

# THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

## CHAPTER MEETING

**When:** July 13, 7 pm

**Who:** Charlie Saylor, TVA

**What:** Discuss the Didymo algae that threatens western rivers and has been observed in the Clinch.

**Where:** St. Francis' Episcopal Church in Norris

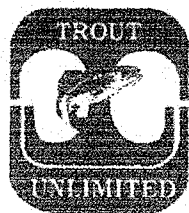
## KIDS FISH FREE DAY- AN ANNUAL SUCCESS

The Kids Fish Free Day should be re-named "Adults Have a Ball Day" as about 70 kids and families" schooled up" at the Millers Island Access to the Clinch River on June 10. They were attended to by the 14+ CRTU member volunteers. Kids pulling on waders, wade fishing, fishing from boats,, tying flies, practice casting...everyone having a great time.

## MEMBERS IN ACTION

*(This article is from member, Buzz Buffington, who is leading the project outlined below.)*

Early this year the Clinch River Chapter of TU and The Land Trust for Tennessee initiated a cooperative project to conserve the scenic and recreational values of the Clinch River tailwater. The area runs from Miller's Island to the Veterans Memorial Bridge in Clinton. A working team was formed consisting of members from TU, USDA (NRCS), TVA LUCRO (Landowners and



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

Users of the Clinch River) and other interested individuals.

The team will meet with landowners along the river corridor and ask them to donate conservation easements to protect their land from development. A conservation easement is a legal instrument that allows landowners to voluntarily restrict the ways in which a designated parcel of land can be used. Typically, the restrictions limit the amount and type of "development" that can occur on that parcel. The Land Trust for TN will hold the easements and is obligated to enforce the restriction on both the current and future landowners. Since the restrictions often are in the public's interest and diminish the value of the land, landowners can often receive tax benefits from granting the easement. Tax benefits can include property, income and estate tax relief depending on the terms of the easement.

### *The Process*

1. The landowner and a member or two of the working group tour the property and prepare an initial

Report describing the parcel and the landowner's conservation goals.

2. The Land Trust reviews the landowner's property and conservation goals with the Trust's Projects Committee.
3. If accepted by the Trust, the landowner consults with their legal and tax advisors to determine financial implications and benefits of donating a conservation easement.
4. Team members under the supervision of the Trust, compile a baseline document including photos, surveys and detailed descriptions that record the present condition of the land. This report will be used for future monitoring and is required by the IRS if a tax deductible charitable donation is to be given.
5. The landowner provides information including a legal property description, mortgage and lien information.
6. If there is a pre-existing mortgage the land owner must obtain a subordination from the lender.
7. Working with the landowner we negotiate the restrictions and draft the easement.
8. The landowner obtains a qualified appraisal to determine what the conservation easement is worth as a charitable donation to the Land Trust

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

**Committees**

Advocacy and Oversight  
Bill Shipman  
865.938.8792

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 ap-  
peals to your interests and contact  
the lead person for more informa-  
tion or to volunteer your efforts.)

Newsletter Co-Editors  
Bob and Mary Jo Jenkins  
423.566.6734  
jrdjenk@aol.com

(continued from page 1, column 3)

and the tax benefits to the landowner.. Once the apprais-  
als done, the easement must be  
signed in 60 days.

9. The Land Trust Board of  
Directors is asked for for-  
mal acceptance of the con-  
servation easement.

If you know a landowner that  
might be interested in this pro-  
ject or for additional informa-  
tion, contact Buzz Buffington

**BACK THE BROOKIE  
EDUCATIONAL DVD**

The Tennessee Council of TU  
acted to provide an educa-  
tional DVD about the Back the  
Brookies project. Anticipated  
funding did not materialize so  
the Council is asking state  
chapters to contribute \$500  
each in order to keep the  
Council treasury healthy. Our  
CRTU Board decided not to  
spend Chapter funds on what  
they considered a state pro-  
ject..

Member and Tennessee Coun-  
cil President, Steve Brown, is  
requesting that CRTU mem-  
bers join an anonymous donor  
of \$25 in helping to fund this  
project. Make out a check to  
TU, with a note to "Back the  
Bookies", give it to Steve for  
the Council's treasury..

**CLINCH RIVER CHAPTER  
BOARD/OFFICERS**

Clayton Gist President  
865.806.7803  
Gist21@aol.com  
#

Denny McMahon  
Vice President  
865.705.4719  
Retiredap@tds.net  
#

Carol Moore Sec.-Treas.  
865.584.0344  
Clmoore@geoe.com  
#

Berny Ilgner BOD (2007)  
865.463.0462  
Bllgner@arcadis-us.com  
#

Buzz Buffington BOD (09)  
865.463.7167  
Buzz\_flo@msn.com  
#

Andrew Morgan BOD(2007)  
morganandrew@mac.com  
#

Dick Geiger  
Past President  
865.457.1228  
geigrent@highstream.net  
#

Barry Thacker BOD (2006)  
865.690.4268  
Barryt@geoe.com  
#

John Thurman BOD (2009)  
865.494.7771  
Jthur727@bellsouth.com  
#

Ron Wollard BOD (2009)  
865.522.2385 (H)  
Rwollard@lwsupply.com  
###