



## The Drift: Words from our President.

**State Council Banquet:** The State Council banquet is in Oshkosh on Saturday, February 4th. The ticket price will remain the same — \$35. Anyone buying tickets before December 31st will receive free bucket raffle tickets to be used at the event. What a coincidence, I actually have ten tickets for the state banquet! Please contact me if you're interested in buying banquet tickets prior to December 31st to receive your free bucket raffle tickets.

**Pheasants Forever Field Day:** Pheasants Forever sponsored a live bird hunt for youth on September 25th. They also included other outdoor activities and conservation groups at the event. Kiap-TU-Wish set up our conservation booth, demonstrated fly tying and gave hands-on fly casting lessons. Thirty boys and eleven girls participated. The event

was well done and we're going to discuss expanding our participation next year. Thanks to Randy Arnold, Laurie Ashworth, John Kaplan and Dan Wilcox for their help.

**Pine Creek Seeding and Mulching:** Nate Anderson and the WDNR crew reinforced the headwaters of Pine Creek with rock donated by Fairmount Santrol. On September 29th Randy Arnold organized seeding and mulching on the site. Kudos to Ken Hanson, Leif Grina and Laurie Ashworth for their help.

**Amery Chapter Meeting:** WDNR's Michelle Carlisle and Kiap's John Carlson did a great job at the Amery meeting. Michelle talked about the Western Prairie Habitat Restoration Area which is designed to expand grasslands in order to provide better bird habitat. John did a good job of explaining the Parker Creek culvert project.



Michelle Carlisle, WDNR Wildlife Biologist, and Kiap's John Carlson at the chapter meeting in Amery on October 10th.

**Holiday Conservation Banquet:** Please take the time to read RipRap's article about the upcoming banquet. The committee is working hard to put on a first-class event. Revenue from the banquet is a critical component of Kiap's budget and supports habitat restoration work, educational programs and Kiap's advocacy efforts. If you can't attend the banquet consider buying a Norling bamboo rod raffle ticket. ~Tom Schnadt

The KIAP-TU-WISH CHAPTER's  
almost monthly publication



Volume 10 | Issue 3  
November 2016

Please join us at our November 2nd chapter meeting in River Falls. Kent Johnson will be speaking about the evaluation of stream restoration benefits at Pine Creek. It's really interesting stuff. Make sure you get there to hear it.

Junior's Bar & Restaurant  
414 South Main Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715-425-6630  
[www.juniorsrf.com](http://www.juniorsrf.com)

**SAVE the DATE:**  
**December 8**  
*Holiday Conservation Banquet*  
See inside for details!

### DON'T FORGET:

- Visit the K-TU website & Facebook page for news, announcements & updates.
- The next RipRap deadline is Friday, November 18th.
- Send info to: [manion.maria@gmail.com](mailto:manion.maria@gmail.com)

RIPRAP: Restoration, Improvement & Preservation through Research And Projects



### Pine Creek in September 2012

~Anonymous

- Hummingbird at jewelweed
- Big brookie in flat water downstream of favorite run
- Three deer, two of them fawns
- Hot with slight breeze
- Lots of yellow moths
- Some white moths hovering over tips of grasses like fireflies
- Dry but blooms still around
- Hoppers all over with wings that are banded and look like big moths when flying
- Fish coming up to green foam beetle
- Lots of crickets making noise
- Dragonflies above earlier but gone at 1pm
- Seven buzzards riding wind when got here, now only two are drafting above bluffs



From the Field: on Pine Creek

A few weeks ago, Kiap-TU-Wish volunteers met WDNR's Nate Anderson and the habitat crew to work on a small stretch at the headwaters of Pine Creek. The stretch had just been reinforced using rock which was donated by Fairmount Santrol. With volunteer help, Nate and the crew seeded and mulched an area that had been covered with topsoil. It's been nearly 10 years since the first restoration effort on this lovely stream. The fishing journal entry (notes written on a scrap of paper while fishing) gives us a sense of this creek's beauty.

