



Sebago
Chapter

CONSERVATION EVENT EDITION

Mainstream

18-2EU

Conserving, protecting, and restoring Maine's trout and salmon fisheries

March 2018

39th Annual Conservation Event

March 24th - 4:00 p.m to 8:00 p.m.

Where: Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Avenue, Portland

Speaker: Maine Outdoors Sports Writer Deirdre Fleming

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gray Ghosts

Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:30

March **20**: Season Finale - Six Gray Ghost Colleagues Show and Tell / Tying Tips and Techniques: Lance Allaire, Joel Anderson, Steve Dome, Brian Farm & Wendy Furey
[First Parish Church, Yarmouth](#)

Women's Social Hour

Thursday at 6:00

March **15** Rod McGarry
[The Muddy Rudder, Yarmouth](#)
~~Postponed due to snowstorms~~

Future Chapter Meetings

Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:30

April 18: Four Maine Guides with Social Hour prior to presentations
[Camp Ketcha, Scarborough](#)

Sebago TU Board of Directors

President & Membership

[Matt Streeter](#)

Vice President [Zach Whitener](#)

Secretary [Elijah Miller](#)

Treasurer [Maura Halkiotis](#)

Program [David Bowie](#)

Conservation [Steve Heinz](#)

Communications [Loren Lachapelle](#)

Youth Education [Abbie Schuster](#)

Women Flyfishers [Evelyn King](#)

At large: [Brad Ronco](#)

[Aaron Lockwood](#)

Gray Ghosts [Rod McGarry](#)



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FMI - www.sebagotu.org



Deirdre Fleming will give a presentation on "Why children are not getting outside. And why we should care."

Deirdre Fleming has been the outdoor reporter at the Portland Press Herald since 2002 and a Maine newspaper reporter since 1995. After completing her masters degree, she planned to work at a major metro newspaper. But after she took a job at the Bangor Daily News and lived for seven years beside the Penobscot River, the story changed. In 1999, she became an outdoor writer and has been reporting on Maine's outdoor people, wildlands and wildlife ever since. Deirdre has won more than a dozen writing awards

for her outdoor work. She enjoys fly fishing, wilderness camping, deer hunting and mountain biking, and lives in Portland with her partner and herding dog, where the three are constantly planning their next wilderness escape.

For at least 15 years the decline in youth recreating outside in Maine has been a problem identified and considered by state officials, outdoor nonprofits and schools. Leaders in state government and at non-profits have tried to engage young people in the outdoors and nature. But how successful have they been? And why does it matter? Studies show that youth who spend time outdoors develop confidence, critical thinking, and a deeper connection with nature.

Deirdre will share what she's learned reporting on the issue for nearly 20 years, such as what has been done in Maine to reverse the trend, what appears to be working, and how even in Vacationland the threat of children becoming disconnected from nature is real.

Conservation Event

2018



Sebago TU: Continuing to Excel

For the 39th consecutive year, Sebago TU is calling concerned fisher-conservationists together to enjoy our common interests and to consider how we can continue to work together to conserve, protect and restore the habitat that makes Maine such a special place for us.

This year's event will be activities-based with speakers and things to do and see to make the event more attractive to a wider audience. We needed more room after last year's event, this year will be at the Italian Heritage Center, 40 Westland Avenue in Portland where we will be looking forward to better food and keynote speaker, Maine outdoor sports writer Deirdre Fleming who will talk to us about how to better involve our families in the Maine outdoors. We hope that **you** will attend with young people who are beginning to take an interest in trout fishing. Bring the kids - a kids activity room will be provided.

2017 was another extremely productive year for the chapter highlighted by:

- *Habitat restoration projects in Brownfield and New Gloucester were completed reconnecting more miles of prime brook trout habitat.*



- *Our grant applications resulted in awards of over \$130,000 in new grant money for habitat restoration.*
- *Over three hundred women have taken advantage of Sebago TU's Maine Women Flyfisher's resources online and many have attended our monthly meetings. Activities have included hands-on workshops and on-waters events and trips.*
- *While many like organizations age out, our board has four members under the age of 30 with special 'meet up' events designed for the younger fly fishing crowd.*

- *We continue to be a voice for fisheries in southwestern Maine and continue to be an important part of local group efforts to restore fish passage to the Mousam and Royal River Watersheds.*

We are proud of these accomplishments and hope that you are too. Please attend the event - and bid generously on our auction offerings. Your participation will help us reach the goals that we aim to achieve by 2020:

- *Complete at least one habitat reconnection (culvert/dam) project every year*
- *Reclaim two more ponds in southwestern Maine in partnership with MDIFW*
- *Introduce 1000 new youth and women to fly fishing*
- *Continue to support Maine TU Trout Camp*
- *Revitalize our interaction with the membership by both new "direct contact" activities and improved web technology.*

Can't attend the event?

