

Dear Illinois Trout Unlimited Member:

Since 2005, TU's Driftless Area Restoration Effort (DARE) has helped expand watershed restoration across the un-glaciated region of Southwest Wisconsin. With grassroots volunteers leading the way, we have worked with our neighboring states to raise money, train project planners, oversee projects, and protect resources across the Driftless Area.

**The results are significant, but we could do more.** Restored stream miles have trebled in the four Driftless Area states. Dollars applied to projects have more than doubled. Chapters inside and outside the region have strengthened their capacity to do watershed projects and other parts of TU's mission. Partnerships have been built based on projects, and they continue to grow. Agencies and other conservation groups that had never done projects are now willing to take them on with volunteer help. And the number of miles of trout streams continues to grow. Through DARE and these projects, we've developed public access on miles and miles of restored streams. TU in the Upper Midwest is stronger for DARE's efforts, and the Driftless Area has better and more accessible fishing resources, and healthier rivers. We would like to do more, but we need your help.

Though we've raised significant project funding, little of that goes to support DARE. **No portion of your TU dues directly supports DARE.** Key support has come from foundation grants and contributions from some chapters, councils, and individuals. If you support Driftless Restoration, **this is your chance** to make an individual, tax-deductible contribution to DARE. You can show your support with a nifty **"DRIFTLESS SPONSOR TROUT UNLIMITED" license plate holder** for a \$100 contribution. For a \$250 contribution, you'll receive the license plate holder and a TUDARE cap.

Thank for all you do for conservation. Together, we are making a difference.

Sincerely,

TUDARE staff and Volunteer Steering Committee

Jeff Hastings: Project Manager, Brett Lorenzen: Chair, Vol. Steering Committee, Duke Welter: DARE Communications

**YES! I'd like to be an inaugural Driftless Sponsor.**

**Here's my check made out to TROUT UNLIMITED.**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$125 SILVER (Premium: Driftless Sponsor License Plate Holder)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$250 GOLD (Premiums: License Plate Holder and a TUDARE Cap)

\_\_\_\_\_ OTHER (Undying thanks from your TUDARE partners)

**Send to: Jeff Hastings, TUDARE Project Manager, E7740 Hastings Lane, Westby WI 54667**

Thanks to Fred Young/Forest City Gear and Al Noll/Noll Consulting

Services for helping underwrite the expenses of this letter.