONNECT

- Continued to work on establishing ground water monitoring in the Mad River watershed.
- Continued to evaluate opportunities to protect Mad River headwaters and potential spawning areas.

RESTORE

- Planning for section 2 of the "In-stream Habitat Improvement Project" on over 200 feet of Mad River below Pimtown Road Bridge.

SUSTAIN

- Planned and participated in the TU Ohio State Council Annual Meeting.
- Attended the TU national annual meeting in Scranton Pa.
- Planned and conducted the Madmen Chapter Annual Meeting in Urbana. Board Meetings
- Continued the "Trout in the Classroom" program in the Benjamin Logan School District as well as Graham, West Liberty-Salem, Bellefontaine, Riverside School Districts and Urbana University for 2014-2015. Northwestern Middle School near Springfield joined us this year. Graham Elementary added another aquarium.

- Board members worked with local cub scouts from Urbana, Ohio enabling them to earn merit badges for fly fishing and fly tying activities.
- Participated in “River Days” programs for Bellefontaine Middle Schools and Graham Elementary by demonstrating river habitat (QHEI) assessment, aquatic insect monitoring, fly casting, trout fishing and the variety of fishes in the Mad River.
- Offered fly tying and casting classes for an afterschool program at Benjamin Logan Elementary Schools.
- Helped sponsor the Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T) in Columbus with all proceeds going to the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF) program.
- Shannon Mayes teacher and coordinator for the Gallipolis TU Teen Fly Fishing Club conducted fly fishing instruction and outings for about 25 middle school students. Shannon and Tom Allen provide transportation for Zach Test, past student of the program who recently graduated high school, to the TU Teen National Summit at Western Carolina University, where he represented Ohio TU.
- Presented information on TU and the Madmen Chapter to the Gallipolis TU TEENS.
- Continued PHWFF program with the Columbus and Chillicothe VA centers that included 11 *Fly Fishing 101 Basics* workshops, 12 fly tying workshops, eight fish outings on private and public waters including a combined PHWFF program event at the ODNR Castalia fish hatchery. PHWFF volunteers contributed 755.5 hours to support activities benefitting veterans with disabilities. Activities included education on TU activities including conservation and catch and release.
- Supported and coordinated with other Ohio TU Chapters, fly fishing clubs and conservation groups and organizations.
- Continued to improve communications and public relations with redevelopment of the web site by new administrator Mike Isovitsch and created social media websites for Facebook (administered by Kristin Allen-Lawson), Google+ and Twitter and added links to the tumadmen.org site as well as a link to our national website TU.org.
- Continued outreach through participation at events such as the BUFF-Greater Cincinnati Fly Fishing Show, WSU-Adventure Summit, Clark County Fair, F3T Film Festival, etc.
- Support for Casting for Recovery through Fly Tying, Patch Creation and Guiding during Retreat.
- Communication with Membership, TU’s “Lines to Leaders”, email correspondence and meetings.
- Formalization of TU Teen Chapter in Gallipolis, work on Non-Profit status and work on Mad River Easement issues.