



**GUNPOWDER
VALLEY**
CONSERVANCY

July 2023
E-Newsletter

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

Don't Miss Out on Early Bird Prices

Spend an *Evening Among the Trees*
and enjoy AWARD WINNING FOOD!

**THE
LOCAL**

ELEVATED COMFORT FOOD

Saturday, September 9, 2023
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Early Bird tickets are now on sale for Gunpowder Valley Conservancy's signature event, *Evening Among the Trees*. For just \$75, guests will enjoy beer from Union Craft Brewing and dinner catered by The Local. Kudos to Chef Zack Trabbold for winning *Best Chef of the Year* by the Restaurant Association of Maryland and having The Local included as one of the "Best Restaurants for Farm-to-Table Meals" by the Baltimore Banner.

Has Gunpowder Valley Conservancy enriched your life? **Make sure to join us we honor our founder, Ed Stuebing, with a lifetime achievement award on September 9th!**

[Purchase Your Tickets](#)

The Healing Power of Nature

GVC is honored to be one of 36 projects that received funding as part of [Chesapeake Bay Trust's](#) "Green Streets, Green Jobs, Green Towns" initiative. We will be partnering with [Chesapeake Mental Health Collaborative](#) (CMHC) to create a conceptual plan for their Towson-based headquarters. CMHC's Executive Director, Dr. Heidi Schreiber-Pan, describes the project as an exciting milestone for CMHC, which was founded in 2014.



The plan will focus on integrating green infrastructure and nature-informed therapy, a novel combination. "There is already a body of research on the connection between green spaces and mental health but we have not found articles that address how to design stormwater best management practices (BMP's) that are functional *and* therapeutic," explains GVC Program Director, Darcy Herman. This project will develop such a methodology that can be used to create green mental health facilities in urban/suburban settings.

As a unique educational resource, the project will enhance CMHC's Nature-Informed Therapy Certification course, enabling trainees to enrich their own mental health facilities with green spaces. The developed methodology will also be shared with landscape design professionals and therapists through a published journal article, extending the impact of this project to a broader audience.

We look forward to sharing project updates in 2024!

A View With the Future In Mind



Preserving land plays such an important role in ensuring a healthy watershed. As of this year **GVC has preserved over 2,000 acres of land in our watershed and our efforts to increase this are ongoing.** Finalizing the easement is just the first step! Read our recent blog post to find out what happens when GVC Executive Director, Kim Pause Tucker, and local Land Preservation expert, Ann Jones, spend an afternoon visiting conservation easements.

[Read More](#)

Successful Nature Photo Walk

One goal of the *Explore the Gunpowder Watershed Challenge* was to encourage people to simply get outdoors and appreciate the natural beauty that surrounds us. We hope you [enjoy our short video compilation](#) of highlights from our Nature Photo Walk led by Michelle Monaghan in Cromwell Valley Park.



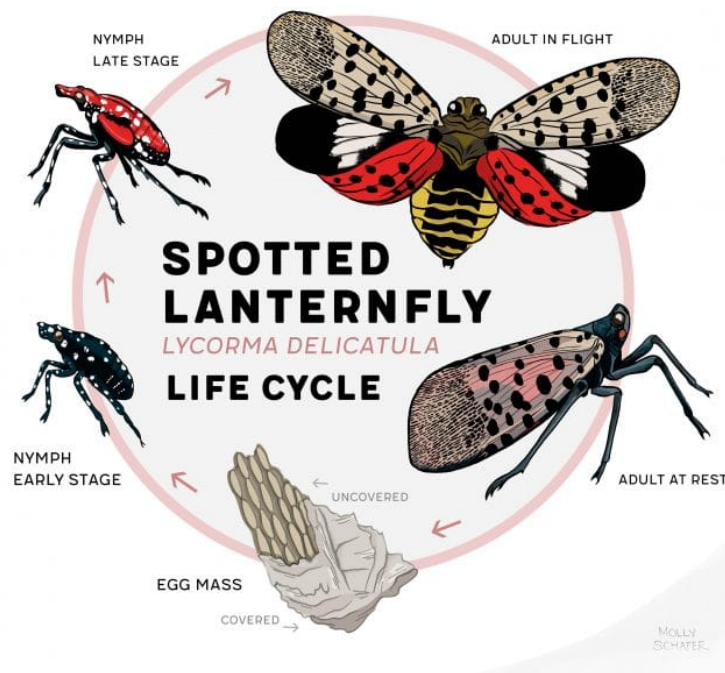
Nature Photo Walk at Cromwell Valley Park

with Michelle Monaghan



Photo by Beth Tribe

Spotting Spotted Lanternfly?



Keep an eye on your backyard shrubs and trees! The nymph stages of Spotted Lanternfly are very obvious right now. Baltimore County, Baltimore City, and Carrol County residents are being asked to include photos when they [report lanternfly sightings to Maryland Department of Agriculture](#). MDA also has a [detailed webpage](#) with additional information on this introduced pest's life history, damage, and management. Thank you for doing your part as environmental stewards.



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