



TIGHT LINES

October 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

Tuesday, October 21

Meeting will be held at [Currahee Brewery](#), 93 West Savannah Street, Clayton, GA.

Fellowship starts at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Program will be "A Partnership for Fish: Restoring Streams and Wetlands with the Georgia-Alabama Land Trust's Restoration Programs"

Presented by Jamie King, ILF—Restoration Specialist for the
[Georgia-Alabama Land Trust](#)



**GEORGIA-ALABAMA
LAND TRUST**

226 Old Ladiga Road
Piedmont, AL 36272
Office: 256.447.1006
www.galandtrust.org



Important Upcoming Dates Mark Your Calendars Now!

- **Wednesday, Oct 1. North Carolina Delayed Harvest Trout Season Begins.**
- **Sunday, Oct 5. Soque River Fly Fishing Festival.** To benefit the [Soque River Watershed Association](#). 9:00 am to 6:00 pm at Larry's Lodge, Batesville, GA. See page 5 for more information.
- **Tuesday, Oct 21. Monthly Chapter Meeting.** Currahee Brewing. Social starts at 6:30 pm, meeting starts at 7:00 pm. See page 1 for more information.
- **Sunday, Oct 26. Ladies Fly Fishing 201.** 1:00—5:00 pm at Unicoi Outfitters, Helen, GA. Registration required. See page 4 or contact [Jeff Durniak](#) for more information.
- **Tuesday, Oct 28. Monthly Chapter Board of Directors Meeting.** Northeast Georgia Food Bank. Starts at 7:00 pm. Anyone can attend. Contact [Tammy Hopton](#) for more information.
- **Saturday, Nov 1. Georgia Delayed Harvest Trout Season Begins.**
- **Saturday, Nov 1. South Carolina Delayed Harvest Trout Season Begins.**
- **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.
- **Saturday, Dec 6. Quarterly Georgia Council Trout Unlimited Meeting.** Anyone can attend. 9:00 am. US Forest Service office, Gainesville, GA. Contact [Tammy Hopton](#) for more information.
- **Annual Rabun Chapter Christmas Dinner.** Date and location to be announced soon!
- **Saturday, Feb 7. 39th Annual Rabun Rendezvous.** Doors open at 4:30 pm. Rabun County Civic Center, 201 West Savannah Street, Clayton, GA.
- **Friday, March 13—Sunday, March 15. Trout Unlimited Southeast Regional Rendezvous.** To be held at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Eventually all things merge into one and a river runs through it.

[**A River Runs Through It - Ending \(complete\)**](#)

Rabun Chapter Trout Unlimited Fundraiser

A Custom Built Fly Rod & Reel Outfit! Including:

Winston Pure 2 – 8'3" 4 Wt. Rod

Sage Spectrum 3-4 Reel

Wulff Triangle Taper 4 Wt. Fly Line

SA Dacron 20 Lb. Backing

3 – Frog Hair 9.5/ 4X Leaders

3 - Frog Hair 9.5' 5X Leaders

1 – Furled 7' Leader, 3-5 Wt.

3 – Frog Hair Tippet Spools, 4X, 5X, & 6X

The rod is custom-built by Mack Martin, of [Atlanta Fly Fishing School](#)!



To purchase tickets [CLICK HERE](#) or click this QR Code



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

Thank you, Mack, for your generous donation!

HEY LADIES, LET'S FISH!

Join new and old friends from the Rabun Chapter of Trout Unlimited and GWFF for a "Rabunite 201" course -an on-stream trout fishing class. You'll improve your on-stream techniques with the help of a volunteer guide and you'll connect with a community of fellow women anglers who share a passion for fly fishing and conservation!

10/26 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.



Location: Unicoi Outfitters in Helen

We'll supply the fly rods and the terminal fly tackle. You'll need:

*GA fishing and trout license

*waders and wading boots

*raingear, sunglasses, hat

*dry change of clothes

**all participants will need to sign UO's liability waiver upon arrival*

Questions? Email:

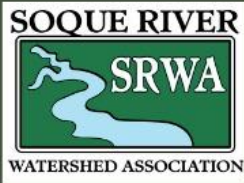
jeffdurniak@yahoo.com

Space is limited. Reserve
your spot on the water for
\$25 by using link in
announcement!

THE
RABUN CHAPTER
OF
TROUT UNLIMITED



**THE MODERN FLY FISHERS
PRESENTS
SOQUE RIVER FLY-FISHING FESTIVAL**



**SPONSORED BY
SOQUE RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION
WITH HELP FROM GEORGIA WILD TROUT**



**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 5, 2025
9AM TO 6PM**

LARRY'S LODGE, BATESVILLE, GA

This unique celebration brings together anglers of all ages (recommended age 10+) to learn about fly-fishing and offers an opportunity for anglers to fly-fish in private water.

