

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



GUNPOWDER
VALLEY
CONSERVANCY





**GUNPOWDER
VALLEY**
CONSERVANCY

Reflections from Our New Executive Director

What an exciting time to join the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (GVC)! In 2022, when many organizations were still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, GVC was forging ahead and poised to welcome our first full-time Executive Director. This was thanks to the foresight and steadfast leadership of our dedicated Board of Directors, our prior Executive Director, Lou Etgen, and our Interim Executive Director, Don Callihan.

As I came on board in August, it was clear that we would finish the year strong - and we did! All of the successes we share with you in this report are the result of the hard work of our enthusiastic volunteers and caring staff. I was so proud to see the beautiful Bay-Wise Project completed with Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church and celebrate there with our community for our *Evening Among the Trees* event. Joining our staff and volunteers as they installed gardens, planted trees, and distributed rain barrels was also a highlight of my first few months.

The future is bright for GVC and your generous support makes it all possible! Thank you on behalf of the GVC for helping us ensure healthy lands, healthy waterways, and healthy communities within the Gunpowder Watershed.

Sincerely,

Kim Pause Tucker

GVC Executive Director
ktucker@gunpowdervc.org





Where We Work

The Gunpowder Watershed drains 500 square miles from York County, Pennsylvania through Maryland's Baltimore, Carroll, and Harford counties, to the shores of the Chesapeake Bay.

Our Mission

To educate and mobilize people and resources to preserve and restore the lands and waterways of the Gunpowder Watershed.



Our Vision

Our vision is a Gunpowder Watershed that consists of:

- **Healthy lands** where native plants and animals thrive and where natural habitats are abundant;
- **Healthy waterways** where streams flow clear and are connected to and nurtured by the land around them;
- **Healthy communities** where residents, businesses, farms, and neighborhoods thrive and are empowered with the knowledge and resources to sustain the long-term interdependency of land, water, and people.

Our Impact: Land Preservation

Land preservation is central to our vision of a Gunpowder Watershed with healthy lands, healthy waterways, and healthy communities. As of 2022, **GVC held 1,867 acres in conservation easement.**

Preserved land benefits us all by:

- Protecting our drinking water sources
- Sustaining wildlife habitat
- Enhancing public spaces
- Preserving our agricultural heritage



Learn more

Our Impact: Watershed Restoration

- **GVC has been bridging people, land preservation, and waterway restoration since 1989.** In 2022, we planted 1,800+ trees, removed 7.5 tons of trash, distributed 81 rain barrels, and installed 27 conservation gardens in the Gunpowder Watershed.
- Throughout 2022, GVC offered 5 free educational workshops at Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Parkville. The workshops were part of the **Bay-Wise Project at Saint Demetrios** where GVC installed 60 native trees, an Edible Bayscape Garden, and three microbio retention practices. GVC also sold rain barrels to church members to reduce stormwater runoff in their own neighborhoods.

Gardens @ Saint Demetrios



Looking pretty! The gardens we created in 2022 were in full bloom during our 2023 *Evening Among the Trees* fundraiser at Saint Demetrios.

Gunpowder Watershed Forum



Forum participants put their heads together to create a shared vision for the Gunpowder Watershed in 2050.

- People came together for clean water in 2022! On June 15th, over 60 people representing 43 organizations attended the **Gunpowder Watershed Forum**. Hosted by GVC, this event included presentations and interactive workshops. Baltimore County Chief Sustainability Officer, Jennifer Aiosa, gave the keynote speech on *Integrating Climate Change into Water Quality Efforts*.
- GVC was honored to help Constellation commemorate the company's planting of **more than 10,000 trees across the United States**. Constellation employees helped plant 100 native trees at St. Francis Xavier in Cockeysville to celebrate the auspicious milestone.

2022 Supporters

GRANT FUNDERS



Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund



\$10,000+

Anonymous

\$5,000-\$9,999



**Anonymous
Alan Penczek**

\$2,500- \$4,999

M&T Charitable Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

- Anonymous
- Baltimore County Game & Fish Protective Association
- Lyle & Ellen Benson
- Sanford & Susan Buxbaum
- Donald & Sally Callihan
- Charles Conklin III
- Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson
- Glenn & Mary Jane Johnston
- Kiwanis Club of Towson-Timonium
- James Martin & Sandy Davenport
- Meredith McDonagh
- David McKibbin
- Mona Scott & Lee Ann Smith
- Norman & Vicki Sines
- T. Rowe Price Investments
- Laurie Taylor-Mitchell & Braxton Mitchell
- Towson University Foundation

