

THE CLINCH RIVER ANGLER

CHAPTER MEETINGS

When: SATURDAY, April 24, 1 pm
Who: John Thurman

What: Under the topic, "The Aquatic Invertebrates of Cold Creek", John will lead the search for insects, snails and crustaceans. He will discuss how they can tell us about how they give a picture of the physical, chemical and biological health of the stream which is the source of drinking water for the City of Norris.

Where: Meet at Clear Creek on Highway 441.

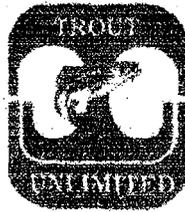
May: on a Saturday TBA, an outdoor program will cover fishing the Clinch.

June: Kids Fish Free Day

MEMBERS IN ACTION

March 27: Coal Creek Spring Cleanup Day Results: Forty Two volunteers gathered trash along the 4 1/2 mile stretch of Fratersville Miner's Memorial Highway (highway 116) from Lake City to Briceville. Missing from the roadside after their efforts were 178 BIG bags of trash, 2 bowling balls and several tires. The trash team collecting the most split the prize of \$100. The event was organized by the Coal Creek Scholars and sponsored by the Coal Creek Watershed Foundation (CCWF)

April 12: Coal Creek Arbor Day Planting-about 100 students representing schools in Briceville, Lake City, Elk Valley and White Oak will



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

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be contributing to the American Chestnut nursery project. Potted seedlings will be planted on a former mine site in Beach Grove Fork of Coal Creek. The site was prepared for planting by the Forestry Reclamation Approach. In addition to the 100 potted chestnut seedlings, students will be planting 600 walnut, oak, poplar and pine, bare root seedlings. CCWF is joining the landowner, Coal Creek Company, in sponsoring this event.

Volunteers are needed to assist the students; contact Carol Moore if you are interested in helping with this conservation effort.

April 17, 9:30 am Volunteers meet at the Island Home Baptist Church, route 441, near the intersection with River Road, for the combined highway and shoreline clean up.

LINES FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year's SE Regional Rally is

timed to coincide with Troutfest, in Townsend from Thursday evening through Saturday morning, May 13-15.

The agenda will include an opening presentation by Chris Wood, the new president and CEO of Trout Unlimited. The theme of the rally will be Clean Water Restoration Act.

Programs will include a tour in the Great Smokey Mountain National Park and sessions on youth education efforts such as camps, boy Scouts, First Cast and Trout in the Classroom.

The TN Council of TU is funding the rally costs for two members of each TN chapter. If you are interested in applying, contact me. For others rally registration costs \$25 and double occupancy rooms are \$65 per night at the Valley View motel-just a couple hundred yards from the Little River. The Troutfest banquet on Friday night is open to rally participants at \$50. Joe Humphreys, Lefty Krah and Bob Clauser are expected to attend. Full details are at www.tu.org/events.

Frances Oates

TWRA OPTIMISTIC ABOUT CATCH RATES AND SIZE ON THE CLINCH

"We are striving for a catch rate of 28 trout per hour on the Clinch and I think we'll be able to reach that in a couple of years". This is one of the observations made by TWRA's Region IV, coldwater

**CLINCH RIVER
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CONTACTS-2010**

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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.)

Newsletter Co-Editors

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coldwater fishing biologist, Jim Habera, at the CRCTU meeting in March.

The new trout management plan started in 2008, with a catch rate of 3.5 fish per hour. Habera is optimistic that the "centerpiece" of this plan, featuring a protected length range (PLR) of 14-20 inches also will enhance the potential of catching quality size fish of 14"+. (Fish caught within this slot must be released immediately.) Of course, unforeseen and uncontrollable factors such as high water flows will affect the outcomes.

We are seeing an upward trend on the Clinch, Habera said; it's better than two years ago and I believe it's going to get better. "We'll see soon".

TACKLE TIPS

BY Buzz Buffington

Is your gear ready for spring fishing uninterrupted by preventable tackle deficiencies?

Reels: clean and lube lightly.

Rods: clean and lube joints; a Q-tip will clean the female joints; lube the male parts with paraffin or a candle. Check guides and tip for groves and wear. (Drag a piece of panty hose through the guides to detect rough spots

Lines: replace if it's cracked; if it's smooth and supple, clean with soft hand soap; use a soft cloth. rinse.

Leader, tippet: use a tapered 9'-4X leader and 4, 5 or 6X tippet. Heat and sunlight destroy nylon monofilament leader/tippet so replace if they're weak or brittle. Fluorocarbon is nearly indestructible so discard scraps into a trash can, not the environment.

(this is a repeat article from March '09)

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