## Summer Camp Information Packet Camp Juniper Knoll



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## girl scouts of greater chicago and northwest indiana

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#### Getting to and from Camp Juniper Knoll

Camp Address

W5095 State Road 20 East Troy, WI 53120

\*Please note, when typing in a GPS, using the street address "W5091 Wisconsin 20" may get you better results; above is our mailing address.\*

#### Camp Phone Number

Summer Camp Phone: (262) 642-5455

The summer camp phone number will be answered June 3-August 4. If you have questions before or after that time, please contact the camp director or our Customer Support team.

- Customer Support Phone: (855) 456-8347
- Customer Support Email: <u>customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</u>

#### Arriving at Camp

The Property Manager's house is at the entrance to camp; when you arrive, it may appear as if you are pulling into someone's driveway. Drive down the entrance road to the right of the green barn. This ½ mile road will take you to the parking lots; turn right into the first parking lot. The check-in process will begin here.

#### Check-In

**Check-in is from 1:30-3:30 p.m.** For best flow of traffic and to avoid long back-ups, we *recommend* campers whose last name begins with A-L arrive between 1:30-2:30 p.m. and campers whose last name begins with M-Z arrive between 2:30-3:15 p.m. However, you may arrive in the timeframe that is most convenient to you, but please do not arrive earlier than 1:15 p.m. If you are carpooling with a camper who name is in a different recommended arrival time, please come at a time that best fits your travel plans.

In the first parking lot, we will confirm we have your camper's completed paperwork and collect any waivers (as needed) for your camper's session. There will be an opportunity to fill out any missing information at this time.

The next stop will be at our second parking lot. Here you will be directed through different stations to check in medication and/or camper cell phone(s) and drop off mail and trading post money. More information about health and wellness at camp, cell phones, and camper mail can be found later in this packet.

The last check-in station is where the camper will exit the vehicle; staff will assist with unloading luggage and complete a health screening that consists of temperature and lice checks. Please have your camper's luggage easily accessible in the trunk or near a door; we will provide luggage tags during the check-in process so your camper's luggage can be clearly labelled.

## Check-In (continued)

Family members may get out of the vehicle for finals goodbyes but must stay at the vehicle; a porta-potty will be available along the entrance road if needed. Camp staff will bring your camper to their staff member. Luggage will be transported to living units, and staff will assist campers with setting up their beds and begin orienting them to camp.

#### Check-Out

Check-out begins at 7:00 p.m. with our closing ceremony. Please do not arrive earlier than 6:30 p.m. All family members are invited to attend the closing ceremony but please leave pets at home.

Upon arrival at camp, a staff member will check your photo ID and have you sign a release form for your camper(s). You will keep this form in your possession until it is returned to your camper's counselor in exchange for your camper.

Luggage will be nearby and sorted by living unit. You are welcome to begin picking up luggage before or after closing ceremony. If you pick up your camper's luggage before closing ceremony, we strongly encourage you return after with your camper to confirm none of their belongings were missed (things may be re-packed differently than when you dropped off and wet or dirty clothes may have been put in a separate bag).

Closing ceremony begins promptly at 7:00 p.m. with a camper-led flag ceremony. Each program will have the opportunity to share a brief description of their week and sing a camp song for everyone. At the end of closing ceremony, campers will line up behind their counselor. You will need to turn in your signed camper release form to the counselor for your camper to be released to you. Your camper will have any medication(s) and a check-out envelope containing camp patches, badge card, their cell phone (if checked in), and any leftover trading post money.

## Late Check-In & Early Departure

Please be aware that by arranging a late arrival or early departure for a camp session, campers will unfortunately miss parts of the camp program.

All late check-ins and early departures must be pre-arranged and indicated on your camper's paperwork in CampDoc at the times below. After paperwork is due on May 1, all changes to your check-in and/or check-out times should be coordinated with the camp director.

Late check-ins can take place at 7:30 p.m. on the first day of your camper's session or at 8:30 a.m. on the second day of your camper's session.

Early departures can take place at 8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., or 4:00 p.m. on the last day of your camper's session.

#### Absences

If you need to make a last-minute cancellation, please inform us of your camper's absence by emailing the camp director or calling the camp phone at 262-642-5455; if you need to leave a message, please include your camper's full name and program.

#### Inclusion, Access, & Accommodations

#### Overview

Welcome to Girl Scout Camp! That's what we say to every camper who arrives at one of our amazing summer programs because together we are creating a welcoming environment for all.

