



NEWS RELEASE

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Trout Unlimited Offers Youth Summer Camp and Free Youth Fly Fishing Classes

The Oak Brook chapter of Trout Unlimited—serving Chicago’s western and south suburbs—is in its 13th year of offering free introductory one-day youth fly fishing classes. The program is open to boys and girls 11 years and older. Participants receive an easy-to-understand overview to the sport of fly fishing.

All fly fishing equipment and fly tying materials are provided by the Oak Brook Trout Unlimited chapter. There is no cost to participants. Classes consisting of 15 participants are scheduled at the Camp Sagawau Environmental Education Center in Lemont.

The Youth Fly Fishing Program runs from 8am to 4:30pm on five Saturday dates as follows:

- May 13
- June 24
- July 15
- August 12
- September 9

Class participants learn:

- Understanding fly tackle: rods, lines, leaders and flies
- Fly casting: the overhead cast, and roll cast
- Basic fly fishing knots
- Fly tying
- Outdoor safety
- Outdoor ethics, care of the resource, and the mission of Trout Unlimited.
- FISHING!!!!

Classes are based at the Camp Sagawau Environmental Education Center – a unit of the Cook County Forest Preserves located at 12545 West 111th Street, Lemont, IL, with fishing on nearby Cook County Forest Preserve ponds and Lakes in the Palos area.

Parents of interested boys and girls interested in enrollment should contact:

Marvin Strauch
Oak Brook Trout Unlimited Youth Education Chair
youthed@obtu.org

2017 Trout Unlimited Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Summer Camp July 23-28

The 10th edition of the Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing camp is scheduled July 23-28, 2017 at the RAM Conference Center in Roscommon, Michigan.

The 2017 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),

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). 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

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



Caption: The Oak Brook chapter of Trout Unlimited—serving Chicago’s western and south suburbs—is offering free introductory one-day youth fly fishing classes. The program is open to boys and girls 11 years and older.



Caption: The Trout Unlimited free introductory one-day youth fly fishing classes include instruction on fly tying as well as fly rod casting and conservation. Classes are scheduled monthly on Saturdays May through September.