



## TULLY TALK

It's officially fishing season and lucky for us anglers, our sport naturally involves social distancing. I'm sure that as we bide our time staying at home and as safe as possible — some of us, to keep our sanity, are out on the streams enjoying the sanctuary of Mother Nature. Others may be feverishly tying flies, so that when they do feel safe to hit the streams, their fly boxes are fully stocked.

However you are coping through these unusual times, I want to iterate that your safety and health should remain a priority, as well as those of the family that you do come in contact with. We're all adapting, I am amazed each day how fast businesses have changed course. I am grateful for the generosity of others to keep our local economies going by buying gift cards, ordering take out or delivery from restaurants and retailers. Lastly, I'm humbled by the kindness this COVID-19 event has brought out in people. I walked around my local neighborhood on Easter Sunday and I bet that every single person I passed, whether walking, sitting on their porch or participating in an Easter egg hunt looked up, smiled and said "Good Morning" or "Happy Easter". It's a profound thing to think that we are all in this together, trying to figure it out and adapt to a different, but temporary, way of living.

As of right now, I'm still excited to announce that we'll be holding our annual 5k event this year. Last year we had 100+ runners, a great turnout for a sophomore event. That weekend we had the competition from several local runs, so I thank you all who came out and supported us. We'll be making improvements to the event this year and are looking for runners/walkers of all ages, volunteers and sponsors.

As I think about post-quarantine, and some of the events that we have planned I can't wait to interact with people at monthly meetings, rather than over a Zoom call. I look forward to hopefully having some intro classes, stream clean ups, group tying sessions and the casting competition. However, until then, we continue our efforts to keep the chapter active and engaged. As always, feel free to reach out with suggestions. I have heard from a few of you, and I appreciate the correspondence.

Lastly, I want to thank local business owner of TCO Outfitters, Tony Gehman, for including a coupon in this season's newsletter for our chapter members. Thank you Tony!

—Brenda Bittinger, President,  
Tulpehocken Chapter TU



Fishing in Italy, this past fall. Nearly got away!

### TCTU Officers and Board

President - Brenda Bittinger  
Vice President - Mike McLaughlin  
Treasurer - Ed Ulmer  
Secretary - Bill Eggleston  
Past President - Mark Beard

### Board Members -

Tom Ham  
Chris Meyer  
Cathy Curran-Myers  
Benjamin Klopp

TullyGram Editor - Tom Ham  
Troutbuster8380@yahoo.com

### Chapter Mail

P.O. Box 91, Shillington, PA 19607  
tullygram@comcast.net  
www.TullyTU.org



Tulpehocken Creek  
Trout Unlimited



Tulpehocken150  
Feel free to tag us! #tullytupa

For the full Spring 2020 TullyGram, please check your Inbox. If you're not receiving emails, please contact: b.bittinger@gmail.com and we'll get you on the list!

SPECIAL COUPON FOR MEMBERS OF THE TULPEHOCKEN CHAPTER OF TU



**10% OFF**

**CURB SIDE PICK UP OR  
ONLINE ORDER ONLY.  
VALID THROUGH 05/30/2020  
USE CODE: FISHLOCAL  
Not valid on gift cards.  
www.tcoflyfishing.com**

# AT THE VICE with Tom Ham

## "WALT'S WORM"

Hello TU faithful!

Hopefully you're looking forward to some time well spent on the water.

I've been tying up a storm lately. I had several fly recipes I could have and would have shared with you all. But after stifling myself in an effort to determine the best and most timely pattern to share based on upcoming hatches and seasons I just decided to share one of my all-time favorites; easy to tie, and extremely effective, the Walt's Worm!

### MATERIALS NEEDED

Sz 14 Nymph hook (play with sizes, I've tied this from sz 10 to sz 18)

Lead Free Wire

Pale dubbing

Size proportionate bead head (3/32" or 7/64")

Thread (I often use pink, green, or orange)

### STEP ONE

*Tip\* I like my Walt's to sink and sink fast, so don't be afraid to throw an extra wrap or two of wire on the hook.*

Place the bead head on your hook and clamp your hook into the vice. Do about 9 wraps of wire and tuck (continued above)

the roll into the bead head. Start your thread base immediately behind the weighted wire wraps.

### STEP TWO

Make rearward wraps to the bend of the hook, then take forward wraps up the just behind the bead head.

Put dubbing on your thread and begin your wraps rearward leaving a small space between the bead head and your dubbing. Continue until you've reached the bend of the hook.

### STEP THREE

Add more dubbing. Do not make your noodle too tight, we'll want this layer to appear "hairy."

Begin forward wraps over your first layer of dubbing. Try to create a slowly increasing taper towards the bead head, finishing your dubbed wraps at the bead.

