



## Adams County Trout Unlimited - Spring 2025 Newsletter

*Guided by the tenets of Fishing, Conservation, and Community, our mission is to promote responsible fishing practices; conserve the county's waterways and associated natural resources; and actively support youth conservation, recreation, and education activities.*

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### President's Message

Greetings,

Before we discuss the many activities we have planned for this year, I would like to take a moment to look back at 2024, as it was a year of many achievements for ACTU:

- ✓ Our chapter was an honored recipient of the prestigious 2024 Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for its work preserving and improving the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site. Wow!
- ✓ The chapter continued its focus on the youth of the county, with our members volunteering for programs such as Trout in the Classroom, Southcentral Outdoors For Youths, the Latimore Creek Fishing Derby, the New Oxford Middle School Environmental Day, Go Fish Gettysburg, and the Adams County Library Funfest,
- ✓ As a second-time participant in the Adams County Community Foundation's Giving Spree, ACTU received over \$5,000 in donations from supporters in the community! The chapter depends on donations such as these to fund our operations; to say that we are grateful for the generosity shown to us is quite an understatement.
- ✓ New habitat devices were constructed in the entire upper section of Conewago Creek CROFFO by the PFBC Habitat Division. Ricky Whitmore, at the Adams County Conservation District office, led the

project. If you haven't seen the scope of the improvements, I encourage you to take a look – it is really something!

- ✓ Improvements continued on the nature trail at the Zeigler Mill Road Access Site as our volunteers worked to further enhance the condition of the trail.

Looking ahead:

- ✓ As with the habitat improvements to the upper section of the Conewago Creek CROFFO last year, the habitat devices in the lower section of Conewago Creek CROFFO, on PFBC property, will be completely redone this summer by the PFBC. What a fishing mecca the entire CROFFO section will be!
- ✓ In addition to the chapter's many youth programs that were mentioned above, our members will be partnering with a Gettysburg 4H club to instruct area youth about the basics of fishing and will also be teaching an introduction-to-fishing classes for both adults and youth. These classes are open to the public.
- ✓ Stocking is underway. Approximately 69,000 trout are to be stocked in Adams County creeks this year!
- ✓ In partnership with the Mummasburg Sportsmen Association, ACTU is constructing road parking access at trout streams in the county. These will provide convenience and safety for visiting anglers.



Many thanks go out to all the chapter's volunteers who spend countless hours working to make these projects successful and to continue to move the chapter forward.

Well, it will soon be that time of year to Go Fishing! Hope to see you on the water!

*Frank Kozak, President*

## Do You Know Anyone That Wants to Learn How to Fish?

Several members have asked if we could hold training this year to help them and others learn some basics about fishing. It is obvious that we would be delighted to do so come springtime. The training would be open to the public at no cost.

To help us prepare our "Fishing 101" training sessions, I am soliciting your feedback to gauge the level of interest among the membership and others to participate in such introductory-level training.



If you, a spouse, your children or grandchildren, neighbor, friend, etc. have an interest in picking up a new hobby, please let me know. Also, please provide general information as to who may be participating, whether a child (with approximate age) or adult, and what their area of interest may be. Some areas to consider when responding include the following but also let me know if there are other areas you'd be interested in as well.

- Introduction to fly fishing and casting
- Introduction to fly tying
- Introduction to spin fishing
- Where to fish in Adams County and the broader local area
- Preferred timing for the training if important (e.g., day of the week, morning vs. afternoon, duration of sessions)
- Interested in a series of sessions or prefer a one day class



Once we have an idea of areas of interest, number of participants, etc. we will pull together a Fishing 101 program designed to address these needs and make that information available to all who respond. While we expect this training to be provided at no cost to members and their families, we will ask folks to register to help us prepare for each session by having the appropriate number of presenters, equipment, etc. available, so please let me know if you or others are interested in participating in this ACTU program. Thanks, Frank.

## **Want To Learn About The Trout Streams In Adams County With Fellow Anglers?**

If so, join us on Saturday, February 22nd at 10:00 am at the Heidlersburg Fishing Show for an enjoyable morning discussing and identifying the local hot spots to fish for trout.

Learn first-hand from Dave Swope, who has almost 50 years of experience fishing and stocking the “Battlefield” trout streams of Adams County. Dave is a local wealth of knowledge who will leave you well-prepared for the upcoming trout season.