*Pictured above: Nate Anderson, Ken Hanson, Laurie Ashworth, Randy Arnold, Tom Schnadt and Leif Grina. Thank you volunteers!*

## From the Editor

On the afternoon of October 13th, from my cubicle at work, I texted my husband and told him to have the car packed with our gear. We were going fishing. We left at five and were on the stream by six. I only had an hour, but it was worth the trip. For about twenty minutes I cast to rising fish – jumping, acrobatic fish more like – chuckling at the enthusiasm of palm-size brown trout, silhouetted in the setting sun so that they appeared as tiny Loch Ness monsters, just backlit forms rising and disappearing at an alarming pace. After catching a fistful of these little fellows, I caught two of their larger brethren. It was a good way to end my Wisconsin season.

But I want more. Selfishly, perhaps, but I want to catch more fish. I want more river to wade. I want more peaceful moments on the stream, listening to birds and buzzing insects and splashing fish. Thursday night in the midst of the popcorn fishing I stopped to look up at dry leaves on a maple tree that in the wind, clattered like playing cards clipped to spokes of bicycle tires. More people should experience such things.

So here are my selfish pleas: Please buy a raffle ticket for the Norling rod. Please make reservations for the Holiday Conservation Banquet. Please join us for a night of celebration and fundraising for the rivers we love.

**NEW MEMBERS:** This editor has been remiss in welcoming new members to Kiap-TU-Wish. Welcome to the chapter!! We'd love to meet you at the holiday banquet. It's always fun – great food, company and items for bid or raffle. The evening goes by quickly, so make sure to get there right away to mingle and find something you just can't live without. Non-fisher types will find plenty of items too. We'd love to see you there.

~Maria Manion

## Win a Dave Norling Fine Cane Rod!

Buy your tickets now! \$20 each

Raffle tickets are now available for a chance to win a 5-wt, 7'-6" Dave Norling bamboo rod. The raffle is limited to 100 tickets, at \$20 apiece. The drawing will be held on December 8. Tickets can be purchased from Tom Schnadt.

[thschnad@hotmail.com](mailto:thschnad@hotmail.com) or 651-245-5163

As it says on Dave's website: "Bamboo is warm in texture, appearance, feel and smell. This perhaps means more to us who are from Minnesota or the Northeast than others, but who wouldn't choose warmth over cold, feeling over object, journey over a quick destination?"



Kiap-TU-Wish Raffle Rod Details:

5-wt, 7'6" with two tips, rod sock, hang tag, agate stripper guide and a brushed aluminum tube with brass cap



# Holiday Conservation Banquet

## Do-It-Yourself Trip to Alaska! with Tony Stifter & Chris Niskanen

The 2016 Kiap-TU-Wish Holiday Conservation Banquet has scored a MAJOR coup: Past-President Tony Stifter & former Pioneer Press Outdoor Writer Chris Niskanen are happy to present this year's program, the topic of which will be "Do-It-Yourself Trip to Alaska!"

### When & where:

Date: Thursday, December 8, 2016  
Time: Doors will open at 5:30 PM  
Place: The Lake Elmo Inn Event Center  
3712 Layton Ave North  
Cost: \$49.00 per person

For the very first time, Kiap-TU-Wish will accept cash, check, or VISA/MC credit or debit cards!!! (Pay at the door.)

### Dinner menu:

Your choice of three entrées is as follows.

1. Top Sirloin: 10 oz. choice steer with sauteed mushrooms
2. Salmon Ravada: Fresh herbs and shallots top this filet with Rivada Estates extra-virgin olive oil
3. Chicken Calvados: Sauteed chicken breast topped with sliced apples, and mushrooms in an apple brandy cream sauce

All entrees include a plated salad, wild rice, vegetable medley, rolls, butter, and coffee. A full bar service will be available for your beverage needs. As part of our ongoing conservation efforts, a fabulous array of cookies — made by Kiap-TU-Wish members — will be offered for purchase.

**Can't wait until December 8th?  
Buy a raffle ticket now.**

### Registration instructions:

Due to the event center's space capacity of 110 people, you need to register as soon as possible. Walk-ins are discouraged as we will feel bad if we turn you away — AND — your entrée choice will be limited!

You have three options for registering:

- Phone Lunds Fly Shop @ **715-425-2415**
- Phone the Michael Alwin residence @ **651-739-3150**
- Online @ **2016kiaptuwishbanquet.splashthat.com**

Deadline to register is at 5:00 PM Monday, December 5th!!

