

Creating A Measurable Environmental Impact

Manor Mill | Monkton, MD

2025



**GUNPOWDER
VALLEY**
CONSERVANCY

About Manor Mill

Manor Mill is a historic landmark open to the public, drawing 10,000–15,000 visitors each year. Guests are drawn to the site's creative, community-driven spirit, which invites open minds to learn and participate. Offerings include arts and crafts shows, live music, poetry and prose readings, artist gatherings, classes, a gift shop, and special events.

The Opportunity

Manor Mill was experiencing frequent flooding, struggling gardens, and deer damage to plantings. Staff also wanted to become better environmental stewards by learning to identify native plants, adopting best practices for maintaining their grounds, and removing invasive species — all while treating the stormwater on their site.

Project Accomplishment

Manor Mill is now a model site for stormwater management and outdoor learning! The project improved water quality and deepened the community's environmental knowledge through the creation of a rain garden and 2,500 sq ft. of Bayscape plantings, eliminating the flooding that had plagued the site. Volunteers and staff engaged directly through hands-on workshops and events. The existing "Faerie Trail" was reimaged as a whimsical environmental resource, and six new educational signs were installed to extend learning beyond the project itself.



Project Results

- Improved Site Drainage
- Enhanced Property Appearance With Added Attractive Landscaping
- Reduced Pollution
- Lowered Maintenance Costs
- Engaged Staff and Volunteers
- Demonstrated Best Practices For Public

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About Us

Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (GVC) is a Baltimore County-based land trust and watershed restoration nonprofit founded in 1989. For over 30 years, we have worked to protect clean water for the two million people who live, work, and rely on the Gunpowder watershed. Through land preservation, restoration projects, and community partnerships, we turn local stewardship into measurable environmental impact.

Funding Available

Manor Mill is a great example of how we can incorporate these best management practices into an existing area with parking lots and buildings. With available grant support, eligible partners may reduce project costs by 70-80%. We are currently seeking corporate and industrial partners in: White Marsh, Timonium, and Cockeysville.

On the work

"Manor Mill is one of the few places where you can experience history, not just hear or read about it. We aimed to preserve the integrity of the site by installing rain gardens and bayscapes that enhance its ability to manage stormwater. We hope that this project will serve as an example of how to seamlessly integrate ecological solutions into existing built environments."

-Ebram Victoria, Director of Ecological Restoration and Design



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