



**GUNPOWDER
VALLEY**
CONSERVANCY

January 2026

E-Newsletter

*Bridging People, Land Preservation and Waterway
Restoration Since 1989*

A Season of Change



Happy New Year! This is Amy Young and I'm SO glad you're here, reading this newsletter and catching up with your local land trust and conservation nonprofit, [Gunpowder Valley Conservancy](#) (GVC). **First, I wanted to fix a typo in our previous newsletter. [Follow this link](#) to view our updated GVC Store with shirts, sweatshirts, and other official merchandise.

It means a lot to me because **every month for the past 9 years I have been working behind-the-scenes to deliver this monthly communication to you!** There's a good chance we have also met in real

life. Through the years, I have represented GVC at garden and rain barrel workshops, as well as community events. I have also enjoyed sharing GVC's work with a variety of audiences (schools, Scout troops, garden clubs, senior centers, businesses) throughout the Gunpowder Watershed.

2026 is actually my 10th year working for GVC. During that time, I have had the privilege to grow GVC's Communications program, including our social media presence, a 2022 website and logo redesign, and the *Explore the Gunpowder Watershed Challenge*. **It is time to shake things up and add new voices to our Communications and Outreach team!**

We are hiring an **Outreach & Communications Coordinator** and an **Urban Community Specialist - Historically Underserved Communities**. We have extended the application deadline to next Wednesday, January 14th. [Click here to read the full job descriptions.](#)

As for me, I am thrilled to announce that my new role is **GVC Land Stewardship and Outreach Manager**. For the past year, I have coordinated the annual stewardship visits of the 40+ conservation easements preserved by GVC and its partners. I look forward to managing other aspects of land preservation, especially connecting property owners to GVC's reforestation and conservation garden programs. I will be also be exploring new ways for us to deepen our connection to rural and agricultural communities within the Gunpowder.



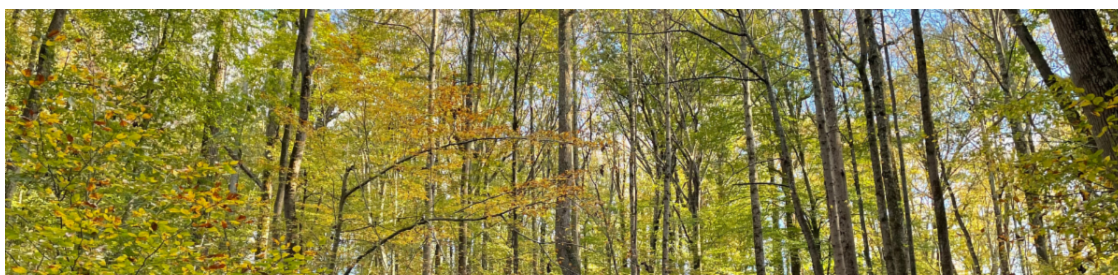
It truly is a season of change here at GVC. Our 1st staff member, **Karen Stupski**, will be pursuing new projects in 2026. We are all grateful to Karen and her 18 year tenure with GVC. She played a pivotal role growing GVC

from an all-volunteer group to the impressive organization that it is today. Our accomplishments—2,000+ acres preserved, 40,000+ native trees planted, almost 300 tons of trash removed—are a testament to Karen's hard work. Her vision of a holistic approach to watershed restoration is what led to the creation of our Gunpowder Watershed Partners. Thank you, Karen, and best wishes!

GVC is seeking our next Grants Manager to build upon these successes. This is an opportunity to play a key leadership role in a mission-driven organization protecting the Gunpowder watershed. The Grants Manager will help insure the long-term sustainability of impactful environmental programs while working with a collaborative and passionate team.

[Join Our Team](#)

Join us on May 9th



2026 Gunpowder Trailfest!



Get ready to lace up, explore, and celebrate! This spring, we are co-hosting our first **Gunpowder Trailfest** on Saturday, May 9th. With live music, family-friendly activities, and multiple course options for all skill levels, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

Proceeds will raise critical unrestricted funds for GVC's restoration, education, and conservation programs, as well as benefit Baltimore Road Runners Club and Cromwell Valley Park, ensuring these natural treasures can be enjoyed by all for generations to come.

Sign Up!

Saltier Isn't Safer!



Over-salting doesn't work better—it just pollutes our streams! Thanks to [Clean Green Baltimore County](#) for compiling these helpful facts to keep in mind before the next snow storm. For more tips and resources, visit [MDE's Resources for Salt Management at Home](#)

Get Outside this Weekend

Environmental stewards don't hibernate...they just wear extra layers! We could use a **few more volunteers to help maintain newly planted trees** in Reisterstown. We'll be working from 12 pm - 3 pm this Saturday, January 10th.



Volunteer!

Keep in touch with Gunpowder Valley Conservancy:



Gunpowder Valley Conservancy | P.O. Box 9733 | Towson, MD 21284 US

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