### Silent auction donations:

We LOVE the silent auction! We anticipate your donations of books, art work, crafts, gently-used tackle, fly-tying materials & tools, jewelry . . . AND other items of interest! You may drop-off your donations at Mend Provisions in Minneapolis, Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop in St. Paul, or Lund's Fly Shop in River Falls. We have already procured a number of trips, fine tackle, and gift items that should excite you.

### Why we need you:

Why does Kiap-TU-Wish do this? The function of the Holiday Conservation Banquet is to raise money for our conservation projects. Projects on the Kinnickinnic, Pine, and Trimbelle have added thousands of feet of rehabilitated streams in the last few years. YOUR participation in the banquet and silent auction contribute greatly to those efforts!

So, mark your calendar, register now, and plan on a lovely evening in Lake Elmo on December 8th;!!



# From the Field: stream monitoring

by John Kaplan



The Kiap-TU-Wish monitoring crew doing pre-restoration habitat assessment on the Trimble in 2013. Kent Johnson is measuring the velocity of the stream, Tom Henderson is recording the data and the rest of us are supervising!

I'M WRITING THIS ARTICLE as the monitoring coordinator for our chapter, but I must be honest with our readers in clarifying that the first time I even heard the term "stream monitoring" was in 2013! So, knowing that, you'll have to forgive any inaccuracies. Nearly everything I now know about stream monitoring was learned from Kent Johnson. Kent has spearheaded much of the chapter's monitoring activities over the last decade and still spends countless hours in the field on our behalf. Most of them with his fly rod sitting at home!

The Kiap-TU-Wish chapter has been involved in various monitoring activities for quite some time. The chapter built the flow monitoring station on the Willow River, below the Little Falls dam. The station is now operated by the USGS.

One of our long-standing members, the late Chuck Goossen, installed three temperature loggers in the lower Willow, I'm guessing, sometime in the 90's. His loggers were replaced with new ones just last year.

Our chapter participated in the installation and ongoing maintenance of eight temperature loggers in the Kinnickinnic River. Typically, the data from these loggers are downloaded

twice per year, once in the spring and once in the fall.

In 2007, our chapter received grants to do major restoration to Pine Creek. One or more of these grants required pre- and post-restoration habitat assessments. To accomplish this, roughly 18 locations along Pine Creek were chosen. The following measurements/assessments were recorded at each location before the restoration took place:

#### *Streambank measurements of both banks*

- Bank height and depth
- Bank soil composition
- Vegetative growth

#### *Stream channel*

- Channel width
- Canopy cover
- Water depth at 5 points across the width of the stream
- Water velocity at 3 points across the width of the stream
- Stream bed substrate
- Water temperature – with hand-held thermometer
- Sampling of aquatic insects

These same measurements were then taken post restoration, after the stream had a chance to stabilize – roughly four

to five years later.

Temperature loggers were also installed before the restoration and have been providing valuable data since.

In 2013 similar grants were received to do restoration to the Trimble River at County Road W. Again, temperature loggers were installed prior to the restoration and all habitat assessments listed above were made at 15 locations. The restoration was done in two phases, with the second phase being completed in 2014. Post-restoration assessments will be made in the spring of 2017. The temperature data has been downloaded twice per year.

The Kiap-TU-Wish board recently approved funds to take water samples from Pine Creek and to have them tested for contaminants like nitrogen and phosphorus. If funding is available, the same procedure will be done on the Trimble.

Of course, we all hope that these measurements and ongoing monitoring eventually show us that the restoration work we've done on our streams has had a positive effect on trout habitat. Kent Johnson will be shedding some light on this when he speaks at our November chapter meeting .... don't miss it! 🐟



# Nitro

by Jonathan Jacobs

## I CAME OF AGE AT A PLACE WHERE

and in a time when automobiles were not yet seen as a societal evil, but instead as conveyances that transported us across the tundra and through the taiga to a more interesting place in a sporty manner. Like many a provincial youth, I was drawn deep into the car culture with the result that I frittered away much of my twenties at dragstrips around the nation. I hung around with other folks who raced “doorslammers,” cars that might be heavily modified, but had their origins on Motown’s assembly lines. In another part of the paddocks there were the “hot cars,” purpose-built race cars fabricated in specialty shops. At the top of that pyramid were “Top Fuel” cars, land-bound missiles that were then capable of covering a quarter mile from a standing start in less than six seconds at a terminal speed in excess of two hundred and fifty miles an hour. They were about twice as quick and twice as fast as the fastest of the doorslammers. They were powered by supercharged aluminum replicas of Chrysler “Hemi” engines that burned nitromethane, a fuel that could reasonably be described as something akin to liquid TNT, and produced well in excess of five thousand horsepower. Seeing one of these cars in operation was somewhere between awe inspiring and fear inducing as they flashed by with a deafening roar, flames emanating from their individual exhaust pipes as they rattled the earth and rent the atmosphere.