Every child needs to feel valued and respected. Respecting ourselves and others is part of our Girl Scout Law. Our program provides experiences that build life skills, leadership capacity, and a passion to make the world a better place.

Girl Scouts values inclusion and diversity, and that is why we are on a journey to better understand how to incorporate those values into the camp experiences we offer. Our learnings along the way will help us improve processes and protocols each year going forward.

Our camp directors will work with families to make our experiences accessible for all Girl Scouts, including current members who may be questioning their gender identity. These members may explore the use of different pronouns or name while at camp before sharing with their friends and family at home. Girl Scouts supports these members and will act in their best interests by providing a safe and affirming space in which they can be themselves.

To create an inclusive and safe environment for all, we encourage you to contact the camp director so we can work directly with you. This will start with a conversation about what the camp experience may be like for your camper, and what accommodations and supports are available. Camp directors can also help guide you toward the best programs and location for your camper.

#### Standard Practices

Following are standard practices that we follow to create safe spaces and a respectful environment for all:

- All Girl Scouts are entitled to privacy when using restrooms, changing rooms, and showers. Unless a request is made by the Girl Scout, no separate sleeping arrangements are necessary. Otherwise, toilets and showers at camp are single use. Lockable bathroom stalls can be used by all campers and staff as private changing spaces.
- Campers are grouped in living units by program group.
- For campers sleeping on site, each camper will be assigned their own bed. Beds are private spaces not shared with others. Campers have separate sleeping spaces from staff members. If a camper needs the attention of a staff member during the night, they will have access to the staff member's sleeping area.

## Standard Practices (continued)

- For all council-run camp locations, some areas are ADA accessible, but not all parts are. Every camp has rustic locations on site. Our camp team is happy to discuss particulars for a specific camp location.
- Camp is often a busy and loud place. At times, it may be overwhelming for campers who are neurodivergent or have sensory issues. We will gladly talk through what to expect with you and your camper and can discuss accommodations to set them up for success.
- Dietary needs can be accommodated with advance notice. Be sure to include camper dietary restrictions and needs in your camper's required CampDoc paperwork and contact the camp director with any questions or concerns.

#### **Camper Success**

We want everyone to be successful, and we find that campers have the best experience if they can do the following:

- Be fully independent with personal hygiene (with reminders from staff)
- Use the bathroom, shower, and get dressed unassisted
- Live, shower, and dress in communal spaces. Privacy is an essential and fundamental right of everyone at camp, including in toilets, changing areas, and showers, which are single occupancy. Typical of most public bathrooms, many single-occupancy bathroom stalls are located in one facility.
- Sleep in a room/tent/yurt with other people and/or fall asleep without assistance. Our sleeping accommodations will hold multiple people; there is no situation in which a child will have their own room.
- Understand and follow verbal directions
- Understand and follow camp rules and expectations
- Be able to verbalize if they need assistance, are hungry, are hurt, etc.
- Be able to reasonably and age-appropriately self-regulate social and emotional needs

#### Physical Needs

Campers should be willing to live and play in an indoor and outdoor camp setting, which includes rustic facilities, wildlife, insects, navigating uneven terrain, and daily exposure to sun, rain, and other weather conditions.

If your camper has physical restrictions and/or uses a wheelchair, crutches, braces, or similar assistive technology, please contact us so we can plan the best possible experience for them. While many programs can be modified to meet the specific needs of our campers, we are not equipped or staff to provide care for campers who need one-on-one assistance. Activities such as high challenge, canoeing, kayaking, horseback riding, and similar activities are challenging to access for those with mobility challenges and have limited adaptations depending on the challenges faced.

#### **Activity Restrictions**

To balance the demand for challenging activities and the safety and well-being of campers and staff we offer the following programs and activities at Camp Juniper Knoll\*, with restrictions as listed below:

#### HIGH ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

Several activities with our off-site vendors use specialized equipment. This equipment is designed with the safety of the participant in mind and has manufacturer-recommended limitations to minimize the risk of injury to the participant. To ensure all participants can use equipment safely, the following limits must be strictly enforced:

Minimum weight: 70 lbs.Maximum weight: 250 lbs.Minimum height: 4 feet

In addition to these requirements, supplied harnesses and other equipment must fit properly and securely. Fit will be evaluated by trained instructors.

