

President's Message June 2011

Summer is around the corner, and although our regular chapter meetings have ceased until the fall, there is still plenty going on.

Our chapter is now involved in two river restoration projects. We are a partner in a stormwater mitigation project on the Brentwood section of the Exeter River, which should take place this summer. There will be some opportunities for hands on volunteer work for our membership. We are waiting to hear regarding the project's work schedule.

The second project is our own. We have successfully applied for and obtained a grant to improve fish passage on Thompson Brook, a tributary of the Winnicut River. Thompson Brook is currently supporting a small population of wild brook trout. You can read all about the project on our website on the Conservation page under Watersheds. This year will be mostly engineering, design and permitting, but we will shortly begin planning for grants to get the on the ground work done in 2012 if at all possible. We anticipate volunteer opportunities for riparian zone restoration in conjunction with the later phases of this project, so stay tuned.

We are continuing to host Kid's River Days during the summer, and hope to work with the Boy Scouts with fly fishing merit badges as well.

Next fall is shaping up to be a good one. We will be hosting two Amy's Treat River Days in October, and have a pretty good list of guest speaker's lined up. Look for our newsletter sometime in August with the meeting and event schedule. Our first meeting of the new club meeting season will be on September 12th this year. It is going to be our annual business meeting where we will hopefully ratify new bylaws, a new strategic plan and elect officers. If there is time, we may be able to show a short fly fishing movie as well.

I will try to keep the website updated throughout the summer, so check it out on a stormy summer day when you can't be out on the water.

Tight Lines Everyone!

Mitch Kalter, President Great Bay Trout Unlimited