



## 20 Years of Connecting People, Communities and the Land

- 1991 – GVLТ completes our **first conservation easement**, working with Gertrude Baker to conserve her 180-acre property on Bozeman Pass
- 1992 – GVLТ helps the city acquire 40 acres of Peets Hill from the Burke family to **create Burke Park**.
- 1993 – GVLТ helps organize activities, and over 300 people from nine Bozeman area organizations take part in the **first National Trails Day**.
- 1993 – GVLТ’s **first Ski-A-Thon** at Lone Mountain Ranch raises \$1,600.
- 1998 – **GVLТ completes its first bridge**, spanning Rocky Creek on the Story Mill Spur Trail
- 1999 – GVLТ’s “1000 by 2000” membership drive succeeds in signing up **our 1000<sup>th</sup> member**.
- 2000 – GVLТ and partners help pass the first of **two \$10 million Open Space Bonds**.
- 2003 – GVLТ exceeds **10,000 acres of land conserved**.
- 2004 – GVLТ acquires its **50<sup>th</sup> conservation easement** with the 10,000-acre DeHaan Ranch
- 2006 – **Ice House Park** created on the Gallagator Trail along Bozeman Creek.
- 2006 – GVLТ surpasses **25 miles of open space and habitat conserved along the East Gallatin River and its tributaries**.
- 2006 – GVLТ and the Trust for Public Land complete the first stage of a landmark conservation deal with the Schmidt family covering **2,055-acres on Bozeman Pass including a conservation easement, new public land and a major new public trail to be built in 2010**.
- 2007 – First annual *Longest Day of Trails* membership drive recruits **75 new members**
- 2007 – Connecting to Main Street at the new Public Library, the *Main Street to the Mountains* trails reach **50 miles**.
- 2008 – GVLТ exceeds **50 square miles of land conserved**.
- 2008 – GVLТ is among the first land trusts in the nation to earn **Accredited Land Trust** status.
- 2008 – GVLТ and the City of Bozeman open **Hedvig’s Trail and the Snowfill Recreation Area**.
- 2009 – GVLТ acquires **80th conservation easement**
- 2009 – **The Kevin Mundy Memorial Bridge over Bridger Creek completes the Drinking Horse Mountain Trail** – one of our most ambitious trail projects ever.
- 2010 – *GVLТ celebrates 20 years of Trails and Conservation!*

*Please consider making a generous birthday gift  
to ensure that the next 20 years are as successful as the first!*

# *Gallatin Valley Land Trust*

## *20<sup>th</sup>*

### *anniversary*

## *A Legacy of Trails and Conservation*

Imagine a Gallatin Valley without Gallatin Valley Land Trust. We would have no *Main Street to the Mountains* trail system, no Burke Park, no Drinking Horse Mountain trail or Snowfill Recreation Area. Without GVLТ there would be 36,000 acres of working farms and ranches, wildlife habitat, and river corridor in jeopardy of fragmentation and development. In 20 short years, GVLТ has helped shape our quality of life and our future with a unique vision of community trails and land conservation!

What does the future hold? Many farm and ranch families are asking for our help to conserve their land for future generations, and we have exciting opportunities to create new trails for alternative transportation, healthy recreation and community connections. At the same time, the Gallatin County Open Space Bonds are nearly exhausted, and municipal and county budgets are continuing to tighten. The next twenty years will present challenges that could not have been imagined twenty years ago.

Over the past year, GVLТ's board and staff have reflected on our successes and the many new challenges – as well as opportunities – that lie ahead. We've nearly completed a new strategic plan with specific goals for our work. Our highest land conservation priorities will be ecologically and agriculturally significant areas where we can build on the thousands of acres we have already conserved: Bozeman Pass, Gooch Hill, the East Gallatin and Gallatin River Corridors, and the Amsterdam/Churchill area. Our Community Trails Program will focus on completing missing *Main Street to the Mountains* trail links, while maintaining a strong commitment to creating a community-wide and county-wide system of safe and enjoyable walking and biking opportunities – from single-track to 10-foot wide paved paths. Our strategic plan also highlights the funds required to be successful keeping our promise of perpetual conservation.

In short, we are working hard to expand on our record of success and respond to new challenges. ***GVLТ is YOUR land trust***, working locally with local people to build a more prosperous future by sustaining our exceptional quality of life. Our talented staff finds innovative ways to create opportunity out of adversity. Our programs have achieved amazing results, even as we have had to reduce expenses and staffing.

As your land trust, we depend on your involvement and investment in our work. We need volunteers in the office and on the trails, on committees and the board of directors. And, we need your financial support now more than ever. Please consider making an extra special gift, ***a birthday present for GVLТ***.

### *Consider making a special gift to celebrate GVLТ's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year:*

- **\$20 special membership rate** for new members so that we can double our membership to 2,000 members
- \$60 to celebrate sixty miles of *Main Street to the Mountains* trails.
- \$360 to celebrate 36,000 acres of land conserved.
- \$10,000 to continue GVLТ's legacy of trails and conservation.

***To ensure that the next 20 years are as successful as the first!***