

TIGHT LINES

July 2025 Newsletter

of the

Rabun Chapter (522) Trout Unlimited

The mission of the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited is to conserve, protect, and restore Northeast Georgia's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

[CLICK HERE](#)
to visit our website!



Now on Instagram!
@rabunchaptertu

NEXT RABUN CHAPTER ~~MEETING~~ FUN EVENT!

Tuesday, July 15—Annual Family Picnic

Time: Beginning at 5:00 pm – Fellowship and Dinner

Where: Kelly's Waterfall Park, Dillard, GA

From Dillard, GA take GA Hwy 246 North for 1.8 miles. Turn right onto Wayfarer Lane. Go to the end of the road.

There will be no “meeting” this month. Rather, you are invited to our annual Family Picnic! The Chapter provides the fried chicken, plates, cups, silverware, and drinks. Please bring a covered dish of food and a chair to sit on. ***This would be a great time to bring a friend and introduce them to your Chapter!***



Important Upcoming Dates Mark Your Calendars Now!

- **Tuesday, July 15. Annual Rabun Chapter Family Picnic.** Kelly's Water Park. Rabun Gap GA. Fellowship begins at 5:00 pm, supper begins at 6:00. The Chapter provides the fried chicken, ice tea, cups, plates and silverware. Please bring a side dish or dessert. The Family Picnic will be our monthly Chapter meeting. See page 1 for more information.
- **Tuesday, July 22. Monthly Board of Directors Meeting.** Northeast Georgia Food Bank. Starts at 7:00 pm. Anyone can attend. Contact [Tammy Hopton](#) for more information.
- **There will be no Chapter meeting, BOD meeting, newsletter, or any Chapter activities occurring during the month of August.**
- **Tuesday, Sept 16. Monthly Chapter Meeting.** "Casting for Cold Cuts" Day Use Pavilion at the Rabun County Park. Fellowship, meeting, and meal starts at 6:00 pm, casting and games starts at 7:00 pm. Contact [Tammy Hopton](#) for more information.
- **Annual Chattooga River Electroshock Sampling.** Date and location to be announced soon!
- **Monday, November 10 - Sunday, November 16. Annual Rabun Chapter Fall Campout.** [Oconee State Park](#), Mountain Rest, SC. Make your own campsite reservations. We will use Site #93 as our gathering place for meals and fellowship. Contact [Terry Rivers](#) for more information.
- **Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner.** Date and location to be announced soon!
- **39th Annual Rabun Rendezvous.** Date and location to be announced soon!

Connect with Rabun Chapter TU on Social Media

Are you on FaceBook or Instagram? Well the Rabun Chapter is too!

We invite you to follow us for timely fishing info, conservation news and alerts, and reminders of Chapter activities. We feature member photos and videos and share news from the motherships: - National and Georgia Council TU—as well as partners such as the US Forest Service and GA Department of Natural Resources. We even dish some hot fishing tips and post some just-for-fun content for all you trout fin-atics.

Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/rabuntu

Follow us on Instagram at [@rabunchaptertu](#)

Check out our website at www.rabuntu.org



Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited Fundraiser Mack Martin Custom Built Fly Rod & Reel