If you are still with me, you are likely wondering just what the point of this reflection on a time that’s long gone and probably never should have been is, exactly. Nothing really, except that as I write this there are fish migrating up out of Lake Superior into Wisconsin’s south shore rivers that, when hooked, provide Top Fuel thrills and make other freshwater fish look like doorslammers. These are steelhead, the anadromous form of rainbow trout native to the Pacific Ocean coasts of North America as far south as southern California and to the northern reaches of Asia. They were introduced into western Lake Superior’s waters in the 1890’s and soon established reproducing populations.

Steelhead are a challenging fly rod quarry for several reasons, chief among them the fact that the fish are in the rivers to propagate and not to eat. They can, however, be inveigled into eating a nymph imitation or egg fly. It’s at that point that a second, greater challenge arises. That would lie in subduing and landing the critter, which, depending on several factors, will have either

about the same time that ice out occurs on those rivers and the bite may be even better then. Further, while Minnesota tributaries lack a fall run, spring runs there seem to have been improving in the last few years.

You can learn a great deal more about these splendid fish and how to fish for them by visiting Minnesota’s and Wisconsin’s DNR web sites and by

**“. . .as I write this there are fish migrating up out of Lake Superior into Wisconsin’s south shore rivers that, when hooked, provide Top Fuel thrills and make other freshwater fish look like doorslammers.”**

departed posthaste for Lake Superior as if powered by nitromethane, or dashed from one brush pile to another faster than one can make note of how many brush piles seem to have appeared out of nowhere in the few seconds since you hooked the fish.

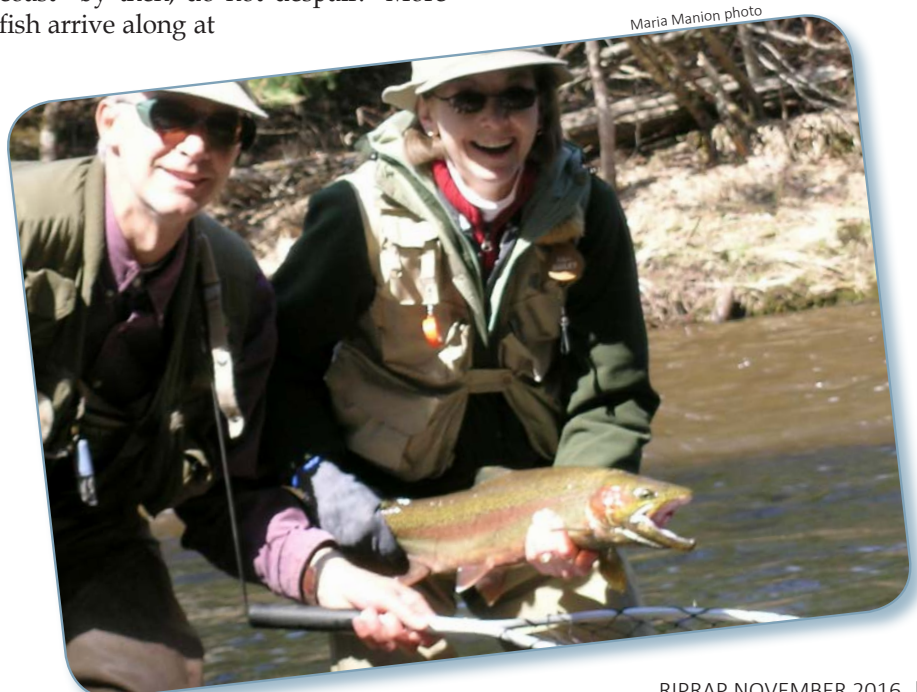
When you receive this issue of RipRap, there will be about two weeks left before the fishing season in Wisconsin’s Lake Superior tributaries closes on November 15. Fishing can be quite good right up until closing, and it’s my recommendation that you get up there as soon and as often as you can, but if you can’t make it up to the “south coast” by then, do not despair. More fish arrive along at

studying information available at the web sites of the Lake Superior Steelhead Association and the Brule River Sportsmen’s Club.

