



Squan-a-Tissit NEWS

*News from our chapter of Trout Unlimited.
Champions of sport and conservation on two northeastern Massachusetts
trout watersheds: The Squannacook & The Nissitissit .*

MAY, 2026

Chapter Meeting Eric Roach

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Learn about the exciting spring fishery for American shad in the Merrimack River. The presentation is by Eric Roach, who has 30 years of fishing for American shad in New England. Eric will discuss locations, timing, techniques, single and two-hand rod choices, lines and flies that will help you successfully catch these wild, native fish.

Eric is an Advisory Panel member for the ASMFC Shad & River Herring Management board, and teaches shad-fly-tying classes at Eldredge Bros. Fly Shop in York ME, where he currently works.



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Squan-a-Tissit Chapter Notes

**Squan-a-Tissit
Chapter Contacts:**

Officers:

President
John Deery

Vice President
Michael Lauritzen

Treasurer
Tom Burke

Secretary
Tim McDaniel

Directors:

Paul Apgar
Dave Armstrong
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Jim Nugent
Jan Polex
Kirk Reynolds
Michael Rosser
Russ Schott

Chapter website
squanatissit.org

Chapter Email
chapter@squanatissit.org

Hello fellow TU chapter members and friends,

The weather and waters are finally warm. Take some time to get out to fish !

The May meeting will be the last TU Chapter meeting until October.

Note that the May Chapter meeting is early this month b/c of the Memorial Day holiday. The meeting will be held thi coming Monday, March 18 at 7 pm at the Lawrence Library, 15 Main St, Pepperell. Doors open at 6:30.

The Chapter will be providing pizza and drinks.

TU Chapter meetings are open to the public, and anyone may attend.

See you there !



Want to help with a small donation to the Squan-a-Tissit Chapter?



Squan-a-Tissit Calendar of Events

MAY

BOD Meeting, Mon May 11 @ 7 PM,
Location: Zoom Meeting,

Day-On-The-River, Sat, May 16, 9 –2
Location: Henry Colombo WMA
Brookline St, Pepperell

Water Quality Monitoring, Wed, May 20

Chapter Meeting, Mon, May 18 @ 7 PM
Location: Lawrence Library
15 Main St, Pepperell

JUNE

MDFW Electrofishing Sucker Brook
Date tentative

Learn To Fly Fish Workshop, Jun4 6, 9-3
Location”Nashua River Watershed

Water Quality Monitoring, Wed, June 17

NOTE: Squan-a-Tissit TU Chapter Meetings from June– Sept are held “On the River”

SEPT

Water Quality Monitoring, Wed, Sept 16

BOD Meeting, Mon Sept 28 @ 7 PM,
Location: Zoom Meeting,

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SEPT

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



Learn to Fly fish Workshop



Saturday, June 6, 2026 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Squan-a-tissit Chapter of Trout Unlimited (TU) will lead a hands-on, full day Learn to Fly Fish Workshop. The classroom and lunch will be held at the Nashua River Watershed Association (NRWA) River Resource Center, 592 Main Street (Rt. 119) in Groton, MA. The class will include a fishing trip to the Nissitissit R in Pepperell.

Hands-on classroom: 9:00 am to Noon

Lunch (provided by NRWA): Noon to 12:45 pm

In-field fishing: 1:00 to 3:00 pm

The workshop will cover:

- What equipment you need, including setup and care
- Important fishing knots with hands-on practice
- How to cast with practice time
- Local fish species, what makes good habitat, and fishing locations
- State fishing rules and regulations

Included in the day:

- Lunch, and morning coffee and refreshments will be provided by the NRWA.
-

The workshop is limited to 10 attendees to ensure a great instructor to student ratio.

Registration: This program is open to the public. Registration fee is \$20 per person, payable upon registration to secure your position.

See:

<https://www.nashuariverwatershed.org/learn-to-fly-fish-workshop/>



MDFW Wild Brook Trout Project

Adam Kautza, Coldwater Fish Biologist for MDFW, is planning an extensive electrofishing survey of Sucker Brook to search for any surviving PIT-tagged trout that have not moved past any of the antennas and to search for any potential (obviously untagged) offspring from the transplanted trout. The work is tentatively planned for June 1 and June 2, stay tuned !





Day-on-the-River

The weather cooperated this year, serving up one of those spring days as only May can for the Squan-a-Tissit Chapter's Annual Day-on-the-River cookout. Flows in the Niss were up from recent rains, the sun was warm on our backs, and a fine time was had by all !



Project



Updates

Day-on-the-River, contin...





Water-Quality Monitoring Project

The Squan-a-Tissit and Merrimack River Valley TU chapters work together to conduct water-quality monitoring in Witches and Flints Brook, Hollis, NH.