**THIS IS NOT JUST A FESTIVAL – IT'S TWO EVENTS IN ONE:
THE LEARNING CENTER: AN IMMERSIVE, HANDS-ON
EDUCATIONAL SERIES LED BY EXPERTS.**

**THE FLY FISHING TRADE SHOW: A DYNAMIC MARKETPLACE
WHERE COMPANIES AND NONPROFITS SHOWCASE PRODUCTS,
SERVICES, AND CAUSES.**

Scenes from the Sept 16 Chapter Meeting, “Casting and Cold Cuts”



A Request from the Chapter

Rabunites, clean out your fishing closet and help a fly fishing rookie! Here's your chance to fuel the next generation of TUErs.

We've been working with the three active Georgia Five Rivers fishing clubs at UGA, GA Tech, and North Paulding High School. The good news is that lots of students have joined these clubs. The bad news is that many of them own little fly fishing equipment.

That's where we can help! Thanks to your Rendezvous fundraising efforts, we are buying \$500 worth of supplies for reach club. But that's not enough. Go clean out your closets and donate good, used equipment and supplies to the 5R cause. Great items are rods, reels, wading shoes, dip nets, leaders, tippet spools, strike indicators, and flies.

Bring your donations to the October and November chapter meetings. Jeff will collect them and get them to the clubs. You never know, your used boots could enable a future TU leader to get hooked on fishing and then reeled into conservation. And you'll have a great excuse to buy some new equipment for yourselves!



Scenes from the Sept 27 Stream Conservation Project



Let's Go Fishing! Rabun Chapter Begins GroupMe Fishing Trips.

Rabunites, let's go fishing! We'd like to continue the great tradition of member fishing trips that our chapter member Mike Fuller started. Board member Mike Anderson showed us 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>

Google Play (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

3) *And you're in!*

Fishing Reports

“West of Hiawasse” by Calder Adams

Brooks and Calder met Pat out west for a few days of great fishing. The weather was really dry and mild, but the fish didn't care at all! We all tore 'em up, each catching well over 20 brookies and a few cutthroat each day. Air was clean even though there are some wildfires out there near where we were reeling 'em in.

Adams, Royal Coachmans, and the alike flies worked out best if you're planning on fishing in the Rockies. Water was low but some huge fish were still hiding out, 16" Yellowstone cutthroat and 12" Brookies were slamming the dry flies.



Congratulations Elisha Ramey Higgins!

Elisha Ramey Higgins, daughter of Edwin and the late Gail Ramey, wife of Justin and step-mom to Desmond, is a native of Rabun County; a lifelong outdoors woman; a graduate of Rabunite 101; a member of the Foothills Chapter TU; a cancer survivor; without a shred of doubt the most wonderful beautiful person ever; and now... Paramedic of the Year!

Read all about it [HERE](#). Congratulations, Elisha!



Interested in Protecting Georgia's Natural Resources? Join the Camo Coalition!

The Georgia Wildlife Federation is an influential, non-profit, advocacy organizations which supports and protects Georgia's natural resources. The organization actively participates in legislative matters at the State Capitol.

Their "call to action" vehicle is the Camo Coalition, which provide us the opportunity to voice our opinion to our state representatives. You are encouraged to join the Camo Coalition: <https://gwf.org/camocoalition/#/>

Georgia's legislative cross over day is February 29th and includes some important conservation related legislation.

Please join the Camo Coalition, receive their notices and voice your concerns/opinions. There is no charge for this service.