2022

Supporters

\$500 to \$999

- Advanced Marketing
- Susan & Fred Bath
- Tania Benfield
- Sarah Bunk
- John Copeland
- Randy & Marcy Davis
- Brian Devincentis
- Faith Lutheran Church
- Steve Fauser
- Paul & Michelle Fox
- Kari Gaynor
- Greenleaf Construction
- Michele Guyton
- Luke Hancock
- Horizon Farm Credit Union
- Rita & Michael Kurek
- Deborah & Mark Lancaster
- Judy Leiman
- John & Kim Leonard
- Susan Meier
- John Miller & Jane Wolfson
- Stuart & Bob Sanford
- Elizabeth & Elliot Shue
- Deborah Slawson

\$250 to \$499

- Ruth Bennett
- Susannah Bergmann
- Bowerman Loreley Beach Community Association
- Cromwell Valley Park Council
- Edrich Lumber Inc.
- Stephanie Gordon & Dane Fichter
- Alta & Jim Haywood
- Mary Magenta
- McBride Foundation
- William Rees
- Marion & Ed Romans
- Danielle & Matthew Simons, Jr.
- Doris Sweet
- Kim & Matt Tucker
- Mary Lou Tucker
- Wild Birds Unlimited
- David Wood

\$100 to \$249

- Nick Abbasi
- Harrison Akhavan
- Susan Anderson
- Maria Antonakas
- Deborah Bowers
- Bowley's Quarters Community Association
- Shelley & Benjamin Brosius
- Timothy Casey
- Darin Crew
- Kathleen Crostic
- Edward Decker, Jr.
- Rebecca Dimick
- Patricia Eagen
- Liz Entwisle
- Leslie Erickson & J. Wright Witcher
- Carol & George Fanshaw III
- Barbara Farren
- Benjamin Fertig
- Fran & John Flanigan
- Wini & Roger Frye
- Michael & Abigail Galvin
- Carl & Sally Gold
- Cyrus Green
- Barbara & Dave Gunter
- Sarah & Tom Haines

2022

Supporters

\$100 to \$249

- Barbara Hopkins
- Patricia Jonas
- Amanda Joyce
- Robert Keiser
- Patricia & James Kelly, Jr.
- Philip Klein
- Inna Kolomiytsev
- Lake Roland Garden Club
- Lynn Lanham & Marty Gaynor
- Phyllis Loveland
- Michael Mallinoff
- Lynda McClary
- Barbara Newton
- Oak Crest Garden Club
- Nancy & Bob Pentz
- Thomas Reifsnnyder & Lily Im
- Barbara Risacher & Arthur Casserly
- C. E. A. Scholtes & Associates
- Sharon Shaffer
- Timothy Somers
- Michael & Pamela Spencer
- Melvin Stimmel
- Buzz & Sandy Stromberger
- Edward Stuebing
- Karen Stupski
- Kathy Szeliga
- Catherine Tipper
- Donald Vetter
- Rebecca Volz
- Anna Wagner
- Trudy & Morry Wexler

\$50 to \$99

- Dorothy Berg
- Valerie Brennan
- James Busch
- Roberta & Barry Fineman
- Wyatt Finnerty-Desantis
- Jefferson Gray
- Mike Haire
- Joe Harber
- Scott Heacock
- Ann Jones & Donald Koch
- Linda & Don Jones
- Miriam & James Knuth
- Anita Kraemer
- Wallace & Priscilla Lippincott
- Marsha McLaughlin
- Drew McQuaid
- Suzanne Merryman
- Geoff & Pamela Miller
- Michael Murphy
- John Shuler
- Michael & Jennifer Sklar
- Alice & Darrell Strathy
- Ashley & Katey Traut
- Mary & Louis Triandafilou
- Rebecca Wertime

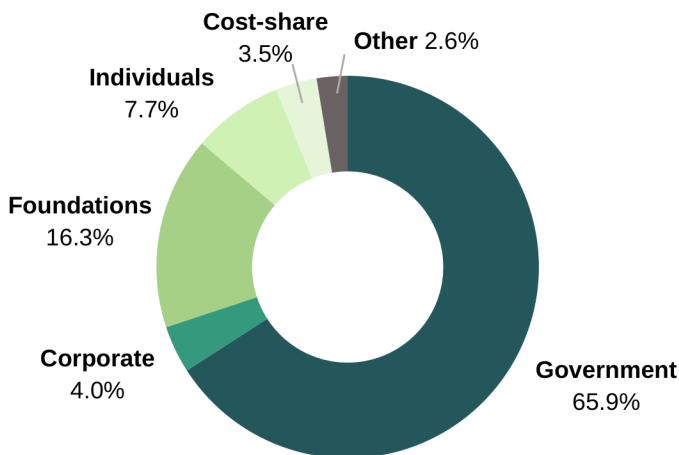
In 2022, we honored our first two employees, Peg Perry (left) and Karen Stupski (right) for their 15 years of service with GVC!



