

Reminder that we still have openings in chapter leadership, namely the President position as well as a director position. Please consider volunteering a little of your time to help.

Remember!!! New Trout Stream Fishing Regulations in Effect April 1st!!! We should be able to direct you online to DEC resources by next Newsletter.

Improved Ohio Street Fishing and Kayak Launch Out to Bid:

Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper has put out a Request for Proposals in order to begin the process of upgrading the Ohio Street Boat Launch. [Click HERE to access a Buffalo Rising article.](#)

[Click HERE to view the RFP from Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper.](#)

Scott Cornett from DEC put together an incredible report detailing the habitat work done by WNYTU and the DEC in Region 9. [CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE REPORT.](#)

DEC ANNOUNCES THIRD ROUND OF ANNUAL ‘BUFFER IN A BAG’ PROGRAM

Free Seedlings Available to Qualified Landowners for Streamside Plantings

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today announced that the application period for the Trees for Tribes’ Buffer in a Bag Program is now open. Private and public landowners who qualify may apply for a free bag of 25 tree and shrub seedlings for planting near streams, rivers, or lakes to help stabilize banks, protect water quality, and improve wildlife habitat.

DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said, “The goal of the Buffer in a Bag program is to increase forested riparian buffers across the state by encouraging landowners to undertake small-scale plantings. Streamside plantings help decrease erosion, slow floodwaters, and protect fish and wildlife habitat. Every landowner participating in this program is bolstering DEC’s efforts and our partners’ work to protect water quality and safeguard our communities from flooding.”

To qualify, landowners must have property in New York State with at least 50 feet that borders a stream, river, or lake, and provide photos or a map of the planting location. Previous recipients are encouraged to reapply to continue to build their riparian buffer. Applicants are eligible for one bag of 25 seedlings and recipients are chosen on a first-come, first-served basis. A total of 500 bags will be available statewide for this round of applications.

Visit [DEC's website](#) for more information about the Buffer in a Bag application process and requirements. Applications are due by 3:00 p.m. on April 12.

Contact treesfortribs@dec.ny.gov with questions and visit [Trees for Tribes Program](#) on DEC’s website to learn more.

Vice-President's Message: Joseph Morgan

Hope everyone is well. The Trout Management plan and regulation changes are moving along as proposed. The target date for the implementation is April 1, 2021. Our guest speaker this month is Ben Sheard from the Orvis West Branch Angler and Resort. He will be providing information on the Delaware River system. It will cover a lot on the area, river system, local entomology as well as a number of specific tips and tactics that work on the Delaware. Rick Kustich is scheduled for next month and he'll be presenting "Swinging the Fly for Steelhead"

I would like to welcome Jim Jowsey as the chapter's newsletter editor. Thanks for stepping up Jim. Also, thanks to Russ Shefrin for being editor all these years. Speaking of stepping up the President's position along with a Board of Director's seat are still both vacant. If anyone is interested please contact me at <mailto:VicePresident@wnytroutunlimited.org> or any of the other officers that are listed on the front of the newsletter.
Stay well.

Joe

Stream Conservation Report: Joseph Morgan

TU National announced earlier this month that Fly Fishers International and Trout Unlimited have entered into a formal conservation partnership. This will enable both organizations to work together and focus conservation efforts for the greater good of all.

Please have a look at the NYDEC Region 9 and WNYTU Habitat Work pdf attachment Scott Cornett has sent along. (Link above) It highlights a few of the many projects WNYTU has collaborated with NYDEC Region 9 over the last 50 years.

Nominations/Elections Committee: Chuck Godfrey

As stated in the last newsletter, we are due to hold our "Annual" meeting in March and have elections at that meeting. In January the Board decided to postpone the "Annual" meeting until October, when we will hopefully be back to having in person meetings. We are still without a president and would welcome anyone volunteering to serve in that office. The Board can appoint a person to that position to fill out the remainder of this term. We also have one Director's slot open and would encourage people to volunteer for that. Again, the Board can appoint someone to fill in. We just need the help.

Trout in the Classroom: Chuck Godfrey

We will be sending in the stocking permit applications to the DEC this week. We have 8 schools in the program. If anyone knows of a teacher from a School in Erie, Niagara, or Wyoming County who might be interested, have them contact Chuck Godfrey at steelheader03@hotmail.com for information. This is an incredible program which is very worthwhile. We help with the upfront expenses of the program by purchasing and loaning a chiller to the schools participating. The chiller is about 70% of the cost of the equipment for the program. We also supply the food (through the NYC TIC program), apply for the stocking permits, and pick up and deliver the eggs from either the Randolph or Bath DEC hatchery.

NYS Council of Trout Unlimited: Chuck Godfrey

Due to the pandemic, things have been quiet on this front. The next meeting (virtual) of the Council’s Executive Comm. will be in March, and the Council’s “Annual” meeting will be held virtually in June. We hope to be back to meeting in person in November, probably in Pulaski.

Great Lakes: Chuck Godfrey

National TU has a Great Lakes workgroup which has become very active, which meets virtually monthly. One of the things we’re keeping close tabs on is the issue of constructing generating wind turbines IN Lake Erie. Neither the Chapter, the Council, nor TU National has taken a position on this yet because there are no actual applications in place. Once this happens, we will look at them carefully.



Member Dolores Sheehan came across this great idea at Oatka Creek Park in Monroe County

Apparently the “flybrary” is a nationwide movement designed to promote camaraderie between fly anglers and draw attention to the sport. Need one? Take one! Have one? Leave one!

Visit the website www.flybraryproject.com to locate, create, register.

Perhaps this might be a great chapter project.

Treasurer’s Report: Tony Messina

WESTERN NEW YORK CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED TREASURER’S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2021 thru JANUARY 31, 2021								
						prior period	this period	
						thru 12/31/20	thru 01/31/21	
		(CHECKING ACCOUNT)						
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 1, 2020					\$657.94		
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 1, 2021						\$907.94	
INFLOWS:	DONATION					\$250.00		
	NONE						\$0.00	
		TOTAL INFLOWS:					\$250.00	\$0.00
OUTFLOWS:	NONE							
		TOTAL OUTFLOWS:					\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 31, 2020					\$907.94		
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 31, 2021						\$907.94	

						prior period	this period
						thru 12/31/20	thru 01/31/21
(MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT)							
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 1, 2020						\$26,874.56
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 1, 2021						\$26,874.79
INFLOWS:	INTEREST					\$0.23	\$0.23
		TOTAL INFLOWS:				\$0.23	\$0.23
OUTFLOWS:	NONE					\$0.00	\$0.00
		TOTAL OUTFLOWS:				\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 31, 2020					\$26,874.79	
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 31, 2021						\$26,875.02
						prior period	this period
						thru 12/31/20	thru 01/31/21
(RESTRICTED FUNDS ACCOUNT)							
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 1, 2020						\$10,000.00
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 1, 2021						\$10,000.00
INFLOWS:	NONE					\$0.00	\$0.00
OUTFLOWS:	NONE					\$0.00	\$0.00
BALANCE AT	DECEMBER 31, 2020					\$10,000.00	
BALANCE AT	JANUARY 31, 2021						\$10,000.00

Our Advertiser

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Pond Stocking

Trout, Bass, Perch, Minnows

Grass Carp, Koi, Crayfish

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