

2010 ILLINOIS COUNCIL OF
TROUT UNLIMITED

YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING SCHOOL



The Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited will once again host its annual Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing School, on the banks of Michigan's fabled Au Sable River, July 18 through 23, 2010. Although we will be lodged at the Ralph A. MacMullen Conference Center, outside of Roscommon, MI, the Au Sable watershed will be the classroom within in which a full curriculum of hydrology, forestry, fisheries

biology, aquatic entomology and ecology will be taught by highly qualified professional instructors from the University of Michigan, the Michigan DNR, Hartwick Pines State Park, and the Huron Pines Americorps Conservation and Restoration Program. Students



will tour the entire watershed to gain an appreciation of the unique geological and hydrological features that make this a world-class trout fishery. The extirpation of the Grayling, the Au Sable's only native Salmonid, will focus attention on the factors leading to its demise and the real need for preservation and protection of this and other pristine cold water fisheries.

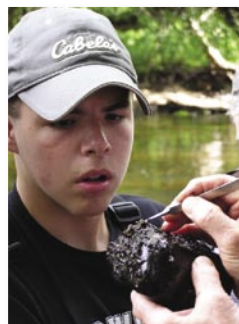
Students will receive on stream instruction in fly-fishing, each day presenting an opportunity to catch a wild brook, brown or rainbow trout. Wading and stream safety will be emphasized, as will streamside ethics and etiquette. Aquatic insects will be seined and attempts made of their imitation at the fly-tying bench. Participation in a stream improvement project as well as testing for water quality is also part of the broad curriculum. Students should leave the school with good understanding of the delicate interrelationships between the Au Sable's hydrology, morphology, water quality, ecological

communities, and land use, and how it all comes together to produce a healthy, quality trout fishery. They will also leave with a fly-casting outfit of their own, hopefully having caught at least one or more trout on a fly, and just enough experience to embark upon a lifelong preoccupation with nature.

The school is co-ed for youth, ages 13-18, who are residents of Illinois, and who show an interest in the outdoors, wild life, conservation, and fly-fishing. Acceptance is based upon submission of a short essay showing a strong desire to attend as well as explaining what the Student hopes to learn and achieve at the program. A brief recommendation by a teacher or counselor is also required. Applications will be accepted immediately. Selections will be announced sometime in late spring of 2010.

Tuition is \$625.00 and includes accommodations, all meals and transportation to and from the Chicagoland area to the RAM Center at Roscommon, MI. All or part of the tuition can be waived upon a show of need.

Come join us where TU had its beginnings for a week of fly-fishing on the magnificent Au Sable, learning all about its trout, their history and the surrounding environment.



For additional information
and application, contact:

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