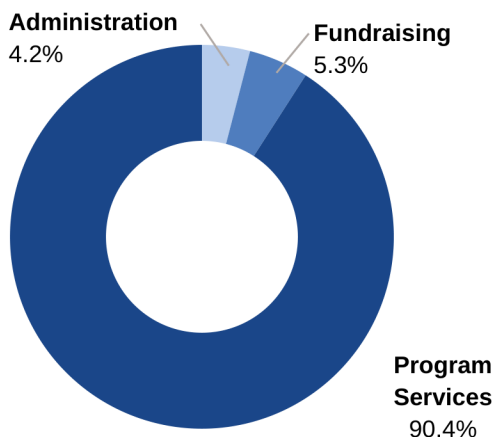
2022 Financials

 **Cost-share** reflects the homeowner's share of the cost to install rain barrels and conservation gardens thanks to GVC's generous funders.

Income \$747,894



Expenses \$706,106



GVC Board of Directors

- **Cyrus Green** (President)
- **Don Callihan** (Vice President)
- **Sarah Haines** (Secretary)
- **Jonathan Lovell** (Treasurer)
- **Joseph Clark, III**
- **Kathleen Crostic**

- **Stephanie Gordon**
- **Luke Hancock**
- **Jim Martin**
- **Deborah Slawson**
- **Edward Stuebing**

(roster as of December 2022)

2022

Volunteer Recognition

Volunteers are the heart of GVC. Each year, approximately 2,000 volunteers work with us to plant trees, install gardens, clean streams, and more! In December 2022, we honored our volunteer leaders at an intimate gathering at Dejon Vineyard in Hydes, MD.

2022 Charlie Conklin Volunteer of the Year

Jonas Mihal trained as a GVC Reforestation Crew Chief and led a native tree planting event at his alma mater, St. James Academy. We were inspired by Jonas's dedication and work ethic as "just" a high school student and Eagle Scout.



Peg Perry, Kim Thomas, and Charlie Conklin with Jonas Mihal

2022 Community Volunteer Leader of the Year

Mary Triandafilou was the driving force of the Bay-Wise Project at Saint Demetrios and donated many hours to the project's success.



Darcy Herman and Kim Pause Tucker with Mary Triandafilou

We rounded out the evening with Certificates of Honor for:

- **Kathleen Crostic**
- **Marion Romans**
- **Bill Rees**
- **Saint Demetrios Green Team**

A special thanks to our Interim Executive Director, Don Callihan

In March 2022, Lou Etgen stepped down as Executive Director and GVC's Vice President, Don Callihan, stepped up to the challenge as a volunteer! Don worked with the board to recruit and onboard the next Executive. Additionally, his leadership over the 6+ months resulted in finalizing the logo transition, a refreshed website, and transition to Microsoft SharePoint, among other 2022 successes. We asked Don to reflect on his reason for giving back to GVC:



"I have lived above Loch Raven Reservoir for 30 years. It reminds me of the woods and streams that I wandered as a youth in Pennsylvania. Working with GVC staff as a board member has given me the opportunity to guide its programs so that future generations can enjoy similar outdoor experiences that I did."

You can take action for clean water!

Since 1989, GVC has worked tirelessly to preserve the beauty of the Gunpowder Watershed and reduce pollution to our drinking water reservoirs. **Today, you can make a difference for future generations.**

VOLUNTEER

GVC needs volunteers like you to achieve our vision of healthy lands, healthy waterways, and healthy communities within the Gunpowder Watershed.



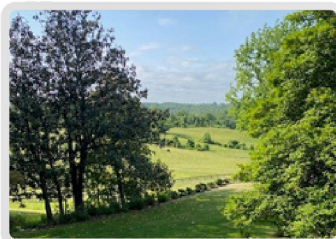
INVITE

Let us inspire you in person with a personalized presentation for your community, business, or garden club.



PRESERVE

Landowners play an important role in watershed health. You can work with GVC to place a conservation easement to protect the ecological value of your property in perpetuity.




DONATE

Your tax-deductible donation makes GVC's work possible! Please ask if your employer matches donations.



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