

Hickory NC Trout Unlimited

May 2017 Newsletter



Visit us on Facebook at [Hickory NC Trout Unlimited Chapter 032](#)

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello to All Chapter Members...

Staying involved in your local chapter is a great way to support TU and learning how we all have a stake in protecting and conserving our cold water resources and preparing the way for future generations. Your TU membership is greatly appreciated but we also need local involvement to keep our chapter strong and have the human resources to provide fun and educational programs. One being Kid's Fly Fishing Day at the Wilson Creek Visitors Center on June 3rd... if you can help let us know.

Want to stay informed... you have two great resources- our local newsletter editor, Chick Woodward, provides informative and educational information monthly about many interesting topics and the national TU newsletter at www.tu.org, is full of information that will keep you current on key subjects, i.e., Public Lands. All directed toward reaching the mission of TU.

If Fly Fishing is your passion... get involved in your chapter. You will be glad you did.

Fish Tales... Gary

MAY MEETING

When: Tuesday, May 16

Where: Elks Lodge in Downtown Hickory
356 Main Avenue NW

Speaker: Eric Boyd... Jackson Kayak Fishing Team

Program:

6:00 – 6:15 Meet and Greet/ Raffle Ticket Sales

6:15 - 6:30 Brief Announcements

6:30 - 7:45 Tips for Successful Kayak Fishing

7:45 - 8:00 Raffle/Door Prizes... Conclusion

At each monthly meeting this year we will be giving away a Chapter T-shirt. A random member's name will be drawn and listed in the monthly newsletter. To win the shirt you must be present at the meeting. May's winner is **Kelly Hurley**. Congratulations, I hope we'll see you at the meeting to receive your prize.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

I fish because I love to; because I love the environs where trout are found, which are invariably beautiful, and hate the environs where crowds of people are found, which are invariably ugly; because of all the television commercials, cocktail parties, and assorted social posturing I thus escape; because, in a world where most men seem to spend their lives doing things they hate, my fishing is at once an endless source of delight and an act of small rebellion; because trout do not lie or cheat and cannot be bought or bribed or impressed by power, but respond only to quietude and humility and endless patience; because I suspect that men are going along this way for the last time, and I for one don't want to waste the trip; because mercifully there are no telephones on trout waters; because only in the woods can I find solitude without loneliness; because bourbon out of an old tin cup always tastes better out there; because maybe one day I will catch a mermaid; and, finally, not because I regard fishing as being so terribly important but because I suspect that so many of the other concerns of men are equally unimportant - and not nearly so much fun.

-Robert Traver (From The Anatomy of a Fisherman)

1ST ANNUAL WILSON CREEK KID'S DAY

The first, of what we hope to become an annual event, Wilson Creek Kid's Day will be held on Saturday June 3. The program was planned to coincide with the first day of Hatchery Supported trout fishing on the Delayed Harvest section of the stream. That first day, only children under the age of 16 are allowed to fish before noon.

The program will begin at 11:00 AM and continue until 3:00 PM. It will include a light lunch, casting demonstrations and bugs in the stream. There will also be fly tying and knot tying demonstrations. We have volunteers for all but the knot tying demonstration and could use your help. Only a couple knots like the clinch and surgeon knots need to be shown. Please contact Zan Thompson at HkyNCTUveep@gmail.com.

Plan to bring along your kids, grandkids, neighbor's kids, or any one you think would enjoy it. We will also need some general help with meals clean up, etc. so please chip in when you get to the event.



Trout Unlimited Hickory Chapter

Kid's Fly-Fishing Day

Introduction to Fly-Fishing and Fly-Tying for Families

When: **Saturday, June 3, 2017**
Time: **11 AM till 3 PM**
Where: **Wilson Creek Visitor Center**

EVENTS:

Fly-tying Basics
Fly Casting Instruction
Reading the Water to Find Fish
Entomology (Bugs in the Stream)
Fly-Fishing Knots
Trout Identification
and More!



Free Hotdog & Drink
For First 100
Registered Kids

Drawing for a **Free Fly-Rod** suitable for youth
Must be in 6th through 10th Grade or Age 11 to under 16 to register
Register on-site the day of the event

Free T-Shirt for the First 100 Registered Kids
Must be in 6th through 10th Grade or Age 11 to under 16 to register



See you at Wilson Creek Visitors Center June 3rd!

