



**GUNPOWDER
VALLEY**
CONSERVANCY

July 2024

E-Newsletter

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

Growing A Bright Future



As the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy (GVC) enters its 35th year, we aim to become a peak performing organization. The goal of this strategic plan is to position us for the next level of excellence. It is our aim to *grow better*, not necessarily bigger.

The board, staff, and contractors spent the first six months of 2024 guided by a professional strategic planning consultant assessing GVC's strengths and gaps, organizational lifecycle, as well as future opportunities and

challenges. We're excited to share with you an overview of our next steps.

[Learn more](#)

Early Bird Ends This Week

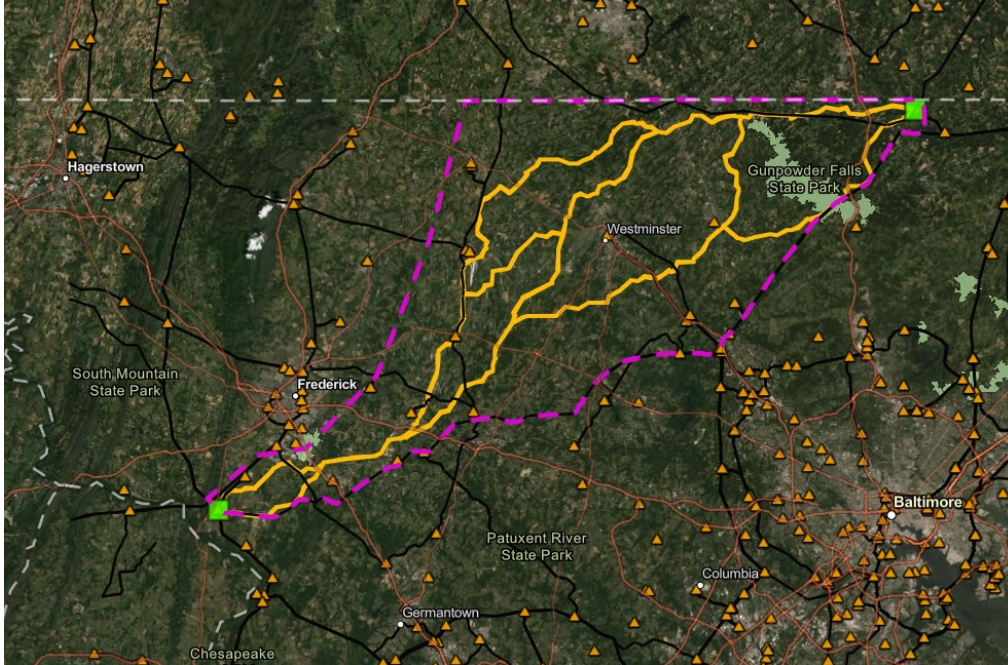


Early bird tickets are now on sale for our annual fundraiser, Evening Among the Trees. Join us on Thursday, October 24th between 5:30 - 8:30 pm at the Oregon Ridge Lodge. Your participation will greatly help GVC succeed in our mission to engage, connect, and inspire people to preserve and restore the Gunpowder Watershed.

Seating is very limited. Save money by purchasing your tickets now! Early bird tickets are \$100/person and will go up to \$125/person on August 1st.

[Buy Tickets!](#)

Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project



We want to **ensure that our watershed supporters are aware of the Maryland Piedmont Reliability Project** that was awarded to NJ-based Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG). The project includes an approximately 70-mile proposed transmission route from northern Baltimore County to southern Frederick County. Gunpowder Valley Conservancy representatives attended the July 9th public information session to learn about the project. We have also been working with growing coalitions to amplify our voice.

For decades, community leaders, farmers, and environmentalists have worked to preserve land throughout our region. Preserved land provides many benefits ranging from producing nutritious food for our community to protecting our water and air quality. The Gunpowder Valley Conservancy strongly opposes the destruction of preserved lands for any purpose. To do so undermines the substantial financial investment by private landowners, state agencies, and land trusts to protect the natural, agricultural, and historic features preserved in conservation easements.

What can you do as a concerned citizen? Speak your mind! The Maryland Public Service Commission has established an email address for submitting public comment: piedmontcomments.psc@maryland.gov. At present time, PSEG has not filed a project application with the Maryland Public Service Commission. However, if the company does open a case, the comments submitted to the above address will be added to the public comments file.

Honey Harvest 2024



Make sure to **buzz by Maryland Presbyterian Church (1105 Providence Road, Towson) next Saturday, August 3rd from 10 am - noon for Honey Harvest 2024!** You'll have the chance to help harvest honey collected from the "Providence Honey" apiary.

GVC staff and Baltimore County Master Gardeners will provide information about pollinators and the importance of adding native plants to your landscape.

Better yet, make a day of it and stop by the **Master Garden Fest** until 3 pm at the Baltimore County Master Gardener Demonstration Garden at the Agricultural Center and Farm Park (1114 Shawn Road, Cockeysville). This family-friendly event will include opportunities to learn even more about Bay-Wise gardening, as well as techniques for growing vegetable gardens, orchard trees, avoiding deer damage and more.

Save the Date: September 20th



The pilot batch of GVC's collaboration beer with [Pipe the Side Brewing](#) in Hampstead is ready! Save the date: The official launch party for our beer will be Friday, September 20, 2024 at the brewery. Stay tuned for the reveal of our name and label artwork and ways you can support GVC through this generous partnership!

[Watch Video](#)

Keep in touch with Gunpowder Valley Conservancy:



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