

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 13, 2017

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**The Weather Outside is Frightful, but Hatchery Sets Eyes on Spring**

**Free All-Ages Fly-Tying Demonstration and Casting Clinic Scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 9 a.m. until noon**

The public is invited to participate in a **free fly-tying demonstration and casting clinic** on **Saturday, March 18 from 9 a.m. until noon at the Fish Hatchery Powder Mills Park**, 115 Park Road, Pittsford. This all-ages, family-style demonstration is for novice, intermediate, and seasoned anglers alike. Watch as the fine craft of fly tying is demonstrated, and then go hands-on with members of Upstate Fly Fishers Inc., a chapter of the Federation of Fly Fishers, and learn the special technique for casting with fly rods. The event, now tradition for many area residents, reminds us that spring is around the corner—and so is the start of trout season and the April 1 derby that benefits the Fish Hatchery at Powder Mills Park.

“Jake Jakubowski and his fellow members of Upstate Fly Fishers have been educating hatchery guests for years now,” says Ron Mitchell, Hatchery manager. “The annual fly-tying demonstration and casting clinic has become a pre-derby day tradition and we are grateful that these talented men and women are on hand all morning long to share their craft and encourage the sport of fishing.”

Staff will also be on hand to teach visitors about the fish being raised at the Hatchery and to take registrations for the April 1 benefit trout derby.

The now 84-year-old Fish Hatchery at Powder Mills Park was established in 1933 as a cooperative effort between the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries and Monroe County. It was closed in mid-December 2002 due to County budget cuts and then re-opened in the Fall of 2003, when the Riedman Foundation entered into a partnership with the County to provide funding for staff, maintenance and operational support, as well as make capital improvements.

The all-ages fly-tying demonstration and casting clinic is free to attend, but reservations are recommended. Please join the event on the Hatchery’s Facebook page or call the Fish Hatchery at 585-586-1670 to register. Information is also available at [www.fishpowdermill.org](http://www.fishpowdermill.org). The event is sponsored by the Riedman Foundation.