



FALL 2009

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WELCOME NEW ADOPT-A-STREAM MEMBERS!

Borough of Stroudsburg
East Stroudsburg Borough

WELCOME NEW BWA MEMBERS!

- Lubor Gergel
- Brenton Hartle
- David Lewis
- Susan & Thomas Brozena
- Susan Jastrzemski & Margo Warner
- Joseph Fisch
- Ernest & Mary Henzi



BWA Celebrating 20 years of Watershed Protection

On Friday night, September 25th 2009 the BWA will celebrate this 20 year milestone at the Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort, Shawnee on Delaware, PA.

Don't miss this major social event celebrating this historical episode in the history of the BWA. Founding Members Don Baylor, Don Dolan, Clark Connor, Jill Shoemith and Edie Stevens launched the BWA 20 years ago. Their original endeavor was the genesis for an organization that continues to be critical in the effort safeguarding the pristine waterways within the Brodhead Watershed.

The evening's festivities will fill the air with music and the waft of grilled pheasant, trout and pork. A variety of activities to include a slide show retrospective of the BWA, music, art and education will fill the list of the evening's events.

Bill Manner, Retiring DEP Watershed Program Manager and long time friend of the BWA will be honored for his support of the BWA during his tenure. As part of the evening program, an artistic installation by ESU art teacher Darlene Farris-LaBar will be on view. Guest speaker Jan Jarret, President/CEO of PennFuture will provide information about this leading environmental advocacy organization and how the courts can work to help protect our natural resources
www.pennfuture.org.

The featured speaker Dave Morine humorist and author who from 1972 to 1990 was a land acquisition manager for The Nature Conservancy, and author of many books to include his just released *Two Coots in A Canoe* (Globe Pequot Press, 2009) will provide a humorous look at "Getting in the

Game-How to Save a Stream" .

Reservations and ticket purchase are required in advance -contact the BWA at brodheadwatershed@verizon.net or Rob Sedwin at robosed@ptd.net, 570 236 1118. Tickets \$47 members \$57 non-members.

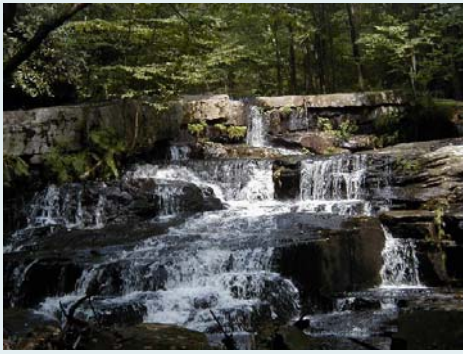


The BWA 20th Anniversary celebration will take place on the lawn of the historic Shawnee Inn along the Delaware River

President's Message

The fall is rapidly approaching and our summer water fun will be ending. Kids and students of all ages will be returning to school and water fun will hopefully turn to water education. Although the fall and its amazing display of color with most likely dazzle us all and provide a watercolor backdrop to some great hiking and fishing, and the cold winter weather and snow will freeze over most of our streams, do not forget our watershed needs care all year long. Encourage your children and their educators to add/keep learning about our watershed and the importance of "waterways respect" in their curriculums. The BWA can always help supply information and educational support for these efforts. Have a wonderful cold weather season. Do something for the watershed this year. Hope to see all of you at our 20th Anniversary Celebration.

- Don Baylor



Attention Recyclers!

There are more recycling opportunities in Monroe County than meet the eye.

Following are some of the materials with a checkered past that can be placed in the blue REACH recycling collection bins.

- Glass bins - Blue glass in.
- Corrugated Cardboard Only bins - Paperboard (like cereal boxes).
- Magazines, Office Paper, Junk Mail & Phone Books Only bins - Waxed paper containers (like milk cartons) after rinsing and removing plastic spouts.
- Metal & Aluminum Cans Only bins - Metal lids from glass jars and clean aluminum foil.

If you don't believe us, call REACH recycling at 570-643-6100.

Two Days In Paradise

By: A fisherman from the Beach

Late on Friday afternoon Paradise Stream was in beautiful condition. Unfortunately, a business meeting kept me from casting a line and my joy was to be postponed for another time. It rained most of the day but once the rain had stopped, I hoped it would continue to cooperate on Saturday. I had invited my friend Jason to try his hand at fly-fishing in the morning.

