



June 2011

The Flypaper

News and Events from the Rocky Mountain Flycasters Chapter of Trout Unlimited

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Dear Reader,

Here's how it went down at our last general meeting. We elected Paul Wehr, treasurer, Melinda Macpherson, secretary, Stephanie Mullins and Charles Plunkett, at-large members of the Board. I was very excited that Melinda, Stephanie and Charles were interested in increasing their involvement. New faces really add a new dimension to our chapter.

However, you will notice that we did not elect a president or vice-president. Dennis Cook moved to direct the board to re-write the bylaws to allow the president to run for a third term and to establish an aggressive nominating committee to find a vice president who would consider being president the following year. This motion passed and your new board, with me as immediate past president presiding, will begin the process at our meeting on June 8.

I agreed to this action, and agreed to serve as president once the bylaws are changed, on the condition that we can locate a vice president who will run for president in 2012. This process would be considerably easier if one of you would volunteer to do your turn on the board. The job is not that hard; we have a great group of volunteers that make the president look really good. I pledge to help as much as possible.

We should also note that Scott and Teri Gardner volunteered to be the coordinators of the Adopt a Trail at Gateway Park. Please respond when they ask for help. Like wise, I will coordinate the [Narrows Park](#) and Thompson River clean ups on June 18, the TU national river clean up day. I would also like to welcome Bruce Rosenthal as our volunteer coordinator for waste line recovery from receptacles on the Natural Areas Properties. We become a

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better chapter every time another volunteer signs up. Thanks to all!

OK, now is the time to note the volunteer opportunities available this summer and sign up now! Do a little, do a lot, whatever fits your availability. As the commercials say: JUST DO IT!

Thank you one and all,

[Lee Evans](#), *Immediate Past President*

P. S. So here's how you can get started volunteering for the summer. Please send me an email saying you can be at [Narrows Park](#) (Mile Marker 81—on the north side of Hwy. 34) on the Big Thompson River at 8:30 am for coffee, chocolate milk, and doughnuts. We'll hand out assignments and begin the cleanup. We'll mow and trim the grass at Narrows Park and pick up trash along the river up to the handicap fishing area. Bring gloves, sunscreen, water and a lunch if you wish to stay and fish after your stretch is cleaned. Thank you for emailing me and signing up. This date (June 18) is the National Trout Unlimited River Cleanup date.

RMF Day Camp Application Date Extended

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

The application window has been extended to June 30th to ensure we have a full camp group at our second annual Northern Colorado Youth River Conservation & Fly Fishing Day Camp. The camp is for students aged 14 to 18 and it will be held on [July 21-23 and July 28-30](#) at various locations around Fort Collins. The camp is designed to educate students on the importance of coldwater conservation while providing hands-on fly-fishing instruction. **Applicants are encouraged to not wait until the last minute to submit their applications.**



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Fly Tiers, we still need many flies for the kids use at camp.
Please be generous.

[Click here to see which flies are needed.](#)

And finally, this is the "LAST CALL" for volunteers to help
with the day camp. Please contact [Dennis Cook](#) (970-372-
9229) if you would like to volunteer.

Join us at Two New TrailGate Parties

Article collaboratively contributed by [Teri & Scott Gardner](#), [Dave Piske](#), and [Susan Schafer](#)

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Join Our Mailing List!



Interested in attending a TrailGate Party? It's a six hour fun event that combines giving first-aid to the environment along the Poudre, followed by a smackingly good picnic lunch, and then topping it off with some fly fishing, all in one day! How does that sound to you? Now that you know what a TrailGate Party is, can you believe that we will actually be having two of them this Summer! Now, would you like to attend? We are accepting Volunteers, we mean Attendees, right now. Sign-up now so you won't be left off the Attendee List. Let us know if you want to help out on [August 6](#), or [September 10](#), or attend both days at Gateway Natural Area in the Poudre Canyon.

Here is what we will do. At 9 AM each day we will renovate foot-trails that are sadly in need of our help. At Noon we will enjoy a picnic under the canopy of one of the new shelters in Gateway Natural Area. And after the picnic you may fish on the North Fork between its confluence with the Poudre and the Seaman Reservoir, or wherever you wish on public water in the main stem of the Poudre.

RMF TU has entered into an [Adopt-A-Trail Volunteer Agreement](#) with the Fort Collins Natural Areas Program. It pertains to the [Gateway Natural Area](#). The heart of the Agreement provides for TU volunteers to assist in maintenance of the **Overlook** and the **Black Powder** trails under the professional supervision of Natural Areas employees. Both trails boast gorgeous views of the North Fork and the main stem of the Poudre River.

Long-time Poudre anglers may remember Gateway as the site of an enticing, but forbidden, horseshoe bend in the main stem of the Poudre. For many years it was closed to public access and fishing. It's now open to the public.

The public facilities at Gateway have been modernized and improved, with the exception of the two hiking trails. The trail

corridors are densely overgrown with mountain mahogany and the trails' surfaces can benefit from erosion control techniques. By joining the TrailGate parties you can learn some tricks of the trade of trail maintenance and renovation.

