

MADDOG TU

Protect | Reconnect | Restore our cold water streams, lakes and ponds!

MDTU Annual Fund Raiser, Set. 11th 2021

The MadDog TU annual banquet and fund raiser is back! And being re-imagined! The venue is TBA though the timing is similar, late afternoon events, a delicious meal and terrific raffle and auction items including guided trips, overnight stays at fly fishing destinations and local raffles and auction items. And.

The Grand Prize this year is a

THE CATCH 100 fishing kayak is ideal for the smaller angler looking for a lightweight, easy-to-store kayak. With a maximum weight capacity of 350 lb. this sit-on-top kayak features our convenient dual position seating system which comes with an elastic pocket and strap to keep your pliers, knives and clippers within reach. When it's time to reel in fish, feel free to stand up in this kayak. The anti-slip carpets will give you the extra traction you need to stand securely on a



Trout Day at Sugarbush Resort, July 10th, 12:00- 4:00 PM. Volunteers needed for fly tying and casting!

July 10th is Trout Day at Sugarbush. Sponsored by the Mad-Dog Chapter of Trout Unlimited and The Silver Trout Fly Shop in Waitsfield. Single hand and Spey casting instruction, fly-tying demonstrations. Learn the basics of fly fishing, talk with a local guide for tips on fly selection and presentation. Participate in the Trout Unlimited raffle for cool prizes. The event is free to all.

North Branch Nature Center “River Fest” , August 21st, 1:00 to 5:00 PM

Presented by NBNC & Friends of the Winooski





Tickets are \$20/ and only 100 to be sold! Tickets available [here](#). Also includes a \$100 gift certificate at [Umiak in Stowe](#).

Local fishing:

- Fish the “blue lines”! Upland stream hold many lovely brookies.
- Look for cold water trips entering larger streams.
- Go out for smallies, pike, bluegills, pickerel and other warm water denizens.
- Look for cool and overcast days.
- Take a day and visit the Upper Connecticut River. This is cooled by an upriver dam. Good spots, Canaan/West Stewartstown, Colebrook, and the Columbia Bridge. Small dries and nymphs. 16’s and below probably, too big. Look for tumbling water or flats below riffles. Wade carefully! Very slippery river!
- Check the water temp! Don’t fish when the waters above 69!

River Fest activities:

click [here](#) to volunteer to fly flies at the event and/or for fly casting demo.

Cool off in the heat of summer at this community-wide, family-friendly river celebration! Visit each river access point at the nature center to partake in different activities and adventures along the North Branch.

- Walk the North Branch with NBNC Teacher-Naturalists in search of river critters.
- Join workshops on aquatic biodiversity and habitat conservation.
- Fly casting and fly tying.
- Float the river in an inner-tube, canoe, kayak or paddleboard.
- Plant a tree or join a stream clean-up crew.
- Make some art with artist/naturalists.
- Listen to music at the river shore.
- Check out aquatic exhibits and aquaria.
- Bring a picnic and enjoy an afternoon playing by the water.

When we take care of our rivers, they take care of us!





Have ideas for [projects](#)?

MDTU participated in a couple of riparian plantings this spring on the Passumpsic, Bull Run and North Branch rivers. Do you see river sections that need help in your area? Let us know! Here are images from the Passumpsic project led by The Passumpsic Land Trust and The Connecticut River Conservancy.



MDTU volunteers were Chip Conquest, Don Coffey, Nancy Thomas, Dana Lawrence and Clark Amadon

[Clyde River Documentary is in production!](#)

MDTU won a VT Watershed Grant to produce a documentary on the Clyde River Salmon run! Just added a great interview with VT Fish & Wildlife biologist Pete Emerson. His knowledge of salmon, the Clyde and much more made an interesting interview. Checked out the Clyde afterwards and found mainly bass but there are still some stocked and wild salmon in the lower river.



Donate to MDTU as we are raising more funds for the production!

The MadDog TU 2 Fly is on for [Sunday September 12th!](#) [Catch and Release tournament!](#)



It's on Sunday 9/12/2021. The tactic is limited to a dry/dropper fly fishing— same pattern, color and size flies must be used all day though this may be tweaked. The river reaches are Winooski River and its tributaries (excluding the trophy stretch in Waterbury). Teams of 2 – limited to 20 teams. All proceeds to benefit the Vermont Trout Camp. Register here!