Then donate on-line at:

sebagotu.org/banquet_alt.html

or register and bid online

auctria.com/auction/SebagoTU

Sebago TU's 39th Annual Conservation Event

A message from - Chapter President Matt Streeter:

Every year we host our Conservation Event to raise funds for our work to conserve, protect, and restore our coldwater fisheries in Maine. This year's event is coming up on Saturday, March 24th at the Italian Heritage Center in Portland, a new location for us. With attendance continuing to grow, we are moving to a bigger venue - and one with better food! As usual we are offering a wide range of activities, and will be welcoming flyfishers of all ages, so please bring your family members and young people who will grow up to be our next generation of coldwater fishers and conservationists.

Our special guest this year will be Deirdre Fleming, Maine's premier outdoor sports writer. Deirdre enjoys fly fishing, wilderness camping, deer hunting and mountain biking. She will be speaking on "Why children are not getting outside. And why we should care."

Come join us to meet Deirdre, your Sebago TU board members, and mingle with your fellow flyfishers and help us raise funds for our ongoing habitat restoration, education and outreach projects.

An initial listing of what we will be offering at auction. A full listing of all auction items, with photos and detailed information are available in our online auction catalog. Many items are available for online bids at auctria.com/auction/SebagoTU

STAYS, TRIPS - and more:

Bone Ami Abaco - private beach house in the Bahamas (one week for up to 12 for any open slot in next 3 years).

Riverkeep Lodge in Labrador - a week of guided fishing for two, meals included.

El Pescador in Belize - 6 nights lodging & 5 days fishing for 2 including roundtrip transfers from Belize City, 3 meals/day & many amenities. Good to April 30, 2019.

Legend Lodge in Alaska's Bristol Bay Drainage - 5 nights lodging and 5 days of fully guided flyfishing, air flights from Iliamna to lodge and return flight, and all meals.

Upper Oxbow Lodge on the Miramichi - 3 Day Atlantic Salmon Adventure for 2 people (with 4-night lodge stay).

Grant's Kennebago Camps - 2 nights for 2 people on Kennebago Lake includes meals.

Weatherby's Resort on Grand Lake Stream - 3 nights for 2 people, package includes meals.

Sean McCormick - Full day float on the Kennebec for 1 or 2 people. Includes lunch.

Richard Behr - Kennebec River small mouth bass float for 1 or 2 people. Includes lunch.

Bull Dog Camps on Enchanted Pond - 3-day all inclusive guided fishing trip for two May 15 to July 15.

Tim Pond Camps - 2 Night Western Mountains Wild Brook Trout Pond Fishing Trip for 2 People.

Half-day spey casting introduction with Todd Towles - wade fishing, snacks included.

Maine River Guides - Full Day Float Trip with Greg Bostater on a Maine river for 1 or 2 Anglers.

Anadromous Adventures - A half-day of boat fishing for striped bass in Casco or Saco Bay with Zach Whitener for 1 or 2 people.

Kismet Outfitters - Full day (or two mornings) guided wading trip on Martha's Vineyard with Abbie Schuster for 1 or 2 people.

Dick Soucy - Two hours of fly casting instruction for 1 or 2 people

Full Day Float Trip on the Deerfield River **with Pheasant Tail Tours** of Deerfield MA - lunch provided.

Go Fish Guide Service - Half-day guided trip for one or two on a local river with Patrick O'Shea.

GEAR, ART, etc... Complete women's fly fishing outfit from **LL Bean** (everything you need!), **Cabelas** and **Kittery Trading Post** gift certificates.

Fly Collections from **Casco Bay Fly Company** and our **Gray Ghosts Tying Club**.

Artwork, books and much more yet to come!

TICKETS: Adults \$40, under-18 \$15. Attendees are encouraged to order tickets online at auctria.com/auction/SebagoTU Online not for you? Order by mailing the form on reverse.



