

## Member Spotlight: John Knitter

John Knitter has been fishing in Wisconsin waters for the past 57 years. Born and raised in Milwaukee, he graduated from UWM with a degree in Geology. "That's how I got interested in the Milwaukee River," he says. "I went to Estabrook Falls to look at a fossil site. I saw the river, I smelled it, and I wanted to get it improved."

These days, John spends many of his free hours working to improve the Milwaukee and other rivers. He has captained a cleanup site in the Friends of Milwaukee's Rivers Spring River Cleanup for the past five years. The site is on the west bank of the Milwaukee River at the UWM Park & Ride. It draws UWM students, community members, and members of Trout Unlimited, a statewide trout-fishing group.

John has served on the board of Trout Unlimited for four years as their "Political Liaison". "My job is to complain to politicians," he says. This year he joined FMR at Conservation Lobby Day, where he and other citizens voiced their concerns about passing a strong Great Lakes Compact. The Compact passed the Senate in March (see *Great effort*, page 1.)

John is also active with FMR as a Citizen Water Quality Monitor. He monitors Nichol's Creek, his favorite trout fishing stream and the northernmost tributary of the Milwaukee River.

When asked why he likes fishing for trout, John replied "Trout require clean, cold water. That ties in with my view of the environment."

