

THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

CHAPTER MEETING PREVUES

When: SATURDAY, May 20, 10 am to 2 pm (this session replaces our regular second Thursday meeting) In case of a major rain event, the class will be rescheduled on May 20

Who: Member, John Thurman, assisted by fishing *gurus* Bill Shipman-'it's the quantity, stupid'-spin fisherman and Buzz Buffington-the eeny meeny miny mo-fly angler.

What: *Introduction to Clinch Tail Water Invertebrates*. "Graduates" will be able to identify invertebrates and will see matching flies PLUS learn how to fly fish, spin cast and bait fish for trout.

Where: Meet at 9:30 am at the Big Lot's/Hammer's parking lot on the right just past the Anderson County Jail. You will be directed to the Hatmaker property about 1 mile upriver from the Highway 61 bridge..

Bring: waders, fishing gear, lunch and non-alcoholic drink

Upcoming Meeting:

June 8: Joe Cougleton, a friend of John Thurman, will present a program on sea-run brown trout in Argentina.

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Organizer, Carol Moore announced that the annual **Kids Fish Free Day** will be held **June 10, 10 am to 1 pm** at the Miller Island parking lot. Volunteers should arrive by 9:15 am.



The Clinch River Chapter -
dedicated to conserving,
protecting and restoring the
natural environment of the
Clinch River Watershed

(continued from column 1)

Past volunteers have described their experience as a fun, richly rewarding and satisfying day. Many youngsters will be introduced to their first trout river fishing and ecological learning experience.

(More details on the events and stuff to bring will be provided in our June newsletter..)

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Our quarterly Adopt-A-Highway clean up on **April 1**, netted 62 bags of trash!

DIDYAKNOW ABOUT "DIDYMO"?

(Contributed by John Thurman)

A rare species of algae native to pristine northern latitude lakes and streams of North America has found its way to the Tennessee Valley. *Didymosphenia geminata*, or "Didymo", attaches to rocks and appears as white to light brown puffs. This invader tends to carpet the stream bed covering rocks and filling in spaces among

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the rocks where many invertebrates spend the aquatic portion of their lives.

The algae prefers cold, shallow, fast moving water in full sunlight. It has been carried to streams like the Watauga, South Holston and Clinch tail waters where it is flourishing. Biologists are concerned about the infesting of these tail waters because of potential negative impacts to invertebrates and fish.

TVA aquatic biologists first observed Didymo on the South Holston two years ago. It was first noted on the Clinch within the last year. TVA has permanent biological monitoring stations on each of these streams and conducts annual quantitative sampling of fish and invertebrates. Biologists will be able to compare data collected this year to previous years data to see if there are changes in invertebrate populations.

In the meantime, if you are wading, boating waters and have noticed Didymo, wash your waders & boats with chlorinated water.

ANGLERS' CORNER

Big trout love small flies; heck, all trout love small flies! If the generic sizes 12 to 14 aren't raising interest, particularly under heavy fishing pressure, downsize and try micro versions (e.g.¹₁₈) of what are attracting the fish.

**CLINCH RIVER
CHAPTER
COMMITTEES,
PROGRAMS and
CONTACTS-2006**

Committees

Advocacy and Oversight

Adopt-A-Highway

Berny Ilgner

Conservation

Buzz Buffington

Membership

Clayton Gist

Public Relations;

Web Site

Carol Moore

Education

John Thurman

Programs

Kids Fish Free Day

Carol Moore

Bio-monitoring

Dick Geiger

Coal Creek Conservation

Barry Thacker

Weir Dam Clean up

John Thurman

(Look for an activity which appeals to your interests and contact the lead person for more information or to volunteer your efforts.)

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**PROTECTING AMERICAN-
ROADLESS AND WILDER-
NESS AREAS: WHAT'S TU DO-
ING ABOUT IT?**

*(this information was abstracted
from the TU web site)*

TU believes that protecting the remaining core populations is essential to restoring native fish within their historic ranges. Many of our nation's rivers begin as headwaters on roadless lands which provide cold, clean water.

Road building for logging and other development arguably has done more damage to fisheries than any other action on public lands. Hastily constructed, often hardly maintained, roads often are later abandoned destabilizing slopes and leaving a legacy of erosion deadly to fish. Roads and poorly designed culverts often act as barriers to fish migration, increase water temperature and alter stream flow regimes. The current administration has failed to support the "Roadless Rule", which prohibits road building on 58.5 million acres. For example, the administration revoked protection for over 9 million acres of pristine roadless forest in Alaska's Tongus National Forest to allow opening up the area for commercial logging.

TU continues to advocate for roadless protection through supporting legislation and administrative protections, monitoring management proposals that affect roadless areas. TU is working to designate new wilderness areas in OR, WA, CA and ID. TU members have given thousands of volunteer hours on river restoration projects.

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