**Winston 8 1/2 ft., 4-piece, 4 wt. AIR 2
Boron/Graphite Rod & Reel (TBD)**

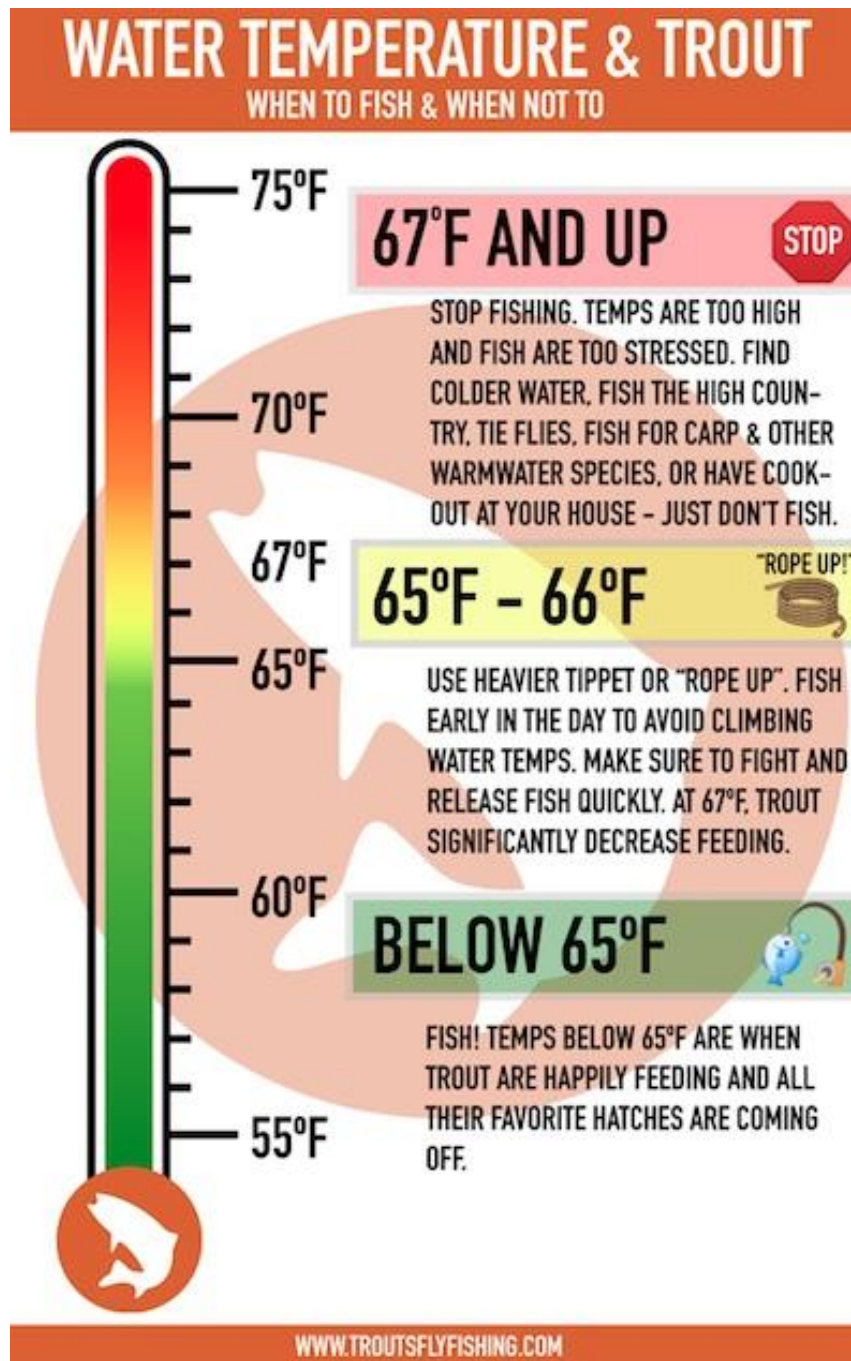
Raffle tickets are \$3.00 each or Four (4) for \$10.00

Purchase tickets here: <https://go.tulocalevents.org/dab1b6/Campaign/Details>

**➡ Event will start mid-July, 2025. Drawing will be October, 2025 ⬅
Online Sweepstakes by Event Groove (for Trout Unlimited)**



Thank you, Mack, for your generous donation!



[CLICK HERE](#) to check the water temperature on the Chattooga River at Burrells Ford.



The hot weather and light hatches of July and August are two of the reasons (excuses really) why many Rabunites make annual treks to fish and camp “West of Hiawassee”, or as Lewis Reeves Jr. used to say: “Out Yonder”.

Pictures from the June, 2025 Chapter Meeting



Pictures from Peter and Jeanie's Trip to Rock Creek, Montana



Attention All Rabunites! From the Rabun Chapter Conservation Team

We want to continue our efforts to conserve trout waters in Rabun County. Our team welcomes your help. While you are out fishing, if you see areas that could be improved or repaired, such as erosion problems, stream siltation, streamside or in-stream trash, feel free to take pictures, identify the issue and location, and send the information to Ken and me. Our team will look into the issue, discuss with BOD, and see if it's something we can remedy, or encourage our managing agencies to do so. Working together, we can all conserve the great water resources that make us proud to live, work, and play here!

Team Leader-

Jeff Durniak: jeffdurniak@yahoo.com

Assistant Team Leader-

Ken Kellerman: kkellerman78@hotmail.com

Let's Go Fishing! Connect with Others Through GroupMe

Rabunites, let's go fishing! There is an interactive app called GroupMe that will make coordination much easier. And any member can invite others thru this means. These are not a guided trips; it's a just a group of TU'ers going fishing and having fun.

Install the "GroupMe" app on your cell phone and then join the "Rabun TU Fishing Fun" group. Links are provided below to make it easier.

1) Click the link to install the GroupMe app:

App Store link: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/groupme/id392796698> (<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/groupme/id392796698>)

Google Play (Android): <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.groupme.android> (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.groupme.android>)

2) Click the link to join the group: "Rabun TU Fishing Fun" : https://groupme.com/join_group/99574781/5lUEhWfg (https://groupme.com/join_group/99574781/5lUEhWfg)

The Chapter Has a New Activities Calendar!

The Rabun Chapter has a new Events Calendar format on the Chapter website. [CLICK HERE](#) to see it.

This new calendar makes it easier for anyone, including guests and those curious about what the Chapter offers, to learn not only more about specific events but also the time, place, and location of those activities.

In addition, this calendar is shared on the Georgia Council TU webpage so the potential audience for our events has grown significantly!

Thank you, Prez Tammy and Website Manager Allison Adams for your work in putting this together!