This event is for anyone interested in learning about the eight approved trout streams in Adams County and where and when trout stocking takes place. Marsh, Little March, Opossum, Bermudian, Latimore, Conewago, Toms, and Middle Creeks will be discussed. And afterwards swing by the ACTU table at the Fishing Show, where we’ll have numerous items for sale, the proceeds of which will help fund our activities this coming year.

Name of the event: Battlefield Trout

Date: February 22, 2025

Time: 10:00 to 11:00 am

Location: Heidlersburg Fishing Show, 2720 Heidlersburg Rd., Gettysburg, PA

## **Mark Your Calendar for the Annual Meeting**

The chapter’s Annual Meeting will be held on March 19, 2025 at 6:30 pm at the Adams Count Conservation District Office, 670 Old Harrisburg Road, Gettysburg, PA. The meeting agenda will include the election of an officer and a director, the presentation of the annual report by the President and Treasurer, approval of the prior month’s meeting minutes, the Treasurer’s monthly report, old business, and new business. For the two open positions, the Nominating Committee has nominated Frank Kozak and Rick Franzese to the President and Director positions, respectively. Frank and Rick served in these respective positions during the prior term.

## **Yellow Breeches Anglers and Conservation Association Fishing and Outdoor Show**

**YBAC 2025**  
**BIG Fishing and Outdoor Show**  
**Saturday March 1**  
**St. Patrick’s Activity Center**  
**87 Marsh Drive, Carlisle, PA**  
**8 AM – 3 PM**  
**82 Fishing and Outdoor Vendor spaces**  
New and Used Rods and Tackle  
Lures and Flies for every species  
Door Prizes and Raffles  
Fishing Seminars for Steelhead, Trout, Catfish, Bass, Fly  
Fishing for Beginners, “From the Hatchery to the Stream”

## Non-Profits – Working Together to Benefit Adams County

Partnerships! Although we don't often talk about it this way, every project that the Land Conservancy of Adams County (LCAC) completes is some kind of partnership – a partnership between us and a property owner who shares our vision of a rural Adams County and commits their own acreage to that vision.

Sometimes that partnership is not just between the conservancy and the landowner. We often receive funding from federal, county, or municipal partners who join us in protecting our countryside.



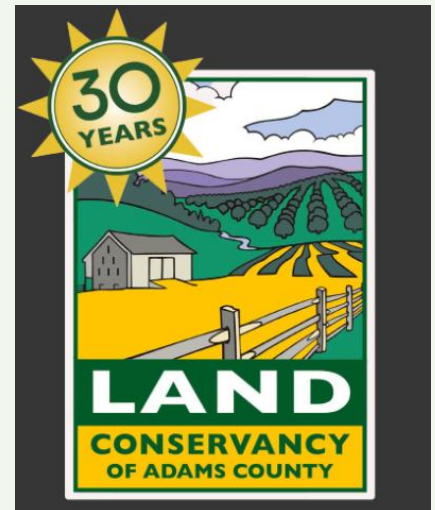
Some partnerships involve other non-profits when the pursuit of our distinct missions ends up merging on a single project that achieves multiple goals. That was the case when, several years ago, the Land Conservancy was invited to participate with Adams County Trout Unlimited (ACTU) and others to purchase 58 acres in Butler Township on Zeigler Mill Road. Our role in that project has long since passed; the parcel now belongs to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and is open to public use. ACTU continues to manage the property, improving trout habitat of the Conewago Creek, developing walking trails through wooded areas, and planting trees in a former field.

Although we haven't partnered in the same manner since that project, LCAC's and ACTU's work overlaps in many ways, and we continue to work alongside each other pursuing the protection of Adams County's natural resources.

While the conservancy's name seems to indicate that we're all about LAND, in fact, we care quite a bit about WATER! Land preservation has a lot to do with protecting both water quality and water quantity. The open lands that we protect allow rainfall to soak into the ground, recharging groundwater resources and filtering out pollutants. When a creek or stream runs through a property that we preserve, the conservation easement deed specifies that the waterway must retain a protected buffer of permanent vegetation. As I'm sure you know by now, riparian buffers provide wildlife habitat, and they are important for reducing erosion. Over forty-six miles of streams run through our protected properties, so that's a lot of preserved buffers!

The Land Conservancy has long recognized the connection between land and water protection. The trout streams of Adams County are among the areas that we consider a priority for preservation, and properties along those creeks are given greater weight when we must select which opportunities to pursue.