Project



Updates

Water-Quality Monitoring Project, contin...

Water-quality monitoring takes place the 3rd Wednesday of every month throughout the summer. Join us !



TROUT UNLIMITED

Squan-a-Tissit TU supports the efforts of these allied non-profit organizations



CfR provides healing outdoor retreats to enhance the lives of survivors and thrivers of breast cancer through wellness retreats that connect women to each other using the therapeutic sport of fly fishing and providing oncology medical and psychosocial support.

<https://castingforrecovery.org/>



Project Healing Waters guides veterans in need to healing through camaraderie, connectedness, and fly fishing. Project Healing Waters helps active military service personnel and Veterans in need through a dedicated, developed curriculum of fly fishing, fly casting, fly tying, and fly rod building.

<https://projecthealingwaters.org/>



The Mayfly Project supports children in foster care through fly fishing and introduces them to their local water ecosystems, with a hope that connecting them to a rewarding hobby will provide an opportunity for foster children to have fun, build confidence, and develop a meaningful connection with the outdoors.

<https://themayflyproject.com/>

ADAM'S PARACHUTE



Adam's Parachute is dedicated to bringing the therapeutic benefits of fly fishing to the community of addiction and recovery. Through our free programs, we empower those in recovery from addiction, those working in the high-stress field of addiction care, and their loved ones to find healing, focus, and peace.

<https://themayflyproject.com/>

Fly of the Month



Fly: Pale evening dun

Hook: standard dry fly sizes 14 – 20

Thread: cream

Tail: light dun hackle fibers

Body: pale yellow rabbit dubbing

Wings: light dun hackle tips

Hackle: medium dun

The nymphs of pale evening duns cling tightly to the underside of rocks and are rarely encountered by trout. Source:

https://i.troutnut.com/im_regspec/pic_7620_1600.jpg

Photo source:

https://www.inaturalist.org/guide_taxa/35363



Photo: Jim Nugent



JOIN TROUT UNLIMITED TODAY !

Fill out the name, address and other required fields and you are IN.

Any amount can be given above regular membership as an additional gift to help Trout Unlimited promote coldwater conservation.

Trout Unlimited is a 501c(3) organization. Membership fees and other contributions to TU and the local chapter are tax exempt to the extent allowable by law.

Squan-*a*-Tissit Back Pages

Photo: Nissitissit, in May

D. Armstrong



Email us your photos and fish tales to chapter@squanatissit.org
Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Squan-*a*-Tissit Back Pages

Photo: Fishing for shad in the Merrimack at sunrise

D. Armstrong



Email us your photos and fish tales to chapter@squanatissit.org
Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Squan-a-Tissit Back Pages

Photo: Osprey with a Herring, Exeter R.

D. Armstrong



Email us your photos and fish tales to chapter@squanatissit.org
Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

Squan-a-Tissit Chapter of Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 654
Pepperell, MA 01463

Trout Unlimited - Our Vision

By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Monthly Meeting

The Squan-a-Tissit Chapter of Trout Unlimited holds monthly meetings for chapter members and guests, typically on the fourth Monday of each month (Oct. through May) at the Pepperell Christian Fellowship (PCF) 17 Main Street, Pepperell, MA. Select meetings may be at the Lawrence Library, 15 Main St., Pepperell, MA.

Meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. However, members and guests are encouraged to arrive earlier (6:30) and participate in informal fly tying. Bring your own vice and materials.

Meeting confirmation/updates are sent via email and posted on Facebook and the Chapter website and include on-line meeting attendance information.

Directions

From Rt. 3: Take the Rt. 113 Exit (Tyngsboro, Dunstable) and proceed west on Rt. 113, 9.2 miles, through Dunstable and into Pepperell. At the traffic circle take the 2nd exit onto Main Street. The PCF Hall will be located on the left side (next to the Lawrence Library).

From Rt. 495: Take the Rt. 119 Exit (Littleton Common) and proceed west on Rt. 119, 9 miles, through Groton and into Pepperell. Turn right onto Rt. 111, and proceed 2.7 miles. At the traffic circle take the 3rd exit onto Main Street. The PCF will be located on the left side (next to the Lawrence Library.)

From Rt. 2: Take the Rt. 111 Exit (Ayer, Harvard, Clinton) and proceed north on Rt. 111, approximately 12 miles (total, to the Pepperell rotary), through Ayer and Groton to Pepperell. Route 111 merges with Rt. 119 in Groton. Once in Pepperell, Rt. 111 bears to the right (off of Rt. 119). Turn right onto Rt. 111 and proceed 2.7 miles. At the traffic circle take the 3rd exit onto Main Street. The PCF will be located on the left side (next to the Lawrence Library.)

Google Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/6XjCMTfjoBLQwify8>