

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

## A Valentine For Our Trees



It's no secret that the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (GVC) loves trees! We are quickly approaching the 40,000th tree planted by our amazing volunteers. **However, you can't just plant young trees and expect them to grow into healthy forests. Tree maintenance is an integral part of forest health.** GVC Forest Stewardship Technician Brody McAllister shared his thoughts on *why* it is so important:

*A wonderful example of a successful GVC planting is just off Loch Raven Drive. The trees are about 15 years old and have reached the reproductive stage. There are at least 5 different species of native oak trees producing acorns, which ensure a seed source for new trees. Oaks have recalcitrant seeds meaning that don't have the ability to be stored for more than one year. Having mature trees that produce seeds is ESSENTIAL to the future of our forests!*

You can help GVC ensure that more reforested areas reach maturity by volunteering at an upcoming Tree Maintenance event. Special thanks to Towson University's Men's Ice Hockey Club, pictured above, for their great help removing tree shelters from young trees earlier this month. Other tasks include removing invasive vegetation and addressing rodent and deer damage to the trees.

Our next Tree Maintenance event will be **Friday, February 23 from 2:00 - 4:30 pm**. We'd love to see you there!

[Learn More](#)

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## Meet our Volunteer Coordinator



Hi everyone! My name is Elizabeth Eakes, and I've been working with GVC since August- you may have seen me at some tree plantings or rain garden workshops. But starting in 2024, I have moved into the new role of Volunteer Coordinator. I will be doing coordination and communication for GVC and leading the stream programs. Stream cleanups are my favorite! In college, I was the president of a student organization that hosted stream cleanups every Friday.

I was born and raised in rural Northern MD, so I've always possessed an affinity for nature and a strong connection to Maryland's waterways...

[Read more](#)

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## Show Your Love For GVC



GVC is celebrating our 35th anniversary this year thanks to the dedication of thousands of volunteers like yourself. An easy way to give back to GVC is to let others know about the work we do to preserve land, restore natural areas, and encourage people to become environmental stewards. Please consider sharing our [2024 Sponsorship Booklet](#) with your employer and let them know that you care about GVC. Thank you!

[Read more](#)

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## *In The News . . .*

### **Job Opportunity**

Did you know that GVC is a potential host organization for the [2024-2025 Chesapeake](#)

Are you 18 - 25 years old and interested in the environment?

Apply for a year of service with



[Conservation and Climate Corps](#) (CCCC) service year? This is a great opportunity for young professionals looking to break into the environmental field. Applications due March 7th.

[Read More](#)

Help support us with Target Circle.

Vote by March 31.



### Shop and Support GVC

We're featured in Target Circle for another month. Please place a vote for us in the Target app. Here's how:

- Step 1: Choose "My Target" in the Target app
- Step 2: Tap on "Target Circle"
- Step 3: Select "Vote for nonprofits"
- Step 4: Find us & vote!

### Grant Funding for Baltimore County farms

Baltimore County has \$500,000 for County-based farms impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible grantees will receive \$5,000 to support their farm business, which must be used by December 31, 2024.



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Keep in touch with Gunpowder Valley Conservancy:



Our Vision:



Healthy Lands  
Waterways  
Communities

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