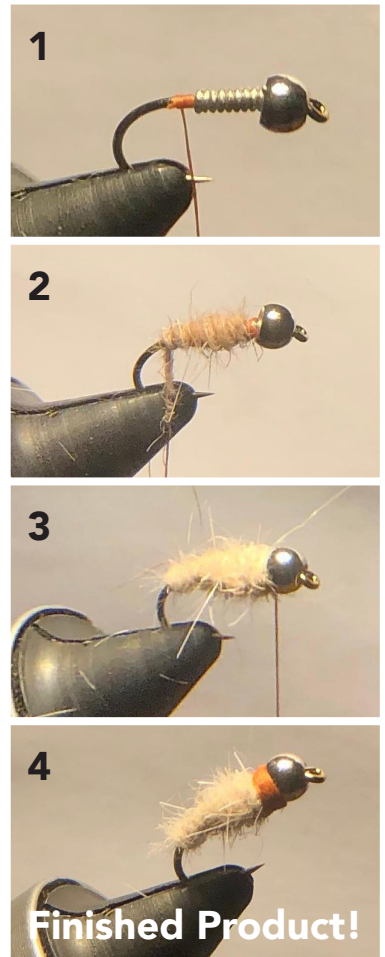
### STEP FOUR

With no more dubbing take several wraps around the fly immediately behind the bead to create your "collar." This is a great little hotspot to hopefully catch the attention of stubborn trout.

Whip finish and cut the thread.

Done!

What exactly the Walt's Worm is meant to imitate I cannot say, but whatever it is it looks tasty to trout. Aside from flies matching specific insects make sure you have the Walt's Worm in your fly box. This little guy has been a slump-buster for me in the past and will be for you too!



## IDEAS FROM THE KEYSTONE COLDWATER CONFERENCE AT PENN STATE

with Treasurer, Ed Ulmer

The conference at PennState included some high level science, interesting vendors, and high level officials. It was a gathering of a diverse group of people who watch over Pennsylvania's water resources. Greg Malaska, the President of PA Council of TU gave the welcoming address to about two hundred people from across the state. Greg attended a recent Tully Chapter meeting, and is attempting to visit every TU Chapter in PA.

The keynote address, given by the PA Fish & Boat Commission President Tim Schaeffer, was delivered to an audience including several Commissioners and PFBC Biologists. One of his key ideas was the need to engage the increasingly diverse population of Pennsylvania, many of whom are unfamiliar with the traditions of fishing and conservation. A significant project involving the spanish speaking population is taking place in Reading with Berks Nature. Another ongoing project is the "unassessed waters" initiative.

This is electroshock surveys of unnamed or unassessed streams that might contain Brook Trout populations for the purpose of possible reclassification and protection.

Schaeffer is also aiming to get culverts reworked to allow better fish passage. He encouraged anyone who is aware of an area needing work to contact Fish & Boat, mentioning PA Game Lands in particular. Additionally, Schaeffer discussed a new Mussel Hatchery (which is a warm water place to repopulate mussels), and Rainbow Trout eggs in lieu of Brook Trout eggs for Trout in the Classroom programs, citing gill lice concerns as the reason.

Several colleges had graduate environmental science students presenting research posters at the conference. Students had very high level scientific projects. One stand-out student is studying the genetic variation in Brook Trout populations by measuring their skulls with mini-MRI imaging. Several students were using eDNA (environmental DNA) to identify species not found through electroshocking, but present in the waters.

One great session was Luke Bobnar, a water conservationist from western PA and Chuck Keepports, a forester from the National Forest Service in the Allegheny National Forest. Keepports theorizes in the pristine forests of

the past, trees frequently fell into streams. He estimated one fallen tree every fourteen feet, or 380 per mile. He has implemented this theory by cutting trees into the streams of the National Forest, pinning them in place, or wedging the fallen tree between to stumps or trunks, using a grip hoist and winch to move the tree into place. The fallen trees act as a deflector, narrowing the stream, deepening pools, and giving higher oxygenation to the water - all benefiting trout and macroinvertebrates that trout feed on. What an A-ha moment! We could do this cheaply in more remote areas of the Tulpehocken Creek in need of remediation. Some areas are wide, slow, and shallow- we all know not to fish for trout in those places. Does anyone know a lumberjack?

I had a great time at the conference and visiting Penn State. I would recommend the conference to any members interested in the science and/or politics of protecting our water resources. The meals and snacks provided were very good. There were many like-minded and interesting people to meet. On a personal note, I also attended my Father's induction at Penn State into the PA Sports Hall of Fame for his 56 years of coaching track. He celebrated with some Peachy Paterno from the Creamery.



# FUNDRAISING FOR TULPEHOCKEN CHAPTER

We realize that in these unprecedented times that it's harder than ever to support local causes, especially when so many of our events are social. Here are a few small ways that you can help while we're all staying safe.



## REDNER'S SAVE-A-TAPE FOR TULPEHOCKEN CHAPTER TU

Redner's has committed to help out the non-profit organizations whose members shop in their stores. **HOW IT WORKS:** Each member must stop at the store office or Customer Service Area to get a Save-a-Tape card. By using this card each time you Purchase merchandise at Redner's your receipt will be designated as a Save-a-tape customer receipt. Forward those tapes to support your Tulpehocken Chapter Trout Unlimited. The organization will receive 1% of the total, of all of the Save-a-tape totals on the receipts. Proceeds from these funds will be used to help protect our streams, education and other conservation projects. **AN EXAMPLE OF HOW YOU CAN HELP:** Let's say 50 of our 300 plus members spend an average of \$75.99 per week in supermarket expenditures. If it was all spent on the save a tape program and submitted to us. The organization would receive \$1,950.00. There is no time limit and no limit. Please start saving tapes today and support the efforts of our chapter.



