



Friends of
Stony Brook

Landowners, Ask and You Shall Receive

“Ask and you shall receive”..... And that is what actually happen..... but not that quickly.....

I first met Teresa Hahn while I was standing on the shoulder of State Highway F in the middle of farm country in Calumet Country Wisconsin. I was viewing damage that Stony Brook was doing to a farm field when Teresa walked up and began a conversation that would change the life and location of Stony Brook, a stream that once was home to Brown Trout. However, none have been found by the WDNR for well over 20 years.

I told Teresa I was a member of Fox Valley Trout Unlimited and I had a vision. The vision was restoring Stony Brook so that it would support the natural reproduction of trout. Teresa did not snicker, she invited me into her home to discuss the vision and how she and her husband Tony could help in the endeavor.

Teresa personable demeanor and that of her husband Tony made it easy for me to communicate what needed to be done on their property to rehabilitate Stony Brook. We would have to change Stony Brook from being a ditch to being a meandering healthy stream by adding riffles, runs and pools along with cover for fish. The major task would be to change the location of Stony Brook. It would entail relocating Stony Brook some 600 feet and meandering it diagonally through their field.

Teresa and Tony liked the idea but had to think carefully on it as they would be losing farmable land and would have to grant an easement for the work to be done. After very careful consideration and weighing the positive environmental impact an easement was granted through the property to restore and preserve Stony Brook. Design has been completed, funds raised and permits applied for thanks to two wonderful landowners who place a real value on the very real environmental assets on their property.

— Joe Bach FVTU.