

## **BEYOND THE FLY BOX: TYING INTO SOCIAL NETWORKS**

**Description:** One of the main barriers preventing people from fishing is not having anyone to go with. Learn how Rhode Island's Aquatic Resource Education program overcomes that barrier by hosting the successful 'Community Fly Tying' program. Using R3 strategies, Scott Travers has created the opportunity for random people who already live near one another a chance to not only tie flies and fish but to also create a social network in that area to support and continue engagement in fly fishing and fly tying. The program has seen dramatic increases in popularity over time, repeat participation on behalf of the other students, establishment of peer groups which continue to grow, and the eventual transition of some participants to instructors who now assist with this program and others.

**Location:** Diamond Peak Room

**Session Times:** Wed., 10:30 AM, Repeated at 2:30 PM

**Presenter:** Scott Travers, Technical Assistant to Aquatic Resource Education/ Hunter Education Coordinators, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Division of Fish and Wildlife

### **Scott A. Travers**

Scott Travers is currently the Technical Assistant to the Aquatic Resource Education and Hunter Education Coordinators in Rhode Island.

Scott instructs both fresh and salt-water fly-tying programs for the State of Rhode Island and coordinates various fishing programs with assisted living facilities, police community service units, boy scouts, girl scouts, sports teams, civic groups, veteran's programs, and other groups.

Scott hosts and instructs a series of required and supplemental hunter education programs to include Land Navigation, Tree Stand Safety, Wilderness First Aid, Trapping, etc. He is also a certified Child Safety Seat Instructor through Safe Kids International and trains active law enforcement, fire department, and hospital staff in the correct procedures to install child safety seats in motor vehicles; and instructs both the basic and experienced rider education courses for both the State of Massachusetts and Harley Davidson part time.

Scott is the Vice President of the Trout Unlimited Northern Rhode Island Chapter #737 as well as a regular instructor for the United Fly Tyers of Rhode Island.