## PLACING AN ORDER - GIVE BACK - WITH JUST A FEW CLICKS!

Did you know that you can give to your local Tulpehocken Chapter Trout Unlimited while you shop for the essentials...and all year long? The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. All you have to do in your profile, is set up which organization you'd like to donate to in "Your Amazon Smile". When you shop at: smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite Tulpehocken Chapter Trout Unlimited organization. It's a little thing that you can do to give back, while you purchase essentials for your homes or anything else to keep you busy while staying safe. Your donations will go to Trout In the Classroom, stream projects, presenters and much more!

## TU LOCAL BUSINESS GIFT CARD RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

One of our big fundraisers has been the Fly Fishing Film Tour, that we co-host down in Phoenixville. Due to COVID-19, we had to cancel this event. The team came up with idea to put those funds towards our local businesses and buy gift cards. Tickets for the raffle are on the bottom of this page. If you'd like to participate just fill out the form and send in a check, no cash.

You can also enter online, for the opportunity to gain free bonus entries at: <https://go.rallyup.com/tullytu2020>

### PRIZE PACKAGE ONE Value of \$250

Gift Cards Included:  
TCO Outfitters  
Plum Creek Creamery  
Stoudt's  
Cabela's  
PLUS MORE!

### PRIZE PACKAGE TWO Value of \$150

Gift Cards Included:  
TCO Outfitters  
Saucony Creek  
Plum Creek Creamery  
PLUS MORE!

### PRIZE PACKAGE THREE Value of \$100

Gift Cards Included:  
TCO Outfitters  
Mission BBQ  
PLUS MORE!

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please select raffle ticket entries. (You may purchase more than one option if you would like.)

☐ 10 entries - \$10      ☐ 20 entries - \$30      ☐ 100 entries - \$50      ☐ 200 entries - \$75

Please make checks payable to: Tulpehocken Chapter TU for the selected amount and send entries and check to: Brenda Bittinger c/o Tully TU, 16 Lyons Rd., Fleetwood PA 19522. Entries must be postmarked by 6/30/2020. Drawing will be held on 7/5/2020. Winners will be chosen at random and notified via phone number and prizes will be delivered/shipped to the winner. You must be 18 years or older to participate.



# RACE SPONSORSHIP FORM



approximate size of logo on shirt, represented by box

TOP SPONSOR LOGOS \$1000

SECONDARY SPONSOR LOGOS \$500

SECONDARY SPONSOR LOGOS \$500

TERTIARY SPONSORSHIP LISTING \$250

SUPPORTING SPONSORSHIP LISTING \$100

**TOP SPONSORS:**  
1 color logo on tshirt + 25 free race registrants - includes tshirt

**SECONDARY SPONSORS:**  
1 color logo on tshirt + 15 free race registrants - includes tshirt

**TERTIARY SPONSORS:-**  
Company logo listed on tshirt + 5 free race registrants, includes tshirt

**SUPPORTING SPONSORS:**  
Name/company listed on tshirt + 2 free race registrants, includes tshirt

\* Please note there are multiple spots available for each level.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL RACE TO SUPPORT

Cold water conservation, Trout in the Classroom, and stream restoration projects for the Schuylkill River Watershed.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 10AM  
@ PSU Berks Campus-Reading, PA**

## BENEFITS OF SPONSORSHIP

- > Your logo/name lets people know that **you** support local clean water efforts! **WIN!**
- > Your logo/name lets people know that **you** support local conservation efforts! **WIN!**
- > Your registrants get **AWESOME TSHIRTS!**
- > It's **FREE** advertising weeks, months & years after the race! **WIN!**

We hope that your business or organization will contribute to this inaugural family-friendly event about coldwater conservation, education and outreach.

☐ **Yes, we would like to become a sponsor for the 2020 Tully Eco 5k Run/Walk.** Please check the corresponding box below for sponsorship level commitment.

☐ Top Sponsor (\$1000) ☐ Secondary Sponsor (\$500) ☐ Tertiary Sponsor (\$250) ☐ Supporting Sponsor (\$100)

Business/Contributor Name

Contact Name

Contact Phone/Email

☐ **Yes, we would like to donate products/services towards raffles at the event, or be a vendor.**

Business/Contributor Name

Contact Name

Contact Phone/Email

☐ **No, we are unable to be a sponsor this year, but please contact us next year.**

Please make checks payable to: Tulpehocken TU. Please mail the form above to: c/o Brenda Bittinger, 16 Lyons Rd., Fleetwood PA 19522 postmarked by August 30, 2020. **NO CASH.** If you are choosing to sponsor a logo position, please send **black and white artwork in an EPS/PDF format** to b.bittinger@gmail.com, no later than AUGUST 30, 2020, or we can not guarantee your logo will appear, but your name/company will be there in a text format.