Trout in the Classroom projects were a challenge this year! The trout eggs arrived late and were donated from The State of Maine. The number of schools participating was down about half. There was also some unexpected mortality of the trout fry and some technical issues with equipment.. Geezz.. BUT the schools and teachers were amazingly resilient! Always turning a disappointment into teaching moments! School participating in the MadDog region were Northfield Middle School, Harwood Middle School, Crossett Brook Middle School and The Riverside School in Lyndonville. North Country High School does a “Salmon in the Classroom” as has been their tradition!

TIC in 2021/2022. It's a good bet MDTU will see more schools participating in this amazing science project and curriculum next year!

Do you know a school or teacher that wants to get in on TIC then connect [here](#).

Here's a [link](#) to Vermont TIC schools and projects via the Vermont Council of TU!

Finally here are pictures from The Riverside School learning about aquatic invertebrates!



Time to take a fresh look at MadDog TU!

The MadDog TU Board, members are listed below, are diving into planning for the next 5 years.. strategically..

The discussion started with a proposed goal to look at “engagement” of members rather than simply raising membership. Also, take a look at what our region and see what it looks like and seek to have our chapter look that that.

MadDog events cluster about the central Vermont region. How about spreading the events around?

How a new meeting format. Perhaps one that allows for folks to drop for some time and leave. One that’s not always linked to a presenter/speaker. How can we re-fresh our format and offer what folks have come to expect.

Develop a calendar for the year.

In light of the engagement goal what would that be like the members? What would engage them more deeply?

What are our “key performance indicators” (Sorry for the jargon). How do we measure what we want to accomplish?

Perhaps use the newsletter as incentive at MDTU events. One signs up and is put on the mailing list, virtual or hard copy.

This is a 1st crack and we’d like feedback!

Who are on the MDTU Board of Directors?!

