

Meet a Fish Expert

"When we reduce stormwater runoff and keep it from entering our waters, far less pollutants will flow into streams. Less aquatic pollution means improved water quality and a healthier population of trout and the aquatic insects they feed on."



Brian Esque is Chair of the **North Carolina Council of Trout Unlimited (NCTU)**, the national non-profit that works to conserve coldwater fisheries. NC Trout Unlimited provides input on environmental plans, advocates for better laws and regulations, funds conservation projects, and requests action on water quality violations.

Keeping water quality high is key to protecting trout and their food sources -- and many more creatures. Trout thrive in clean, cold water rich in oxygen. They dine at every level of the food chain, including worms, insects and other fish that are essential for healthy stream ecosystems. Trees and other plants by the river offer shade and promote stability for riverbanks, while clean gravel in the stream bed is vital for trout spawning.

Stormwater runoff poses a significant threat to trout and their food sources. It carries pollutants like fertilizers, fine sediment, trash, and chemicals into streams, elevating water temperatures, reducing oxygen levels, and causing erosion.



Did you know?

The more we keep stormwater runoff onsite, the more we'll improve water quality in our streams, protecting trout populations and their habitats.

RIVER
LINK



REDUCE RAIN RUNOFF

Protect our rivers –
keep rain runoff onsite.

LEARN MORE at:
riverlink.org/reduce-rain-runoff/