Rain fell hard all night long and Saturday morning the stream had come up about 18 inches and was slightly discolored. If any fish were to be caught, they would have to be hooked with Streamers and Buck Tails. Since Jason was a neophyte fly fisher and had never fished with Streamers, I knew I was up for some coaching and learning. It was important to me that he would have a successful day and catch some fish his first time out. Before we even rigged up, I spent the better part of two or more hours teaching and coaching him on the use of Streamers, and myself, learning how to present the skills of fly-fishing to someone of Jason's

abilities. Even though we were not in the water yet, this was still Paradise.

We finally made it to an Elbow Pool and he threw out with a Conehead-Black-Wooly-Bugger at the end of his line. After I had shown him how to cast and retrieve, on about the third pitch at the head of the pool he got his first prospect but missed. He needed more guidance and I happily provided advice on the art of effectively stripping in the fly with short sharp jerks. With this technique somewhat mastered, I encourage him not to stand in one spot, but to work his way down stream and cover the whole pool. As he waded along he missed another fish but when he got to the tail of the pool he took a small native about 10 inches long. We were both delighted at this minor achievement and with that encouragement, I suggested that he change his fly and take advantage of other spots in the pool. In this spot there seemed to be few fish in the "taking mood" so we moved down a ways. After attaching a Black Ghost to his line, we went back to the head of the pool and started our course once more. About a third of the way down the

pool we were teased again, when he hooked and lost a nice fourteen incher. Again, down a little further he got outdone and missed another fish.

Eventually we moved to the Ledges and after a terrific battle in the high water, he landed a very healthy 16" Brown Trout. Boy oh boy, were we both beaming with excitement, I was ready to go go go. At that moment he dropped the bombshell...his wife had insisted that he be home 20 minutes from then and he was more than 1 hour away. So much for Paradise. Out of the water, he packed up and left. That was the end of Jason's fishing for the day and I was forced to resign that a fine fishing day was just a wish.

Later in the day, I spoke with one of my fishing mates Richie. The news that the water was dropping and clearing was his cue to try Nymphs. Without much success, he switched back to Streamers. Just above the clubhouse bridge he hooked a very large fish on a Grey Ghost and broke the leader. Once again another case of lost Paradise.

...continued on page 3

Two Days in Paradise...continued

While I was waiting for my friend Charlie to arrive for dinner the familiar tunes of the hooch bird started to drape the early evening air. Richie stopped in again, he was concerned about where the discoloration in the water was coming from. I suggested we go out and survey the various streams that join our waterway along the route above their junction. We spent the next forty minutes touring without success and returned in time to hear the croon of the hooch bird giving all she had. Charlie was just showing up for dinner, so we sat down and obliged the wily bird with a couple of cocktails before we ate.

The day ended delightfully, making salad, grilling steaks, and having a comforting meal with lots of fish talk. Charlie, with a twinkle in his eye, questioned Richie if he had been fishing with a Grey Ghost Streamer earlier. When Richie answered slyly "affirmative," Charlie asked him, "did you loose a large fish above the clubhouse bridge?" Richie answered, "Maybe" with a confirmatory tone. With a large grin, Charlie presented him with his Grey Ghost from the fish that had beat Richie at the game. And, to add more friendly abuse, Charlie was

obliged to set the record straight that the fish had been hooked in the tail which undoubtedly explained the early break off.

At about 10:30 as Charlie was leaving it began to shower, filling the clearing streams with a fresh flow and churning up the sediment. Thus leaving our thoughts to wonder about tomorrow's session. Streamers, Buck Tails, Black Ghosts..., what will tempt fish to the line?

Sunday dawned a glorious crystal clear day with raindrops' last life clinging to the trees and the sun splintering through the leaves like diamonds. Along the stream the brilliance of the day started with Richie fishing for an hour in the Line Pool. The water had dropped and cleared enough, despite the night's rainstorm, he was able to take seven fish; one nymph, one small, a native, about 10 inches long and the rest larger fish all over 16 inches. The largest fish was slightly over 20 inches, and all were browns, very fat and ready to spawn. Just like Saturday, all the fish were set back in the stream to play another day!

Clean Water, Healthy Fish and Great Friends. There is no better place in the world than Paradise.