For More Information: HkyNCTU.org or on Facebook @nwctu
For Questions: HkyNCTUveep@gmail.com

Trout Unlimited Hickory Chapter meets 6 PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Elks Lodge in Downtown Hickory, 356 Main Avenue NW.

2017 FLY FISHING FILM TOUR

Plans are being developed to host the annual Fly Fishing Film Tour (F3T) at our annual fund raiser this fall. The program will be held at the SALT Block in Hickory on Monday, October 23. The program will begin with refreshments in the Art Museum and then move to the auditorium for the movie. Watch future newsletters for the details.



HICKORY NC TU LOGO GEAR

The Hickory Chapter now has an account at **Lands' End** for clothing and other items with our logo. There are frequent discounts available you can sign up for by going to <https://business.landsend.com/> and signing up. To access the account go to:

<https://business.landsend.com/store/hkynctu/>

DELAYED HARVEST OPTIONS

Our home stream and probably the closest to us is Wilson Creek and that's where almost all of us fish. But as they say, *variety is the spice of life*, and we do have several other options nearby as close. In the next several issues we'll talk about those other streams.

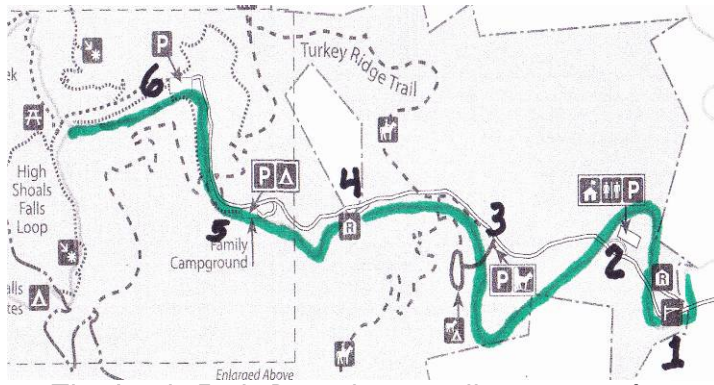
JACOB FORK RIVER

Jacob Fork River delayed harvest is located entirely within the South Mountains State Park. Only a small amount of the park is accessible by car on the eastern side. There is a very large back country section to the west that has some good wild trout streams if you're young and like hiking, but fortunately for those of us past our hiking prime, Jacob Fork runs along the park entrance road.

My visit to the park was scheduled as part of the River Bend TIC release. On my way there I made one important discovery. If you are heading to South Mountains State Park you better have a GPS or a good map. There were at least a half dozen turns on back country roads before you arrive there. The park address is 3001 South Mountain Park Avenue in Connelly Springs,



NC. If you plug that address into your GPS it will get you there.



The Jacob Fork River has excellent access for fishing and I found several easy access parking areas.

1. The river crosses the access road at the main gate and there is parking just outside the gate. The delayed harvest starts at the park boundary.
2. The Visitor Center parking lot is a close access to the river and there is a pool behind the center that provides good fishing.

3. Just a short way into the park is a horse trailer parking area and the river is just a short distance from the parking lot.



4. A little bit farther up the road is the ranger residence. You aren't allowed to park on the residence side, but there are parking places right across from the entrance. From there it's a couple hundred feet to the river. There is a good pool just upstream from the ranger's residence.

5. Just beyond the family campground is the Cicero Branch Parking area. The stream runs along the length of the parking area just a few feet from the pavement.



6. At the end of the road is the main parking lot. Again the river runs right along the edge of the



pavement, providing easy access. At the upper end is a bridge across the river. The delayed harvest continues by trail for about a half mile up-stream. In a couple years this will be a great place to fish. Right beside that tree in the photo are 76 little fingerling trout released by the kids from River Bend Middle School.

Next time you're planning a day of fishing, think about giving the Jacob Fork a try. It's as close to us as any other stream, has easy access, and since it is inside the park boundaries is likely to have less poaching and therefore more fish.

TIP OF THE MONTH

Many years ago I was taught to thread the line through the guides on my fly rod by taking the tip of the leader and running it up the rod. As you pass the leader through a guide, its transparency makes it difficult to see the tip to grab and continue pulling or you grab the tip and a knot or tangle



somewhere down the line pulls back and you have to start all over again. It wasn't until maybe ten years ago someone showed me a much easier way.

