

Trout Unlimited Mad River Chapter #477

2021/2022 Accomplishments Report

(4/1/2021-3/31/2022)

Working Collaboratively to Protect, Reconnect and Restore Ohio's cold water fisheries and their watersheds

Thanks to all the TU Mad River Chapter members and other volunteers for donating **2233 hours** of their time

- PROTECT** Continued working to establish the Adopt-A-Bridge/Stream Watch Program and identify volunteers for each of the bridge and access areas. We still need a few more volunteers with the goal to address litter at 18 bridge and access areas on the Mad River. Conducted trail clearings at Pimtown Rd., Watson's, St Rt 29/296, and US 36 in Champaign County. Cleared five logjams to open flow and limit bank erosion.
- PROTECT** Conducted two stream water quality monitoring events at six locations within the Mad River Watershed. Other scheduled events were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and water conditions.
- PROTECT** Worked with watershed groups, including the Grand, Ashtabula and Conneaut Partnership, Rocky River Watershed Council, and other organizations and agencies, related to protecting Ohio's steelhead and trout fisheries, as well as the Ohio native brook trout.
- PROTECT** Supported Mad River watershed protection in coordination with State and local agencies and organizations, as well as local communities and landowners. Worked with Urbana Materials, ODOT and Champaign County Land Preservation Inc., in addressing issues at U.S. Route 36 access on the Mad River. Coordinated with ODNR-DOW on Ohio's steelhead and trout programs.
- PROTECT** Continued involvement with national TU workgroups, including the Great Lakes work group. Also, supported TU on national issues in coordination with Ohio TU NLC rep., Chris Steffen.
- RECONNECT** Continued to work on establishing ground water monitoring in the Mad River watershed
- RECONNECT** Continued to evaluate opportunities to protect Mad River headwaters and potential spawning areas.
- RESTORE** Evaluated potential impacts from flooding on section 2 of the "In-stream Habitat Improvement Project" on over 300 feet of the Mad River downstream of the Pimtown Road bridge. Conducted repairs on section 1 and 2 of the in-stream habitat improvement projects at Pimtown Road. Began planning for additional in-stream habitat improvement projects.
- SUSTAIN** Distributed four electronic issues of the new Mad River Drift newsletter to over 1200 subscribers who have granted us permission to e-mail directly.
- SUSTAIN** Planned and participated in TU Ohio State Council meetings.
- SUSTAIN** Conducted one TU Madmen Chapter Board meeting. Did not conduct any quarterly membership meetings due to COVID -19. We intend to resume membership meetings soon.
- SUSTAIN** Assisted Noble Local Schools in getting TU Teen Charter from TU National
- SUSTAIN** Continued the Trout in the Classroom program in 15 schools within the Mad River Chapter area and Noble Local Schools within the Clearfork Chapter
- SUSTAIN** Participated in Trout in the Classroom releases for schools in the Benjamin Logan School District
- SUSTAIN** Delivered eggs and shipped eggs to all Ohio TIC schools.

- SUSTAIN** The Gallipolis TU Teens program coordinated fishing events at the following locations: Local Raccoon Creek; Local Rio Grande Reservoir; Local Tycoon Lake; Local Farm Ponds; and the Local Bob Evans' Farm Shelter House Pond. These local trips are designed where members can meet up on a Saturday morning and fish together from 9-12 with pizza and snacks following. No signup or commitment, just show up and fish. This is a great way to get kids on the water without hassle or a lot of expense. The program also coordinated out of town trips to the South Holston Watauga Rivers in Bristol, TN; Quarry Ponds in Circleville, OH; Clear Creek in Logan, OH; and the Thompson Farm Pond, Tarleton, OH. The program also held 22 Regular TU Teen Meetings every Tuesday, Oct through mid-April. Students in the program also participated in the following Civic / Community Projects: Cleaned Up Trash Rio Reservoir; Cleaned Up Trash/ Debris at the City Park; Cleaned Up Trash/ Debris at the Ohio River Riverfront; and Cleaned Up Trash/ Debris at the French Art Gallery.
- SUSTAIN** Throughout 2021, our Women's Outreach Coordinator found safe ways to hold events so our women's community could continue to grow. Several TU members and Ohio Women on the Fly representatives met with ODNR to share perspectives on ways we could collaborate to get more women out on the water and fly fishing. Katie Johnstone shared our women's outreach efforts with the TU Clearfork Chapter at a monthly meeting
- SUSTAIN** Continued supporting the Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing (PHWFF) Columbus and Central Ohio program. However, due to COVID-19, all activities and events were cancelled or postponed until the national program allowed activities to resume on 5/1/2021. Since resuming activities On 5/15/2021, PHWFF held 18 events with 90 veterans participating.
- SUSTAIN** Supported and coordinated with the other Ohio TU Chapters, Buckeye United Fly Fishers, Central Ohio Fly Fishers, Miami Valley Fly Fishers and other area fly fishing clubs, conservation groups and like-minded organizations.
- SUSTAIN** Continued to improve communications and public relations with maintenance and improvements to the <http://www.tumadriver.org> website, postings on TU Madmen Facebook and Instagram pages, and sending electronic messages to chapter members using Mailchimp.
- SUSTAIN** Changed the name of the Chapter to the Mad River Chapter to reflect that we listen to, value, and respect all people, and seek diverse voices and perspectives.