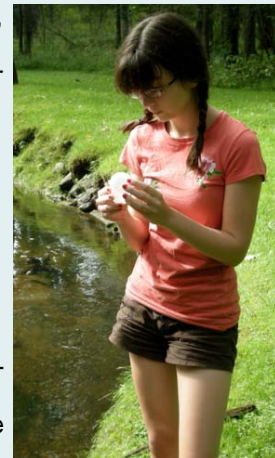
BWA completes fecal coliform tests with funds from the PA DEP

By: Edie Stevens

As another example of the ongoing efforts and cooperation with all levels of government agencies, BWA volunteers collected samples from five local water sites for fecal coliform testing this summer. The PA Dept of Environmental Protection paid for the costs for this program. Each site was tested 10 times over a three-month period. Local a local water testing company, Pocono Environmental Labs in Tannersville, provided laboratory services.

Volunteers, all BWA members, selected the sites likely to have high public use. Darryl Speicher collected samples from the Brodhead at Brinkers Bridge and the Paradise at the park on Keokee Chapel Road. Bob Stevens sampled Scot Run, below the Great Wolf discharge; Wendy Lichty and Amy Albert sampled the Brodhead at Dansbury Park and Pete Steele and an assistant (girl in picture) sampled Mountain Run.

Results will be available on the BWA website in the near future.



Laura Masgula collects water samples

Encourage a Friend to Join Today!!!

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Preferred method of BWA receiving news & info:

Regular Mail Email Both

Circle One:

Family \$30 Individual \$15 Senior \$10

Student \$5 Contributor \$100

Adopt-A-Stream Site \$250

Return, with your check to:

Brodhead Watershed Association
Box 339, Henryville, PA 18332

The official registration and financial information of Brodhead Watershed Association may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania

Water Facts: "H₂Ology"

How long can drinking water be stored?

Drinking water that is thoroughly disinfected can be stored indefinitely in capped plastic or glass containers or any that will not rust or leach odors. Test some plastic for this before used for any long-term storage. Disinfectant that was in the water when stored does slowly go away, it is good to use that water for plants or other non consumptive purposes and refill every 6 months. The water is not harmful it just will have a flat un-fresh taste.

Autumn Comes to the Watershed

By: Jeri Jewett-Smith, PhD., ESU Director of Environmental Studies



Each autumn, the major input of natural nutrients begins to enter the streams via leaves from maples, oaks and aspens. This input of leaf litter will provide the food for hundreds of different macroinvertebrates who live under the rocks, in the sediments, hanging onto aquatic vegetation and edges of the streams. Aquatic macroinvertebrates includes the larval forms of stoneflies, caddisflies, and midges as well as snails, small fingernail clams and crustaceans. These animals use leaves by shredding them into small pieces, munching them up and eventually excreting the results to the stream as "coarse particulate organic material" (CPOM). CPOM is a major food source for fungi, bacteria and other macros in the water. As time goes on each segment of the food web processes this material, it is broken down into smaller and smaller components and eventually it becomes either part of the animals or Dissolved Organic Material (DOM). Increased levels of DOM identified as higher concentrations of nitrate or phosphate in the water can be seen as foam in the water below riffles. DOM may also cause the stream waters to be slightly tea colored or brown because of acids dissolved out of the leaves.

Like magic next spring, after the snow is gone, little will be left of the leaves that fell into the stream in October. Backwater areas may have submerged layers of decomposed leaves that the macroinvertebrates can still work through, but most of the nutrients will leach out of the left over woody cellulose, leaving this food source useless. Young trout will be busy eating the winter's growth of mayflies nourished by the leaves of the previous autumn.

Making sure that our streams have intact healthy stream forests that shade in the summer and provide leaves for this productive cycle is important. Leaves from invasive species like; Japanese Knotweed and Rosa Multiflora, are not used in the same way by the macros in the stream as the leaves from native trees and shrubs. This change in the stream food web has revealed by several research studies to cause harmful imbalances to the fragile ecosystem.. Many factors like watershed development, projected changes in the flora, global warming, and increasing use of our waterways, stress our Watersheds. This means we all need to be conscious of the factors invading our stream banks and waterways. This is why we must continue to work to maintain the health and balance of our stream edge forests.



Want to contact us?

Phone: 570-839-1120 **Email:** brodheadwatershed@verizon.net **Web:** www.brodheadwatershed.org



Brodhead Watershed Association

Box 339
Henryville, PA 18332

The Brodhead Watershed Association is a non-profit organization formed in 1989 to promote and preserve the environment of the Brodhead watershed and the water quality of the Brodhead, Cherry, Marshalls, McMichael, Paradise, and Pocono creeks and their tributaries.