Sebago Chapter

Conserving, protecting, and restoring Maine's trout and salmon fisheries



2018 Conservation Event

Sponsored by:



Saturday - March 24
Activities start at 4:00 pm
Italian Heritage Center
Portland, Maine

Tickets, Online Auction, Information:

auctria.com/auction/SebagoTU

or complete this form

- _____ Adult Tickets at \$40 each
- _____ Table for 8 at \$288 (save 10%)
- _____ Children under 18 Tickets at \$15 each

Your tickets will be available for pickup at the door

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Questions?
Event Coordinator Matt Streeter
mstreeter212@gmail.com
(207) 337-2611

Event Activity Schedule:

- 4:00 PM - Doors Open
 - Silent Auction Begins
 - Beer and wine bar open
 - Booths and Activities, including:
 - Fly tying & casting demos
 - Conservation Updates
 - MDIFW Regulations Q & A
 - Book signings
 - Artists
 - And more...
 - Kids' Activity Room (ages 4-12) staffed by child care professional with lots of fun activities, and open through the full event
- 5:30 PM - Dinner is served
- 6:00 PM - Bucket Raffle Results
- 6:30 PM - President's remarks, Sebago TU 2017 Accomplishments
- 6:40 PM - Deirdre Fleming
- 7:15 PM - Live Auction
- 7:45 PM - Door Prize, Silent Auction Results
- 8:00 PM - Conclude

PAYMENT METHOD

- Check (Payable to Sebago TU)
- Credit Card MC VISA
- Credit Card # _____
- Expiration Date: _____
- Total Remitted: _____

Mail to: Trout Unlimited - Sebago Chapter
c/o Maura Halkiotis - Treasurer
P. O. Box 623
Yarmouth, ME 0409



A Call for Volunteers. This summer, the chapter will be installing temperature monitors at locations on the Crooked River, the highest quality habitat in our membership area. This is part of a much larger effort by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to gauge the effects of climate change. Jim Wescott has volunteered to coordinate the effort. Want to get involved: Contact Jim at jim.wescott10@gmail.com

Chapter Conservation Committee up and operating. Besides Jim, Matt Streeter, David Kirstein, Eben Marsh, Kyle Noonan, Genie Jennings Joe Croteau, Robert Piampiano, Robert Cotiaux and Steve Heinz are working together to deal more effectively with TU's primary mission: fisheries conservation.

The committee received initial training in habitat restoration project identification and selection, and grant writing at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Gulf of Maine Coastal Program Office in Falmouth on January 10 and since followed up on that with a teleconference.

There is much to be done. Tasks include: using the Maine Stream Habitat Viewer to identify potential sites, review of problem MaineDOT culverts for possible project sites, working with local groups in the major watersheds in our membership area (the Saco, Mousam, Presumpscot, Crooked and Royal) and advocacy issues.

Crooked River Weir Study. The Sebago Lake/Crooked River system is southwestern Maine's greatest salmonid asset, and the greatest fishery of its kind in the country. With 60 miles of connectivity from Sebago Lake to Songo Pond near Bethel, the Crooked is a unique resource that supports nearly all the natural salmon spawning for Sebago Lake. Based on what the data obtained from the weirs reveal, it may be possible to eliminate stocking the lake and return it to a wild fishery.

Although it was postponed last year, this fall MDIFW will be placing a weir near the mouth of the Crooked River to collect data on land-locked salmon entering the river to spawn. Volunteers will be needed to place the weir, monitor it, and record data.

Youth Education. The **Maine Water Festival** continues to be a perfect venue for teaching that clean water and good fishing go hand in hand. The May 18th event at USM is an ideal learning situation for Maine young people, and it deserves better volunteer support than we have been giving it. Feedback continues to tell us that the kids like our booth best. The more volunteers that tie, the more kids can actually do hands-on tying themselves.



If you tie flies, please contact organizer Joel Anderson at: janderson@pwd.org today to volunteer. Lunch is provided - it will be a rewarding day for you and the kids.

Maine Women Flyfishers. The group had a great meeting in February when Brett Damm from Rangeley Region Sportsman Shop joined them to talk about dry fly fishing. He shared his knowledge about the various types of bugs that fish key in on and the flies we might use to imitate them. He also talked about different techniques that work well



with dry fly fishing. This talk completed a three part series that included streamer fishing, nymphing and dry fly fishing. The group looks forward to their next meeting when Rod McGarry will share some skills, techniques, tackle and strategies all can use to get better at fly fishing!