



GUNPOWDER VALLEY CONSERVANCY

June 2026 E-Newsletter



There is so much to share! We just wrapped up our *Explore The Gunpowder* challenge, welcomed new board members, and celebrated a Days Cove victory. Now it's time to start preparing for *Evening Among the Trees* (ps. save the date for October 17th!).

Welcome New Board Members!

We are thrilled to welcome *four new board members* to Gunpowder Valley Conservancy.

Fred Whiton is the Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Marlin Industries headquartered in Baltimore, where he leads the company with oversight of all operations across multiple sites throughout the United States.

Julie Plume is a Director of Financial Planning and Analysis at T. Rowe Price. She holds both a MBA and a MS in finance degree from the University of Maryland, Robert H School of Business as well as a licensed CPA in Maryland.

Dr. Paul Fox is a veterinarian at Mount Carmel Animal Hospital in Monkton.

Amy Hyman grew up in Harford County, where she developed a deep love for the outdoors, wildlife and the natural world. Although Amy now works in food science, she remains deeply connected to her environmental roots through community involvement and conservation efforts.

Thank you to all of our board members for your generous time, talent, and commitment to guiding our organization!

Our Board

Days Cove Victory!



Your advocacy is working.

In May, the Board of Public Works approved a revised lease for the Days Cove Rubble Landfill that reflects months of community input: an earlier closure date, a Critical Areas assessment, independent oversight, and approximately \$7 million in escrow funds brought under State control. Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (and you!) will have a role in the site's transition back to public parkland.

More recently, the facility operator announced it will not discharge treated leachate into the Gunpowder River — a direct result of the updated MDE discharge permit shaped by more than 800 public comments, including the more than 200 community members who packed the Perry Hall Library in September 2025.

We are now focused on the next phase: monitoring compliance, attending oversight meetings, and supporting Days Cove's return to the parkland it should be. We will keep you informed as that work moves forward.

Thank you to everyone who has shown up for this place.

[Read More Here](#)



Explore the Gunpowder Celebration SUCCESS!

We had a beautiful night at the Avenue in White Marsh for our Explore the Gunpowder final celebration. Participants picked up their "Gunpowder Explorer" shirts, experienced a live turtle from Marshy Point Nature Center, learned about trout fishing from Trout Unlimited, and painted rocks and small planters from the Saint Demetrios Green Team. There were also pirate costumes, copious snacks, temporary tattoos and fabric paints to decorate your shirt!

One highlight from the event was that a teacher at Loyola Blakefield used the Explore the Gunpowder initiative as a class project in a senior elective class called "Chesapeake Bay Ecology". The seniors enjoyed that they had a project instead of a traditional senior exam. Their teacher, Chris Cucuzzella, said that the students enjoyed finding new areas that were in their backyard. One student explored areas of the Upper Gunpowder such as Hemlock Gorge and Prettyboy Dam. Another did bike rides on different NCR trail sections with his mother!

Thank you again to all of our participants, sponsors and partners. We appreciate your help in making this event a success!

2026 Sponsors



Upcoming Events



Save the Date!

Join us on October 17th from 5 - 9pm for Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (GVC)'s signature fundraising event, **Evening Among the Trees**. Your participation will greatly help GVC succeed in our mission to engage, connect, and inspire people to preserve and restore the Gunpowder Watershed.



Summer Tree Maintenance

Our summer tree maintenance events are live on our website, and we need volunteers! Join us this month and bring your friends, family, or your birthday party- the more the merrier.

GVC volunteers have planted 40,000+ native trees across the Gunpowder Watershed. However, our work isn't done after the trees are planted in the ground.

Tree maintenance is a hands-on way for volunteers to improve the health of our local forests and waterways. These events are also a great way to earn community service hours!

Register for an event now to support your environment and your community this summer.

[Tree Maintenance - June 27](#)

[Tree Maintenance - July 2](#)

[Tree Maintenance - July 11](#)

[Tree Maintenance - July 17](#)

Adopt-A-Stream Workshop- July 25

Make a difference for future generations by adopting a stream and restoring the health of our waterways! Adopt-a-Stream is great for individuals, families, neighborhoods, scout groups, congregations, or high school and college clubs. We can help you find an adoptable stream segment in the Gunpowder Watershed, or you may have one in mind.



Get Cookout Ready and Give Back!

Our partner **Words with Boards** has several cookout worthy options available! Words with Boards is a Baltimore-based company that creates personalized, handcrafted wooden home goods.

For every purchase made*, a tree will be planted right here in the Gunpowder watershed—helping to restore forests, improve water quality, and support wildlife. [Make your purchase here.](#)

*This offer is valid on any \$150+ purchase made by a Marylander.

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