Pull a length of the fly line out of the reel to just a little more than the length of your fly rod. For

instance, if you have a nine foot rod, pull out about ten feet. Fold the fly line over just below where the tippet starts and then thread the loop in the fly line up through the guides. It makes it very easy to see and give you something substantial to grab on the other side of the guide.

If you are young and dexterous with great eyes, you can probably do it just fine the old way, but as your eyes get older and your fingers get stiffer, I promise you'll love this method.

WHIRLING DISEASE

Whirling disease has been discovered in North Carolina in both the Watauga River near Foscoe and the Elk River near Blowing Rock. (Note this



not Elk Creek NE of Lenoir that many of us fish.) Whirling disease can be devastating to the trout and with it this

nearby, we need to do all we can to keep it from spreading. The following guidelines for fishermen have been issued by the NCWRC:

CLEAN equipment of all aquatic plants, animals, and mud

DRAIN water from boats, live wells, and equipment

DRY equipment thoroughly

NEVER MOVE fish, plants, or other organisms from one body of water to another

WILSON CREEK STOCKING

On Tuesday, May 2 the third stocking of the spring season will take place at Wilson Creek. The stocking will include:

Brookies	1880
Rainbows	1880
Browns	940

If you'd like to help out or just learn more about the stocking program, meet at the handicap lot about 10 AM.

EAGLE ROCK CAMP

Eagle Rock Camp is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation founded in August, 2011 after founder Lynn Marilla discovered very limited resources for military families. Lynn, the board of directors and a focus group of veterans carefully listened to what the military families needed and then developed Eagle Rock Camp's curriculum to meet those needs. Meeting all members of the military family at their level of need, these evidence-based programs help the families heal in body, mind, spirit and heart.

And that's what makes Eagle Rock Camp unique. Where most programs exist for treatment of the veteran, Eagle Rock Camp is designed to support the needs of the whole family. Their Mission Statement is: *We provide unifying experiences for families by offering Therapeutic Recreation, Building Family Resiliency Workshops, innovative services and ongoing support in a traditional camp or quiet retreat environment.*

The Hickory NC TU Chapter supports the mission of Eagle Rock Camp in providing valuable programs for military veterans and their families. Lynn Marilla has joined our chapter board to assist us in the expansion of our support to veterans. That said, we have received our first request to support their program. Please consider volunteering to help teach casting for the following programs:

- Sept. 12, Camp Luther Ridge, Arden, NC
- Oct 17 and 26 at YMCA Camp Harrison in Boomer, NC

For more information about Eagle Rock Camp visit <http://www.eaglerockcamp.org/>. To sign up to help please contact Gary Hogue at HkyNCTUpres@gmail.com.

HICKORY HIGH FLY FISHING CLUB

Please welcome the Hickory High School Fly Fishing Club and visit their very impressive website at: www.hhsflyfishingclub.com

The club is teaching fly casting and fly tying to its members, but is drastically short of equipment. If you have fly fishing or fly tying equipment and supplies that you can donate to the club, please contact Lisa Barron at hhsflyfishingclub@gmail.com or call 828-234-3956, drop them off at the HHS front desk, or bring them to the monthly meeting and we will see that they get them.

TU WOMEN'S INITIATIVE



Women on the Fly Making Friends With Warden John at WC

Fly Fishing Orvis 201 (They also have a 101 class that I did not include)

The 201 school is also collaboration between DRO and Orvis. Once you have completed the 101 class or have a little bit of experience, join us for a 201 outing. This three hour long class is designed to build on your casting skills, teach you the basics of fly selection and knot tying, and then get you out on the water for an hour of fishing with some of our guides. This class is designed to deepen your fundamental skills in fly fishing. This class has a \$30 fee and is open to anyone age 10 and older. Participants under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Each participant will receive a coupon for 15% off of any purchase which can be applied to your new fishing gear. Class size is limited to 12 participants call toll free 888-861-0111 or email info@davidsonflyfishing.com to reserve your spot in the next class.