Among the reputable and knowledgeable guides who can help you in your quest for these fish are Damion Wilmot (<http://fbnguideservice.com/>) and Scott Thorpe (<http://www.scottthorpeflyfishing.com/>).

Good luck in your personal quest for speed. 🐟

*Below: Karen Jacobs with her Brule River steelhead.*



Maria Manion photo

# KIAP Participates in Youth Game Fair at HoppDakota

by Dan Wilcox

**B**RIAN AND MARY HOPP HAVE hosted Pheasants Forever dog trials and youth hunts on their 'HoppDakota' farm near Beldenville for more than 25 years. This year was different and a huge success.

Tim Christensen, Youth Coordinator for the Kinnickinnic Chapter of Pheasants Forever, explained that the intent this year was to attract more young people and expose them to a variety of outdoor activities. Christensen and Mike Davis, PF Chapter President, invited a number of other conservation organizations including Trout Unlimited, the DNR, and vendors to participate.

On Saturday morning September 24, Christensen welcomed the young people, parents, and volunteers to the Hopp Farm. He explained that Pheasants Forever, like Ducks Unlimited and Trout Unlimited, is a non-profit conservation organization primarily focused in improving habitat for wildlife and actively encourages young people to participate in outdoor activities. Christensen said that the PF chapter has partnered with the DNR, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited and the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust on habitat projects in this area.

This year 30 boys and 11 girls participated in the youth hunts. The PF youth hunts are a family affair where young hunters get a chance to practice their shooting and hunt pheasants and pigeons in the field with mentors and dogs. All the young hunters had already completed their DNR Hunter Safety training.

Wisconsin DNR Conservation Warden Kyle Kosin reminded the young hunters about points of hunting safety. Kosin said that his job is to help hunters and fishers safely enjoy the outdoors and to protect natural resources.

Tom Schnadt, Randy Arnold, John Kaplan, Laurie Ashworth and Dan Wilcox with the Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter explained stream restoration, demonstrated fly tying and provided fly casting instruction. Several young people went away with tent-winged caddis flies tied by Randy Arnold. A number of parents expressed interest in

participating in KIAP stream restoration work and we hope to see them at Chapter meetings.

In addition to live bird hunts with pheasants and pigeons, the expanded Game Fair this year included duck hunting target shooting practice, sponsored by PF and Ducks Unlimited. Cody Tromberg, PF Wildlife Biologist, brought in DNR shooting sports equipment and duck decoys for the interesting duck hunting simulation.

Jay Fredericksen with the Wisconsin Trappers Association displayed traps and pelts of different furbearers and demonstrated how to release dogs that get into Conibear traps. Tim Ploog and Ed Challacombe with the North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association showed a variety of dog training methods. Jason and Jessica Sadek of A-1 Archery in Hudson brought youth-sized bows and instructed the young people in archery shooting. Mel Warren of River Falls provided instruction in re-loading shotgun shells. Dean and Jerome Rodewald of River Falls had a beekeeping display demonstrating the importance of pollinators and fascinating aspects of bee biology.

Belinda Hopp, Chris Gervais and Maddie Yunker instructed young hunters in trap shooting. Belinda said that the young hunters are becoming excellent shooters, so they increased the difficulty of the clay target set-up. Belinda is a DNR wing shooting-certified instructor and the trap shooting coach for the Meyer Middle School in River Falls. Maddie Yunker participated in previous PF youth hunts and is now a student at UW-River Falls. The River Falls Sportsman's Club donated the clay targets and the local PF Chapter donated the shotgun shells and hearing protection.

PF members Sheri Carlson and Mary Hopp made lunch for the young hunters and volunteers with brats donated by Brian and Mary Hopp.

The Ellsworth Rod and Gun Club donated rooster pheasants for the youth hunt and other pheasants came from the DNR game farm in Poynette. Darryl and Robin Dunn donated use of porta-potties for the event.

