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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **2016 Illinois Trout Unlimited Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Summer Camp Announced for July 24-29**

The ninth edition of the Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing camp is scheduled July 24-29, 2016 at the RAM Conference Center in Roscommon, Michigan.

The 2016 camp mission is to develop the next generation of cold water conservation advocates while also providing a rigorous introduction to the sport of fly fishing on the famed Au Sable River in Michigan. An experienced Trout Unlimited mentor team will guide twelve 13- to 18-year-old participants through prime time morning and evening fishing sessions. Throughout the week, an abundance of “hands on” active learning opportunities will be conducted during the fully loaded mid-day periods.

The fly fishing instruction includes fly casting, fly tying, knots, basic entomology and what fish eat, reading the water, safe wading techniques, catch and release, and other outdoors and fly fishing related skills.

“The camp is designed to be an intense experience that makes a significant impact on youth,” said Willie Beshire, Oak Brook Trout Unlimited board member and camp director. “Campers will learn more about conservation and fly fishing in a week than most of us learn in a lifetime. It is an enjoyable and educational experience.”

The camp mentors and instructors will be comprised of Trout Unlimited members from Illinois and Michigan, along with biologists from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Michigan State University, Western Michigan University and a private cold water conservation company.

The camp cost includes round-trip transportation from Chicago, lodging, meals and equipment. The tuition fee is \$575 (comprised of a \$75 deposit at the time of application plus a \$500 remaining balance due one month before camp). Sponsorship is available for campers with financial need.

For more information, including an application please visit the Oak Brook Trout Unlimited website ([obtu.org](http://obtu.org)), or contact Willie Beshire, Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited Youth Camp Director (email: [wbeshire@aol.com](mailto:wbeshire@aol.com)).

### **About Oak Brook Trout Unlimited**

Oak Brook Trout Unlimited is dedicated to conserving, protecting and restoring cold water fisheries and their watersheds in the Midwest. The Oak Brook Chapter is comprised of over 1,200 members from Chicago’s western and south suburbs and downstate Illinois and is part of the national Trout Unlimited organization ([www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org)). Oak Brook Trout Unlimited fulfills its mission through advocacy and education efforts regarding the impact of pollution and soil erosion on water-based ecosystems, and by engaging volunteers in hands-on projects to improve and rehabilitate cold water river systems. For more information about Oak Brook Trout Unlimited, visit [www.obtu.org](http://www.obtu.org).

**PHOTOS AND CAPTIONS** (Note: High resolution photos are available upon request).



**Caption:** Illinois Trout Unlimited campers are briefed on a stream restoration project on Michigan's Au Sable River.



**Caption:** Illinois Trout Unlimited summer camp participants learn the basics of the sport of fly fishing on Michigan's Au Sable River