

### Annual Park Litter Pick Up Saturday, April 30



Invite a friend to come and wet a line next Saturday, April 30 in the Park. But first help us help GSMNP by participating in our annual litter pickup along River Road. Enjoy a day in the mountains and do some good at the same time.

We'll meet at Metcalf Bottoms picnic area at 9:00 a.m. and then split up to cover as much of the road as possible. The fun doesn't stop there, however. Lunch will be served back at Metcalf Bottoms around noon. Then, if you happen to have brought along a friend, a rod or both, then it's an opportune time to try your luck.

### No Meeting This Month!

Our annual trash pick up will serve as our monthly meeting in April. There will not be a regular Thursday night meeting this month. Our normal meeting date is the fourth Thursday of the month. We'll be gearing up for Trout Fest 2011 next month. Join us there!

### Smallies On A 4 Weight

Our thanks to Josh Pfeiffer with Frontier Anglers for a great program on fishing our local rivers for smallmouth bass, carp and other great prey on light tackle. At our March meeting, Josh, an experienced local angler and guide, gave our chapter several good tips on how to adjust your technique according to the season and water levels. Learn more about his outfit at their website <http://frontieranglerstn.com/>. Also, thanks to Joe McGroom for organizing the presentation.



### Hot Off The Presses!

The first issue of The Troutfest Journal is out and it's a beauty. Neil Smith has put together a



showcase vehicle defining Troutfest and extending the festival's awareness beyond its tents and pavilions and into the homes of its many visitors. The issues are now on sale at local outfitters and will be available at the festival for \$5 each. Be sure to make one of these your own!



Students in one of several Phi Beta Phi School classes learn fly tying

Ken Henderson demonstrates tying techniques to a class at Phi Beta Phi School

## Phi Beta Phi School Kids Learn Ecological Lessons



More than 100 kids got the opportunity to learn fly tying, casting and get on-river experience thanks to volunteers and the National Parks curriculum at Phi Beta Phi school in Gatlinburg.

Organized largely by Ken Henderson and Tom Eustis, this is an ongoing annual effort to familiarize young men and women with fishing ecology and aquatic entomology.

About 9 volunteers, including Henderson, Stan Smart, Rufus King, John Skinner, Charlie Chmielewski, Dan Holloway and myself from LRCTU, guided students through tying their own fly and casting techniques on March 21 and 23.

The students, all teens, later had the opportunity to test their knowledge and their flies with an on-stream experience.

Teachers and kids showed genuine enthusiasm toward assembling a presentable insect lookalike. Multiple classes, with about 30 students each, set their hooks in tying stations and gathered pieces quill, feather and thread, to ready for the task. On Monday, Henderson and Chmielewski, demonstrated tying while students tried to emulate the steps. Nine vol-

unteers may seem like a lot for 30 kids at a time, but each of us had our hands full in going desk-to-desk to provide help.

Teachers and students were appreciative of the effort and several thanked us personally. This was just as rewarding for us as volunteers to see the interest in these young people. When the opportunity arises, it's volunteer time well spent.

### Flash!

**Tuesday, May 17** is the re-scheduled date for the on stream class affected by bad weather. The ideal would be one guide for each student, so we can use a lot of help. This is a great opportunity to introduce young people to fly fishing and trout conservation.

Volunteers should meet at Metcalf Bottoms picnic area at 8:00 AM. If possible, please bring one or more rod and reel outfits, and any spare waders that you would not mind a student using.

If you can help, please call or e-mail Ken Henderson (865-310-4959, [kensfly-fishin321@gmail.com](mailto:kensfly-fishin321@gmail.com)).



Troutfest 2011 is fast approaching. A lot of activity has begun in the waning moments by all the folks who have been doing the planning and advance preparation. This includes the Troutfest committee and related helpers.

Underground power has been installed into the middle of the outdoor exhibition area and a new gate erected to help with parking and traffic flow into the event. Exhibitor booths now are sold out.

Auction items that will be up for bid at the Friday night banquet include: One week at Bone Ami-Bone Armour-a private beachfront retreat, Abaco Island, Bahamas-accomadations for 4 couples or a family of 11; 12 dozen Smoky Mountain Candy flies tied by Walter Babb; a Freedom Hawk Kayak; a great selection of rods and reels; several guided trips; gear from Fishpond, Chota and Orvis; and a selection of photos and art-work.

Also, this will be the first year that a commemorative, genuine Case Troutfest knife will be available. There is a limited supply of these and they are likely to go fast, so I'd make plans to get one as early as possible.



## Brook Trout Tissue Collection for Genetic Study

Two to three volunteers are needed each day (**May 16, 18, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27**) to help with electro-fishing to collect brook trout at various Park locations. Meet at Park Headquarters at 8:00 AM. Travel to sample locations in Park vehicles.

This is moderately strenuous work that will require some hiking and a lot of movement on stream with the sampling team. Please note that the Park Service will treat your waders and boots to ensure no didymo is carried into the brook trout waters. This treatment is quick and will not harm your equipment in any way.

If you want to help with any of these days, please call or e-mail Charlie Chmielewski (865-661-7325, [charlieflyfish@gmail.com](mailto:charlieflyfish@gmail.com)).

### Volunteers needed for on-stream work in May 2011

Volunteers are needed for a number of important on-stream projects in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in May 2011. Based on the number of days of work and total volunteers we can really use your help!



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\*\* IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE FAMILY PARTICIPATION, STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 16  
MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT\*\*

## Fishing Report:

Hiwassee River Update...We have a great spring situation occurring on the river now. TVA is doing some work to the penstock in Apalachia Lake so we are getting a constant flow from the dam which is the equivalence of between one and two turbines. This should persist through April and is a perfect flow to fish the upper river from the powerhouse to Reliance and the middle section. We very rarely have these flows. I believe it has been about eight years since the last opportunity. We have Hendricksons with caddis mixed in turning to Sulphurs late April into May.

Based on our winter and early spring weather summary, we are set up for one of the best seasons in east Tennessee. We had a good cold winter with rain and snow which provided us a stable supply of cold water for our mountain trout streams and a cold water reserve in our reservoirs. We have had an extremely wet March which has given us quick lake fill in the TVA reservoirs. So, we should have good stable and predictable flows for spring into summer. Combine all of that with the fact that our trout went through minimal stress last summer and fall and it all adds up to some good rod bending in 2011.

Little River is looking splendid. The flow is about normal for this time of year. The water temperature was 60 degrees at 8:15 am on Monday, April 25.

Fishing conditions in the Park could not be better. The flow and temperature are perfect. There are plenty of aquatic insects on the rivers at times. I talked to one guy this weekend who did not encounter any hatches and reported the fishing to be slow. I suggested he go back and fish until dark on the West or Middle Prongs of Little River. You will surely see bugs on the water then and trout slurping them down.

I would probably use a Parachute Adams, Yellow Stimulator or another Yellow Sally Stonefly pattern for a dry. Especially late in the day trout will be taking those. Try to concentrate your efforts in choppy water and in the shade. Fish early and late. Get a good drift and stay hidden.

(Compiled from web reports: [www.southeasternanglers.com](http://www.southeasternanglers.com) , [www.littleriveroutfitters.com](http://www.littleriveroutfitters.com))



The Little River Chapter of Trout Unlimited is a Non-Profit Volunteer Organization that is Committed to Protecting and Restoring Cold Water Resources and Watersheds in and Around the Great Smoky Mountains National Park