Protecting the land around those waterways not only benefits the flora and fauna in the immediate vicinity; it is crucial for all life downstream going all the way to Chesapeake Bay. From individual landowners to local nonprofits like ACTU, to the multi-organizational partnerships working to protect our larger watersheds, it will take all of us to make sure there are healthy lands and waters for the next generation.



*Sarah Kipp is the Conservation Director of the Land Conservancy of Adams County, a non-profit organization with a mission to preserve the rural lands and character of Adams County. This article was first published in the Gettysburg Times, on January 25, 2025.*

## Changing Lives With a “Rod and Reel”

In 2004, ACTU was organizing numerous stream restoration projects in Adams County in waters that were open to the public for fishing. One area where ACTU was doing restoration work was in the northern tier of the county, along Latimore Creek at the Latimore Fairgrounds. Here, the stream banks were eroding significantly (thus increasing the stream's sediment load), concrete needed to be removed, and trees needed to be planted to provide more overhead cover to the stream. ACTU, working with our partners, constructed a heavy foot bridge over the stream so the kids could access the far side of the stream.

The need for all this work had fostered a partnership with the Latimore Fairgrounds Committee, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), and the Adams County Trout Unlimited Chapter, with the chapter leading the effort. As our Latimore restoration project was ongoing, the chapter members looked into adopting a section of stream for kids and handicap adult only fishing. Under the PFBC guidelines, when adopting a section of stream, the organization is obligated to annually host a kid's fishing derby. ACTU found its calling! We adopted a section of the stream and hosted our first fishing derby on May 17, 2005. Over the past 20 years, the fishing derby has grown by "leaps and bounds," attracting more kids at each annual event.



Getting young people outdoors by holding such an event is like "touching heaven" for some of these youngsters. They learn lessons in patience and experience the thrill of the catch. ACTU has opened up a whole new world for some of the kids, and maybe even changed their lives. This program opens new doors to kids in the outdoors and it proves there are heroes among us. And the derby helps build relationships as families enjoy the outdoors - hey, it's fun for all.

This year, the derby, which is on May 10th from 8:00 to 11:00 am, will again give us the opportunity to see the kids having fun and, who knows, maybe reach future ACTU members.

As part of the derby, the chapter supplies prizes for all the young anglers and hot dogs, chips, and drinks for everyone. The age groups competing for the biggest fish are 5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-15. The angler with the longest trout in each age group gets to pick from prizes such as fishing rods, tackle boxes, and nets.

*Dave Swope*

## Member Spotlight

### Dave Zimmerman

Dave Zimmerman grew up in Potts Grove, PA and attended Milton High School. His Grandfather lived in Aaronsburg, and Dave learned to trout fish on Elk Creek in Millheim and Penns Creek in the Coburn area. At the age of 12, while spin fishing with his grandpa one evening in early June, he witnessed the "shad" fly hatch, or the Green Drake Hatch, and saw some fly fisherman dry fly fishing. He told his grandpa, "I want to do that!" On Christmas day, he received a handmade fly rod built by his dad. During the winter months, his dad showed him the basics of fly tying, mostly wet flies. The following years were spent learning the hatches and tying the flies to match and catching trout on Penns Creek.



After high school graduation, he attended Mansfield University to study music education, majoring in trumpet. His sophomore year he transferred to Susquehanna University to continue his music education.

Upon graduation, he began his teaching career at the Conewago Valley School District. During his tenure at New Oxford Middle School, he and some colleagues instructed a fly-tying club. He spent five summers guiding for a B&B in Boiling Springs on the Yellow Breeches.

Dave and his wife, Laura, moved to Hanover and raised their three sons who were active in sports and music in the South Western School District. All boys learned to fish and hunt and still enjoy returning home to spend time with Dave pursuing fish and game.

Dave is enjoying his retirement and spends his time hunting, fishing, and tying flies. He spends most of his time fishing on the Yellow Breeches, Pine Creek, Little Juniata, and the Upper Delaware River. In the fall and winter, he can be found fishing in New York on the Salmon River, the western New York tributaries, and the Lake Erie tributaries.

Dave was elected to the ACTU Board of Directors in January 2025. He plans to continue volunteering with chapter events and projects and helping others to enjoy the outdoors.

