

# From hatchery to river

By **Brittany W. Verge**  
THE ADVANCE  
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Members of the Medway River Salmon Association (MRSA) gathered in Charleston to help place over 60,000 trout eggs into incubation boxes in the Medway River.

The morning of Feb. 19 was chilly but sunny when members of the MRSA headed down to a little man-made waterway to await the arrival of trout eggs.

"We have one of the best trout rivers in the Maritimes because we've been doing this for six years," says Horace MacPherson, president of the Medway River Salmon Association.

The MRSA started the program in 2007 and they have gone from hatching 20,000 eggs to 60,000 a year. The program is partnered with the McGowan Lake Fish Hatchery who provide the eggs and then hand them off to the MRSA.

The eggs are kept in incubators attached to tubes that lead into a small dam. The eggs will sit on mats to help keep them from moving in the boxes and they will incubate for 6 - 8 weeks.

Soon the MRSA will attach another set of boxes and tubes to the incubators where the juveniles will travel once they hatch. Once they end up in those boxes, the MRSA will take them further up the Medway River for release. Until then, the

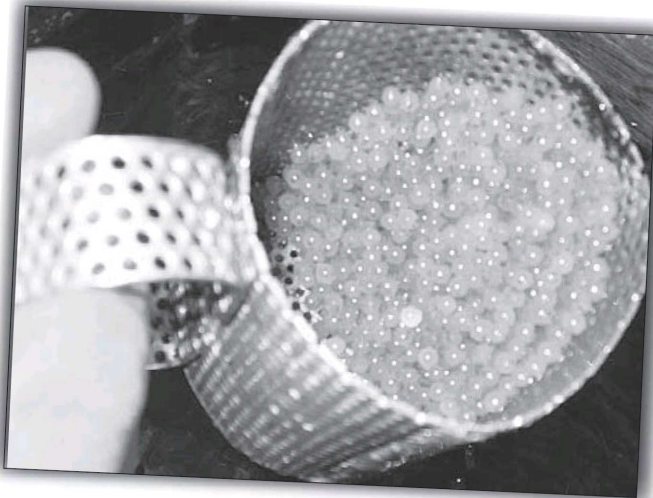


Association will check on the incubators every few days. They have also set up pinwheels and scarecrows on the dam to

keep away birds of prey.

The MRSA was founded in 2007 and is dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of Atlantic salmon, trout

and their habitats. They have been actively involved in the community through several projects including one to educate children about fish.



Above: Billy Stevens and Dell Nauss of the Medway River Salmon Association joined Dave Dewar of the McGowan Lake Fish Hatchery in the cold water to set up eggs in incubators. The Association has been working on restocking the Medway River since 2007.

Brittany W. Verge photo

Left: A scoop of trout eggs ready to be put in the incubator.

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