Back Issues of Tightlines are Now Posted on the Chapter Website

The Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited has a long and colorful history. A brief summary of how the Chapter came to be may be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

But even better, a nearly complete history of old issues of Tightlines, the monthly newsletter of the Rabun Chapter, has been scanned and digital copies put onto the Chapter website. [CLICK HERE](#) to see them. You will learn a lot about the early days of the Chapter.

These old issues begin with July, 1986 and continue to the present date. There is a block of missing newsletters from June, 2003 to February, 2005. If you have any of those issues please let [Pat Hopton](#) know.

JULY Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
None at all	All Month	All Day	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, Pheasant Tail
Golden Stonefly	All Month	E am	8-12 Ginger Stimulator 6-10 Golden Stonefly Nymph
Brown Stonefly	All Month	E to mid am	10-12 Brown Stonefly Nymph
Light Cahill Mayfly	All month	E to L pm	12-14 Light Cahill 12-14 Light Cahill Nymph
Trico Mayfly	Mid-Late	Mid am	20 Parachute Trico
Trico Spinner Fall	Mid-Late	Late am	20-22 Polywing Black Spinner
Midges	All month	All day	18-20 Griffiths Gnat 18-20 Midge Pupa
Terrestrial	All month	All day	Ants, beetles, crickets, inch worms, etc.

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Foam Grasshopper

HOOK: Dry Fly Hook #10-16

BODY: Peacock Herl or Dubbing of your Choice

BACK: Black, Brown, or Yellow Foam Rubber

WING: White Antron, Elk Hair, or Deer Hair

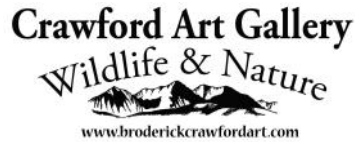
LEGS: Medium Rubber Leg Material to Match Foam Color



IT'S TERRESTRIAL TIME OF YEAR! USE HOPPERS, BEETLES OR ANTS. TRY DROPPING A SMALL CRAYFISH OFF THE BACK AND HOLD ON!

See you on The River! Terry

Click on the Images and Visit the Websites of our Sponsors



*Thank you, Sponsors! We appreciate your support of the Rabun Chapter!
All donations to Rabun TU (a Federal Tax Exempt 501(c)3 non-profit) are tax deductible.*

You are Invited to Join Trout Unlimited!

[CLICK HERE](#) to go to the membership page of Trout Unlimited. Once you join, TU will assign you to the nearest Chapter according to your Zip Code. If you wish to be a member of the Rabun Chapter regardless of your Zip Code, specify Chapter 522 in your application.

If you have any questions, contact the Chapter Membership Chairperson [Mike Anderson](#).

Rabun Chapter Membership Update

One new member this month: William Thompson from Rabun Gap, GA. Welcome, William!
Current Chapter membership: 146 adult members and 2 youth members.

Rabun Chapter Leadership Contacts

Voting Leaders

[Tammy Hopton](#)
[Trey McFalls](#)
[Ray King](#)
[David Ruth](#)
[Jeff Durniak](#)
[Ray King](#)
[Mike Anderson](#)
[Rick O'Hara](#)
[Ken Kellerman](#)
[Jack Wintle](#)

Chapter President thru 03/26
Chapter Vice President thru 03/26
Treasurer
Secretary
Past President thru 03/26
Fundraising Chair
Director thru 03/26
Director thru 03/27
Director thru 03/28
Director thru 03/29

Non-Voting Leaders

[Jerry McFalls](#)
[Pat Hopton](#)
[Pat Hopton](#)
Scouts Liaison
Tight Lines Editor
Memorials

Prez Notes

Hope everyone is enjoying summer! In some ways this is our slow season. We are generally fishing less and focusing on other things, like family vacations, gardening and keeping cool. In other ways we are just as busy, like arranging fishing trips to “West of Hiawasee”.

West of Hiawasee is a big part of our country. It could be Colorado, Washington or Alaska! Pat and I enjoy planning our trips every year. The debate for us is always “do we explore new territory or do we go back to places we know and love”? That is always a challenging decision.

What do you think? We like a little of both if possible. But this year we may be just returning to a place we’ve been before, several times in fact. It’s a good place and we like it there. Next year will be try new territory.

One thing that is constant is the drive across the states. Some people may think it is long and boring, but we in fact enjoy it. If you have never driven across our country, you should do it at least once. You may be surprised at the places that are unexpectedly beautiful like Sand Hills of Nebraska.

Many of you have taken at least one of the now legendary fishing trips with Doug Adams. I have heard many stories about these trips sitting around a campfire. Let me say, some of the tales I heard are hard to imagine and I believe could be more than a little exaggerated.

This group of friends piled into a truck with a camper and sometimes ATVs attached, driving as straight as they could to some spectacular locations in Wyoming and Colorado to camp and fish. They made the most of a short period of time. Every year the participants and the locations changed, but the outcome was usually the same, fish caught and the stories were added. If you haven’t heard any of these stories, just ask a few of our older members, they are usually happy to tell you.

In the meantime, I hope you make your own tales this summer to share around the campfire! Looking forward to seeing you all at the family picnic!

Prez Tammy