It was great to see all the young boys and girls out there on a cool windy gray day having a fine time outdoors and learning about outdoor activities. I didn't see any of them walking around looking at their cell phones.

Tim Christensen thought that the expanded format of the youth game fair was a success and thanked the many volunteer participants. Brian Hopp said that for him, the smiles on the kids' faces are the most rewarding thing about the event. 🐦

Kiap-TU-Wish volunteers lending a hand with casting instruction. Kiap members pictured in photos below: Tom Schnadt, John Kaplan, and Randy Arnold.





## FLY TIER'S CORNER: B Smo's Deep Purple

Recipe & Instructions: Brian Smolinski



Questions?

Stop in at Lund's Fly Shop  
or email Brian at [brian@lundsflyshop.com](mailto:brian@lundsflyshop.com)

Hook ::	Size 16 Gamakatsu J20 Jig Nymph hook
Head ::	7/64" Black Nickel Slotted Tungsten Bead
Weight ::	Lead Wire .020"
Thread ::	Uni-Thread 6/0 (136D) Black
Tail & Rib ::	Veevus Iridescent Thread - Silver
Body ::	A mixture of Hare's Ear Plus Black & Black Dyed Rabbit Fur
Thorax ::	A mixture of Purple Ice Dub & Purple Dyed Rabbit Fur
Collar ::	Ice Dub - UV Black

### Instructions

- [1] Add 5-6 turns of lead wire behind the bead and push them tight up against the back of the bead.
- [2] With the thread behind the lead wraps, tie in a piece of the Veevus Iridescent Thread (with both ends facing the rear) with enough length to make the tail and for the rib.
- [3] Wrap over both strands of the Iridescent Thread back to the bend of the hook.
- [4] Dub the black rabbit mixture forward, creating a tapered body about two thirds of the way to the bead.
- [5] Counter-wrap the rib forward and add a few wraps over the lead wire creating a firm base for the thorax. Secure rib material down and wrap thread back to the point where the body ends.
- [6] Dub the Purple Ice Dub mixture to form the thorax up to the back of the bead.
- [7] Add some sticky dubbing wax to about an inch of thread and spread a small amount of UV Black Ice Dub to the thread (about twice as many fibers as you want for the collar).
- [8] Wrap thread and Ice Dub fibers between the thorax and the bead, then pull fibers back and make a couple wraps between the collar and the bead.
- [9] Whip finish and pull tightly on the thread, sucking it in behind the bead.
- [10] Pull on the collar fibers removing any loose ones that did not get secured in.

## Kiap-TU-Wish

### Board Members & Contact Info

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**Special thanks to Bob Trevis and Judy Lutter for proofing RipRap each month. Many an error has been caught due to their attention.**

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### RipRap Contributors:

**Mike Alwin** is a chapter member and former proprietor of Bob Mitchell's Fly Shop.

**Jonathan Jacobs** is a chapter member and de facto, monthly columnist.

**John Kaplan** is a chapter member and current board member.

**Dan Wilcox** is a chapter member, the chapter's project manager for the Trimbelle restoration work, and outdoor columnist for the River Falls Journal.



Kiap-TU-Wish Chapter #168  
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For all the latest  
news . . .

[www.kiaptuwish.org](http://www.kiaptuwish.org)  
&  
Facebook



Like us!

November 2nd  
Chapter Meeting

Junior's Bar & Restaurant  
414 South Main Street  
River Falls, WI 54022  
715-425-6630  
[www.juniorsrf.com](http://www.juniorsrf.com)

Dinner starts at 6pm (your dime).  
The meeting starts at 7pm.

Next RipRap deadline:  
Friday, November 18th  
Send info to: [manion.maria@gmail.com](mailto:manion.maria@gmail.com)

## Evaluating stream restoration benefits at Pine Creek

with **Kent Johnson**



Kent conducting macroinvertebrate  
monitoring at Pine Creek

Kent is an environmental scientist and former Kiap-TU-Wish board member. He has done extensive monitoring work on Pine Creek, the Kinnickinnic River and numerous other streams in our region. In 2013 Kent was awarded the *Jeffrey Carlson Volunteer Award* by Wisconsin Trout Unlimited (WITU). It's the highest individual award given by WITU. Kent continues his work which has been critical to coldwater conservation efforts.

**Join us on November 2nd.**