

# **Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited Youth Conservation & Fly-Fishing Camp**

**Sunday, July 21 – Friday, July 26, 2024**

**Au Sable River – Grayling, MI**



# Trout Unlimited

- Founded 1959 Au Sable River, Grayling Michigan.
- Conserving, Protecting, and Restoring North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds
- Not for Profit
- Over 300,000 members in 35 states.
- Over 2000 members in Illinois  
( 4 chapters)



# Au Sable River



One of the most stable rivers in the world.

# Camp Facts:

Girls & Boys aged 13 to 18 are eligible

## Everything is included:

- Transportation to/from Oak Brook & Field Trips (Rental Vans)
- Housing & Meals
- Equipment & Supplies  
(Boots, waders, rods/reels, fly tying & flies, entomology equip., etc.)
- A Fly Rod, Reel & line is awarded to each camper on successful completion

## Professional Staff (all volunteers):

- Professors from Michigan State & other Michigan Universities
- DNR Biologists  
(electro fish survey & stream improvements project)
- Naturalists & Historians from Hartwick-Pines State Park
- TU Volunteer Mentors

**Cost:**      **Deposit:**      \$75.00 (reimbursed if application  
rejected by ILTU)

**Full Tuition:** \$675.00 (\$75.00 deposit plus \$600)

**Scholarships are available based on financial need.**



# Camp Accommodations:





## 2022 Campers



## 2023 Campers



**2024 will be the 15<sup>th</sup> year for the camp.**



## Learn to fly fish for stream trout with TU guides:





## Campers enjoying success:





# Entomology Studies:

## Macro Invertebrate Capture



## Adult Insect Capture (using a black light)



# Macro Invertebrate Sampling:





# Electro-Shock Survey with the MI Dept. of Natural Resources (or others)





# Fly Tying Workshop(s)



**Can you catch a trout on a fly you tied?**



# Trout Dissection



**Study anatomy with a Michigan State University Professor.**

# Hydrology Study



**Measure the flow of the Au Sable River  
with a professor from Michigan State University.**



# Experience the History of Logging



Study the impact of logging on the Au Sable River & its trout.

# Explore Fluvial Geomorphology



Use a “stream table” with a Michigan DNR Biologist to show how flowing water shapes the land.



# Help With Stream Conservation



**Work on a conservation project with a professional crew.**



# Help With Stream Conservation



Campers moving timber to a stream improvement site.



# Help With Stream Conservation



**Build barriers to erosion and “lunker structures”.**



# Help With Stream Conservation



**Campers operating the high pressure water jet drill to sink pylons deep into the stream bed.**



# Help With Stream Conservation



**Campers taking a well-deserved break!**

## For More Information, Contact:

Dan LaFave  
Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited  
Illinois Youth Camp Director (Emeritus)

(630) 270-6036

[dlafave@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dlafave@sbcglobal.net)

OR

Dan Postelnick  
Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited  
Council Chair

(312) 402-0940

[danpost3@sbcglobal.net](mailto:danpost3@sbcglobal.net)

## Illinois Camp Youth Protection Policy:

Camp mentors undergo annual background checks administered by TU National.

Camp Mentors are required to complete on-line youth protection training used by the Boy Scouts of America.

We use Boy Scout Policies at camp including:

“No one-on-one contact”

“Two Deep Leadership”

Camp Mentors are required to sign TU National's Youth Protection Policy Document.

Each camper is assigned a private room.