President: R. Jared Carpenter

V.P.: Colin Cascadden

Treasurer: Bob Hynes

Secretary and Newsletter editor: Clark Amadon

Education Chair: Kurt Budliger

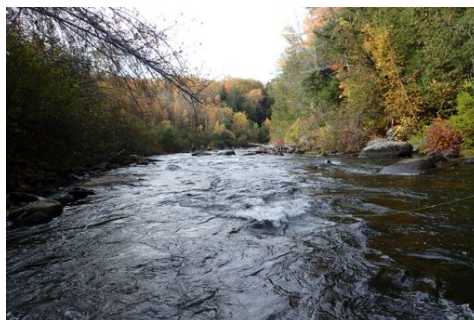
2 Fly Tournament Chair: Shawn Nailor

Samantha Aronson: At Large

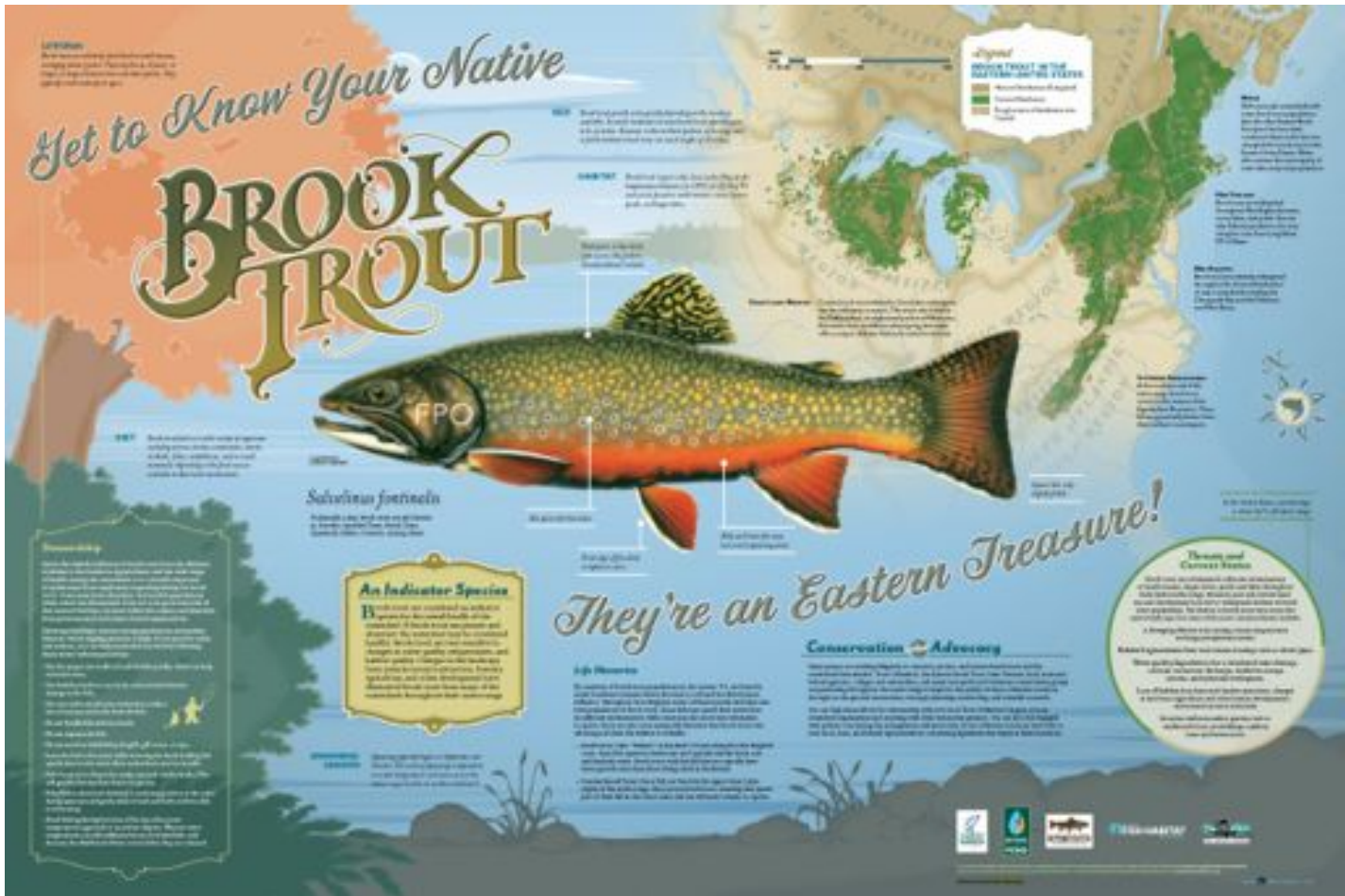
Nancy Thomas: At Large

Zach Cockrum: At Large

Below, Clyde River, Newport, VT



Wow! This is a great poster! It measures 36 x 24. True Poster size! Would look great on a wall at home! I've got it on one of mine!



Cost to you? \$20, plus postage! Here's the email [link](#) to request a poster. Send a message as to how many posters and where to send them. Send a check to: MadDog TU P.O. Box 892 Montpelier, VT 05602. In the check memo put: "poster".

MadDog Artist Corner

SAMANTHA ARONSON

Born in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont and currently residing in Northfield, Vermont with her husband, Dave and their son, Zeke, Sam is most happy and at home by the rivers and in the hills of her native state. Her work has been praised for its realistic attention to detail, it's accurate representations of individual flies and fish, and its respect for the history and traditions of the art of fly fishing. An illustrator, Sam came to painting flies in an effort to contribute to conservation and restoration efforts that hold importance to her and the life she lives. Her work has attracted a wide following, appearing in the American Museum of Fly Fishing and other galleries. She has enjoyed many collaborations with tiers from all over the world. One of her most treasured collaborations was with Left Kreh. The work they did together was auctioned off in a fundraiser for Stripers Forever. Other beneficiaries of her work are: The American Fly Fishing Trade Association, Trout Unlimited, Project Healing Waters, Casting for Recovery, Native Fish Coalition as well as many small projects focusing on restoration and conservation around her native state of Vermont.

She is a proud contributor to the book *America's Favorite Flies*. Proceeds of this book go to the James River Association and Native Fish Society. When not in her studio Sam enjoys fly fishing, sliding on snow, gardening and many other of life's joys that allow her to day dream. Please connect with her [here](#) for prints, originals and for commissions. Below Samantha's rendition of the classic Atlantic Salmon fly the Dunham Ranger.