The physical activity will be similar to the trail maintenance work that RMF volunteers have conducted during the past 6 years at Larimer County's Eagles Nest Open Space. So, Gateway will be an addition to what RMF volunteers are already doing to protect and maintain trails in our nearby public lands and natural areas.

[Teri and Scott Gardner](#), new members to RMF, will serve as co-coordinators for volunteer signups. Those interested in volunteering for one or both of these dates should reach out to them via [email](#) or via the phone at 805-551-3698 (yes, they still have their California phone number). For each day, we are looking for up to twenty (20) adult volunteers given the type of terrain and trail lengths we will encounter.

Please be aware that the daily parking fee for entry to Gateway has been waived for RMF TU volunteers on August 6 and September 10 only.

Day for Kids Festival – September 17th

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

RMF will again have a booth at the Larimer Boys & Girls Clubs Day For Kids Festival. We will demonstrate and teach casting, display and teach tying knots, display and discuss aquatic insects, demonstrate and discuss fly tying and promote our Youth Day Camp. This is a terrific festival and is open to the public, so bring your youngster or grandchild and share a really fun day.

A dozen volunteers are needed to staff two shifts from 9:00am–1:00pm and 1:00pm–5:00pm—six per shift. Last year's volunteers had a good time and look forward to sharing this year with some additional new volunteers. Please contact [Dennis Cook](#) (970-372-9229) if you are interested in volunteering.

Additionally, if any RMF members or friends have businesses and would be interested in learning more about sponsorship opportunities that help to build incredible kids, please contact [Maria Swall](#) (970-223-1709, ext. 104), Development Director for Larimer Boys & Girls Clubs.

[Click here to learn more about the Boys & Girls Club of Larimer County.](#)

Adventures for Volunteers in Rocky Mountain National Park

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair

Views of the Front Range peaks from the high plains, where most of us reside, are daily reminders that an abundant snowpack still covers the trails, lakes and streams in the highcountry of Rocky Mountain National Park. But the calendar tells us that the fishing adventures and volunteer opportunities described by Steve Schweitzer and Chris Kennedy during our May 18 chapter meeting are fast approaching.



Even if you only suspect you might want to accompany Chris in his field research on trout populations in the Park, be sure to get your name on the email list of potential volunteers that [Austin Condon](#) maintains. That's how you will be kept aware and up-to-date on the specifics for those days with Chris.

The planned schedule of trips for 2011 is now posted on the [RMF web site](#). Given the uncertainty of the pace of snowmelt, there are likely to be some changes in that schedule. If you are on Austin's list, he will promptly advise you of changes as they are made.

As Chris described in May, his fieldwork primarily consists of capturing trout, identifying the species, noting any abnormalities, measuring and weighing them, recording the statistics, and returning the trout unharmed to the water where caught. Capture methods in streams include electro-shocking & dip netting, and in lakes; gill netting and hook & line capture (sometimes called fly fishing).

For further information from RMF volunteers who have worked with Chris in past years, please contact Dave Piske, Guy Turenne, or Phil Wright.

Colorado TU Youth River Conservation & Fly Fishing Camp

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

This is the fifth year that RMF has had youths represented at Colorado TU's residential Youth Camp. This year's camp is June 12–17 at the High Lonesome Ranch near DeBeque, Colorado, and RMF will have two youths attending. We're especially pleased that both RMF campers, Jake Ruthven and Sawyer Finley, also completed RMF's 2010 Youth Day Camp. They are fine young men and will represent RMF well.

FC Boys & Girls Club Fly Fishing Classes

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

On May 19th we completed our series of eight classes introducing nine kids (and three staff members) to fly fishing. RMF volunteers met at the Lakeside KOA and greeted four kids and two staffers who ventured into the mixed sun and light rain to fish. All caught multiple bass, crappie, bluegill and sunfish, and everybody had a good time. Other class topics included learning about fly fishing, casting practice, studying the caddis fly life cycle, healthy habitat, fly tying, and gathering aquatic insects on the Poudre.



Many thanks to the following RMF volunteers who helped at the various class sessions: Ken Eis, Lee Evans, Dick Jefferies, Alan Jones, Bruce Rosenthal, Larry Scheinost, Guy Turenne, Paul Wehr and Dennis Cook.

Revised Date for Colorado Special Olympics Fishing Clinic

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair

The May edition of *The Flypaper* included an article about CDOW's need for volunteers to assist with a kids fishing clinic to be held at Swift Ponds in Fort Collins on Saturday, June 11, 2011. This clinic is part of the Colorado Special Olympics program.

Breaking news is that the Swift Ponds event is being rescheduled to a date in August. The exact date in August is yet to be announced. This rescheduling is to avoid an overlap with activities associated with the nationwide "Get Outdoors" celebration for youths on June 11.

Stay tuned for more information about the Special Olympics Fishing Clinic in the July issue of *Flypaper*.

Got content? Thank you for taking the time to read our monthly newsletter. Your suggestions and comments are always welcome and can be sent to the [Editor](#). We also welcome your content and fishing stories!

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This newsletter was prepared by gofish2020@comcast.net | [Privacy Policy](#).

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