

Funding TU Projects

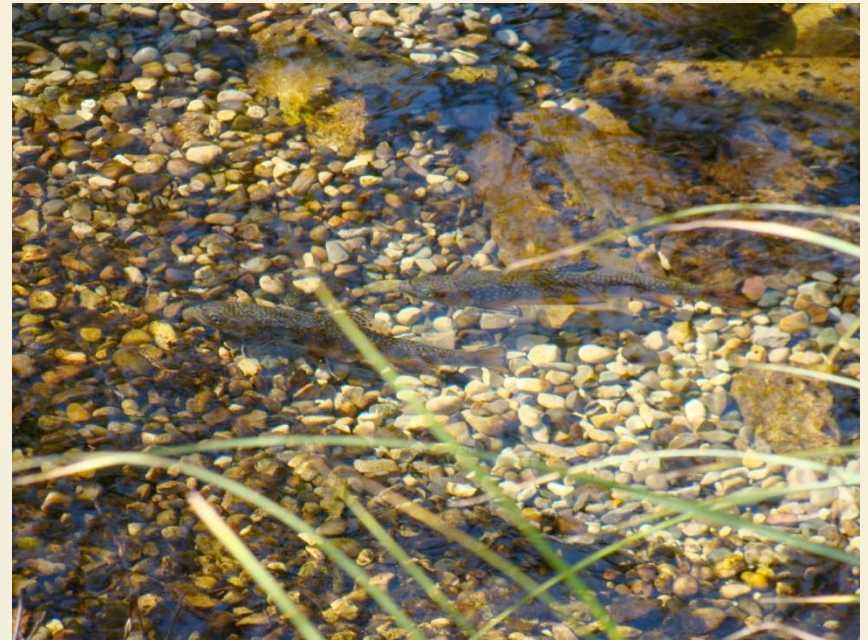


- Trout Unlimited's mission to educate, conserve, protect and restore coldwater fisheries includes several large initiatives such as dam removal and major restoration projects at the national and state levels.
 - These efforts are funded by your membership fees & contributions.
- Locally we support equally important, small stream conservation projects and educational support such as:
 - Removal of debris along sections of the Paint Creek
 - Restoration & clean-up of selected sections of the Clinton River
 - Salmon in the Classroom (educational outreach)
 - Restoration of the Upper Black River and Tributaries
- Vanguard Chapter receives no funding from TU national or TU Michigan, for these projects. We must raise the money ourselves.

A Local Success Story



- Vanguard Chapter assisted the Black River Watershed Council with an experimental project on Rattlesnake Creek to boost natural reproduction of brook trout in that watershed.
- Spawning beds were constructed in the Rattlesnake Creek, at three locations.
- Though not close to home, it was a “local” project that we chose to support as a Chapter.



All material was moved by hand



These beds were re-built by hauling stone to the creek bed, through a swamp after the banks were stabilized and small riffles installed to create small pools of quiet water . Two of these sites have seen spawning activity return.



It's not all catch and release



Natural Reproduction - again



As this was only the second time that this approach had been tried , a successful outcome was not a sure thing

A few months later, we were rewarded with these photos proving that our efforts were successful

Salmon in the Classroom



- Vanguard has assisted local teachers introduce Salmon in the Classroom, where students hatch eggs and tend the fry until large enough to release into the Clinton River.
 - These programs actively involve the students for several months and learn first hand what fish need to survive and why conservation is important.
- Vanguard also contributed monetarily to TU-MI for legal expenses related to the Golden Lotus, Song of the Morning Ranch lawsuit.
- With a project budget of less than \$3000, Vanguard makes important contributions to our local communities.
 - Future donations of time & money, will allow this tradition to continue.

Dam at Song of the Morning Ranch