2017 DATES, All 201 classes are from 1pm-4pm
May 7; May 28; June 11; June 25; July 8; July 23;
August 20; September 10;

The Pisgah National Forrest Education Center is located about an hour SW of Asheville. They offer several classes on fly tying, fly fishing, and Tenkara. Most of these classes are free. Visit the following web site for details. If you would like to attend please make your own arrangements
<http://www.ncwildlife.org/Learning/Education-Centers/Pisgah/Event-Registration>

CASTING CAROLINAS

Southern Women's Show

August 25-27, 2017
CHARLOTTE
Charlotte Convention Center



Indulge your personal style, invigorate your soul, discover your passion, kick your heels up – SHOP!
Ticket Prices: \$12 at the door / \$10 in Advance

Show Hours: Fri & Sat 10am-7pm | Sun 10am-5pm

**** Casting Carolinas Members ****

Go online to [Southern Women's Show in Charlotte](#) and click on the *Online Tickets* field at the top right side of the screen – then enter **CastingC17** in the *Promotional Code* box on the left side of the screen to purchase tickets for only **\$8.00** each.

PLUS
For every ticket purchased online using this code, \$2.00 will go to Casting Carolina!!

Some of the exciting Highlights at this year's Show include:

- Don't miss the **Adventurous Women Fashion Show** on Saturday at the Fashion & Entertainment Stage sponsored by Women on the Fly and Orvis.
- **Women on the Fly** will host the **ABC's of Fly Fishing** on Saturday on the Spotlight Stage.
- Is it getting **HOT** in here? The popular **Firefighters' Fashion Show** is back and better than ever! Watch your favorite handsome hunks strut down the runway, all for a great cause.
- **Belk** returns to the Show and will be bringing in their Beauty Experts to help you find the look that's just right for you.
- **Mother Daughter Day** is Saturday – enjoy a day of makeovers, pampering, shopping and FUN! Have you always been told you look alike? Enter the **Mother Daughter Lookalike Contest** hosted by Ramona Holloway from 107.9 The Link and her mom, Wheezy.
- Check out exciting culinary demonstrations, food sampling, and trivia games at the **Food Lion Kitchen Stage**.
- Enjoy daily wardrobe and makeup workshops, fashion shows, cooking demos, shopping, and so much more!

For more information or to order advance tickets,
go online to: www.southernshows.com/wsl or call 704-494-7361

FLY FISHING SCHOOL

This special 3-day 2-night program is presented by the Cataloochee Chapter of Trout Unlimited to introduce guests to the art of fly fishing our beautiful, private waters of the West Fork of the Pigeon River.

Participants will be led by expert instructors in the basics of this wonderful sport, with classes covering Trout Species, Basic Fly Methods, Gear, Entomology, Reading the Waters and more! And of course, ample fishing time surrounded by the picturesque backdrop of Lake Logan and the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Class size is limited to provide the participant personalized attention. Youth age 16 and older may attend with an adult.

Participants are asked to bring their own fly rod and reel, (8ft to 9ft in the 4 to 5 weight range) and wading boots with felt bottoms.

Accommodations in the beautiful lake side cabins are included along with all meals prepared by the talented culinary team of Lake Logan Conference Center. Instruction, Guides and Ghillies are provided by the experienced members of the Cataloochee Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

What you'll learn at the Trout Unlimited Fly Fishing School include:

1. Fly Rod Selection, Rigging and Knot Tying
2. Entomology for Anglers and Fly Identification
3. Selective Feeding Trout and Fly Selection
4. Reading Water and Casting Techniques
5. Fly Fishing Gear and Gear Selection
6. On the Water Guides and Coaching

Trout Unlimited Fly Fishing School \$850.00 May 26-28

B&B May 25 Early Arrival + Fly Fishing School May 26-28 \$968.89

To Register: <https://goo.gl/jrjpyf>

SWAP AND SHOP

Holly Cole is looking for a slightly used Winston Boron 3x rod, 9ft, 5 wt. If anyone has one that they want to sell at an affordable price contact Holly at hcl1958@charter.net.

SPONSORS INVITED

As part of our fundraising, we invite you to post an advertisement in our monthly newsletters and on our section website. The newsletter is sent to over 300 people in the Hickory metro area. For \$100, we will post your business card on both locations for twelve months. Please send your business card and a check for \$100 to:

Hickory NC Trout Unlimited
PO Box 9401
Hickory, NC 28603

For more information, please contact us at HkyNCTU@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS INVITED

Got a great photo or story from a recent fly fishing trip, a new product you think others would love, or any stories to share with other members? We'd love

to hear from you and publish you in the next newsletter. Send it to us at HkyNCTU@gmail.com for consideration of publication.

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Special thanks to David Hise for his support of our chapter.



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