## Welcome to Our New Members

- ✓ Bob Gordon
- ✓ Joseph Howe
- ✓ Isaiah Jackson
- ✓ Sandra Miller
- ✓ Hunter Stoy

## Your Chapter Leaders

- ✓ Frank Kozak, President
- ✓ Jerry Gladfelter, Secretary
- ✓ Bob Miller, Treasurer
- ✓ Buzz Dettinburn, Director
- ✓ Rick Franzese, Director
- ✓ David Kamsler, Director
- ✓ Dave Swope, Director
- ✓ Dave Zimmerman, Director

Contact Frank Kozak if you have any questions about the chapter or its activities, at [fmkozak@gmail.com](mailto:fmkozak@gmail.com).

## Activities and Events

Event	Dates and Times	Location
Board Meeting	January 15, 6:30 pm	Adams Co. Conservation Dist. (ACCD) Office, 670 Old Harrisburg Rd.
Board Meeting	February 19, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Heidlersburg Sportsman Outdoor Show	Feb. 22 & 23, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm	Heidlersburg Fire Department Hall
Annual Board Meeting	March 19, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Mentored Youth Trout Day	March 29	Various streams across Adams County
Trout In the Classroom Fingerling Release Day	TBD	Strawberry Hill, 1537 Mount Hope Road, Fairfield
Northern Virginia TU Fishing Day	April 11	ZMR Parking Lot
Program – Water Wealth and Health, Karen Kaslow	April 16, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Board Meeting	April 16, 7:30 pm	
Latimore Youth Fishing Derby	May 10, 7:30 to 11:00 am	Latimore Valley Fairgrounds
Program - WCO (Rachel Thurner-Diaz)	May 21, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Board Meeting	May 21, 7:30 pm	
New Oxford Middle School Environmental Day	TBD	New Oxford Middle School
Southcentral Outdoors for Youth	June 7	McSherrystown Fish and Game Club
Barlow 4H Club – Introduction to Fishing	June 9, 6:30 pm	Barlow Fire Co, 2005 Taneytown Rd, Gettysburg
Funfest, “Adventure Begins at Your Library”	June 13	Gettysburg Rec Park
Program - Fly Tying by D. Zimmerman	June 18, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Board Meeting	June 18, 7:30 pm	
Board Meeting	July 16, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
Board Meeting	August 20, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office
PATU Annual Meeting	TBD	
Annual ACTU Member Appreciation Picnic	Sept. 17, 5:00 pm	ACCD Office
Board Meeting	October 15, 6:30 pm	ACCD Office

## Adams County Stocking Schedule

Stream	Dates and Times	Location
Marsh and Opossum Creeks	Feb. 28, 10:30am	Cashtown Community Center
Conewago Creek	March 1, 10:30 am	Adams Co. National Bank, Arendtsville
Bermudian and Latimore Creeks	March 6, 10:00 am	York Springs Fire Company Community Center
Middle and Toms Creeks	March 17, 10:30 am	Carrol Valley Bureau Office, 5685 Fairfield Rd., Fairfield
Carbaugh Run & Conococheague Ck.	March 19, 11:30 am	Caledonia State Park
L. Marsh Creek and Orrtanna Pond	March 19, 10:30 am	Cashtown Community Center
East Antietam Creek	March 20, 10:00 am	Hardee's on Rt. 16, Waynesboro
Adams County Trophy Trout	TBD	Mummasburg Athletic Association, 2501 Mummasburg Rd.
Bermudian and Latimore Creeks	April 8, 10:00 am	York Springs Fire Company Community Center
E. Antietam Ck & Waynesboro Res.	April 8, 10:30 am	Waynesboro Reservoir
Carbaugh Run & Conococheague Creek	April 9, 11:30 am	Caledonia State Park
Middle and Toms Creek	April 10, 10:00 am	Carrol Valley Bureau Office, 5685 Fairfield Rd., Fairfield
Conewago Creek	April 23, 10:00 am	Adams Co. National Bank, Arendtsville
Marsh, L. Marsh & Opossum Creeks	April 29, 10:30 am	Cashtown Community Center
Conococheague Creek	May 6, 12 noon	Green Village Restaurant – SR 11 North
East Antietam Creek	May 6, 10:00 am	Hardee's on Rt. 16, Waynesboro
Conewago Creek CROFFO	October 1, 11:00 am	Russell Tavern Road Bridge

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*Adams Anglers is a publication of Adams County Trout Unlimited, Chapter #323. Questions or comments about the content of this newsletter can be submitted via email to Frank Kozak at [fmkozak@gmail.com](mailto:fmkozak@gmail.com).*

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### Adams County Trout Unlimited is Guided by Three Tenants: Fishing - Conservation – Community