Dutch Earle

Advocacy Chair

Georgia Council Trout Unlimited

advocacy@georgiatu.org

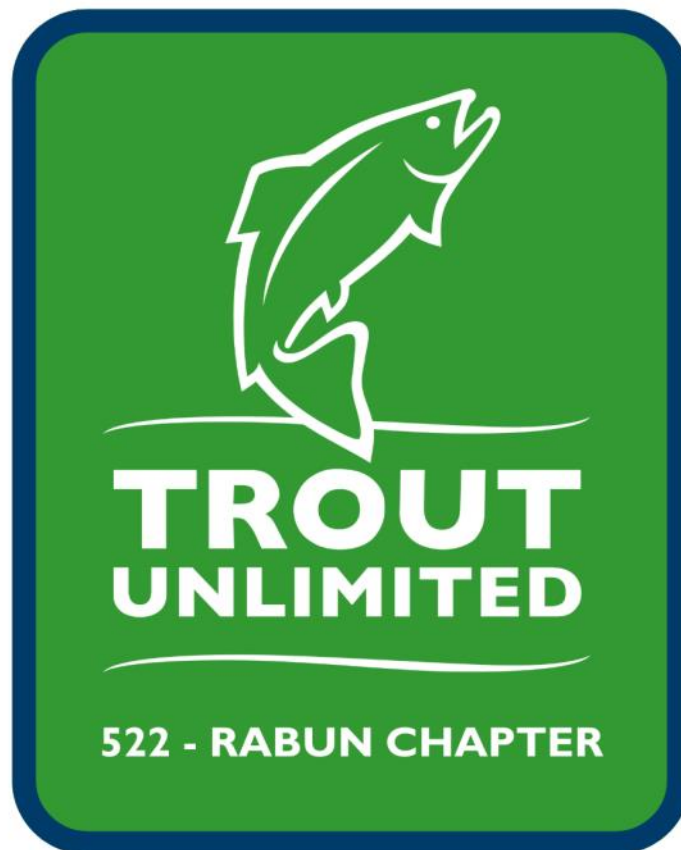
Rabun Chapter Membership Update

One new member this month: John McNeal from Clayton, GA. Welcome, John!

Current Chapter membership: 138 adult members and 2 youth members.

You are Invited to Join Trout Unlimited!

Click here tu.org/join522 or scan the QR code below:



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP FOR
A TROUT UNLIMITED MEMBERSHIP!**



October Hatch Chart

<u>The Bugs</u>	<u>Time of Month</u>	<u>Time of Day</u>	<u>Suggested Flies</u>
Small Dun Caddis	All month	Mid am to Late pm	18 Brown or Grey Elk Hair Caddis 18 Grey Caddis Pupa
Blue Wing Olive and Blue Quill (IMPORTANT)	All month	Late am to Mid pm	16-18 BWO, Blue Quill, Adams Parachute 16 BWO Nymph, Pheasant Tail
Midges	All month	All day	18-22 Griffiths Gnat 18-22 Midge Pupa
None at all	All month	All day	Dredging Nymphs: 12-16 Prince, Hare's Ear, Zugbug, Pheasant Tail

Fly of the Month

By Terry Rivers

Orange Stimulator aka October Caddis

HOOK: #2x Long Nymph

HEAD: Yellow Dubbing with Palmered Grizzly Hackle

TAIL: Deer Hair

BODY: Orange Dubbing and Brown Hackle

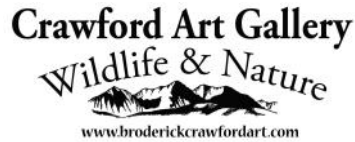
WING : Deer Hair



Great fly for the upcoming Delayed Harvest season! Drop a caddis nymph behind this fly and drag the bottom.

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.

How to Connect With the Rabun Chapter TU

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

Follow us on Instagram at @rabunchaptertu

Check out our website at www.rabuntu.org

Have photos, videos or news to share with Chapter members? Send them to either [Jeff Durniak](#) or [Tammy Hopton](#).

To send an email directly to the Chapter President, use rabunchapterprez@gmail.com.

For postal mail, use PO Box 371
Clayton, GA 30525

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

Change is coming! We are on the cusp of cooler weather. Don't you just love fall? I personally am looking forward to camping, fishing and hiking.

This month, Jeff has arranged a great deal for new women anglers! Rabunite 201 for women will be held at Unicoi Outfitters on the afternoon of October 26th. Looks like he has lined up a great venue and instructors for that day. Ladies, now is your chance to fish on a trophy stream with folks there to help you perfect your angling skills. Spots are limited so sign up soon!

Ray has been working diligently on plans for the Rendezvous. Of course it is the biggest event of the year. Be sure to contact Ray to help out with it this year! I am sure he can give you some task to make sure it goes off without a hitch. Also, be thinking about donations for our silent auction and our bucket raffle.

I want to give a big shout out to Georgia Tech 5 Rivers! We had 10 students join us to add chevron structures to Sarah's Creek! The students were awesome! What treat for us older folks to be able to hang out with some young adults for a change. Pure energy and enthusiasm. The these new structures looked very effective at the end of the day. Hopefully we will have more events like this in the future.

I mentioned change in the air, our leadership will have changes coming up next April. It is not too early to be thinking about how you can step up and help us improve our chapter. You might be a board member or an officer or a committee chair. Contact any of the leadership to find out how it works or just join us at a board meeting. They are every fourth Tuesday of the month and held at the Food Bank in Clayton. We would love to hear from you!

We will have Jamie King at our next meeting talking about the Georgia-Alabama Land Trust. Should be interesting to see how we can work together with Jamie, in our conservation efforts. See you at the Currahee Brewery on Tuesday, the 21st!

Prez Tammy

ps: Be sure to purchase your tickets for the Mack Martin Rod Sweepstakes!