#### AQUATIC ACTIVITIES

All participants using watercrafts (including canoes, kayaks, sailboats, and rowboats) during council-sponsored programming are required to wear Coast Guard-approved Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) at all times. Usage of watercraft is dependent on proper fit of supplied PFDs and will be evaluated by trained facilitators.

\*Restrictions may differ between GCNWI camps due to different vendor requirements.\*

#### **Program & Activity Information**

#### Program Activities

Our camp program is balanced with traditional camp activities, theme-based activities, and camper-planned activities; all are facilitated with progression and intentional skill-building. Campers participate in most activities with their program group, but there are also multiple all-camp activities that bring the whole camp together to have fun.

On the first day of their session, campers will work with their staff and the rest of their group to plan the schedule for the week. Campers will have the opportunity to vote on camp activities and suggest additional activities for their group to participate in throughout the week.

During their time at camp, campers may participate in activities that can be applied toward earning Girl Scout badges and Journeys. At the end of their session, campers will be sent home with a badge card that lists any completed badge steps.

Most activities take place outdoors in the open air whenever possible. More information about weather accommodations can be found on page 15.

#### Swimming

Campers can participate in free swim in the lake every other day while at camp. Juniper Knoll has a private beach and waterfront area on Pleasant Lake; swimming takes place in a roped-off area. Certified lifeguards and trained watchers are on duty at the lake during all aquatic activities.

All campers participate in a "swim check" during their first swim time to demonstrate their swimming ability and comfort level in the water. During the swim check, campers will swim approximately 50 yards using the stroke of their choice; depending on the swimming ability they exhibit, they may be asked to tread water for 2 minutes.

Campers are then given a color-coded swim cap which designates how far out into the swim area they are allowed to go. Campers must wear their swim cap at all times while swimming and can only swim in areas of the water that match their skill level; this allows the aquatics staff to better manage and ensure safety for all campers in the water.

Swim caps contain latex. If your camper has a latex allergy, please make sure to indicate this on their CampDoc paperwork, so we can provide them with a reasonable latex-free substitute.

A Sample Day at Camp

6:30-7:15 a.m.

Time to wake up and get the day started!

7:30-9:15 a.m.

Breakfast

All dining hall meals are served in two shifts; about half of camp will eat at 7:30 and the other half will eat at 8:45

8:30 a.m.

Flag Ceremony

This is a Girl Scout tradition that brings the whole camp together every morning and evening. Program groups take turns working together to lead the flag ceremony.

8:45-11:45 a.m.

Activity time!

In addition to program-specific activities mentioned in the program description and the traditional camp activities (swimming, boating, hiking, etc.), on Sunday counselors help campers plan out their week. Activities range from 15 minutes to two hours and can include games, arts projects, archery (4<sup>th</sup> grade+), swimming, nature exploration, and more!

11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Lunch

1:30-4:00 p.m.

Activity time! (including Kapers & Turtle Time)

See page 12 for more information about Kapers. Turtle time is a mid-day siesta to give everyone a chance to take a small break. Turtle time typically also includes mail delivery and a snack.

4:00-6:30 p.m.

Dinner Cookout

See page 11 for more information about cookouts.

6:45 p.m.

Flag Ceremony

7:00-9:00 p.m.

All Camp Activity

Several times during the week, the whole camp gets together for a campfire or other fun camp-wide game.

8:30-10:00 p.m.

Nighttime Activities & Bedtime

Lights out is 9:00 at the latest for Daisies and Brownies, and 10:00 at the latest for Juniors and older. Bed-time preparations usually begin about one hour before lights out.

#### Sleeping Accommodations

Campers of the same age group live together in "units." Most program groups at Juniper Knoll sleep in platform tents, tabins, or yurts; the anticipated sleeping accommodation for each program is listed next to the session dates in the Summer Camp Guide.



Platform tents sleep up to 4 people on cots; mosquito netting is provided. Staff will sleep in their own platform tent, centrally located within the unit.

Tabins sleep up to 6 people on bunk beds. Staff will sleep in their own tabin, centrally located within the unit.



Yurts sleep up to 8 people on bunk beds. Staff will sleep in their own yurt, centrally located within the unit.

Lodges sleep 8-10 campers and 2 staff members. Campers will sleep on bunk beds in the main room and staff will sleep in an adjoining room.

(Note: Picture to right is a sample of one typical lodge; not all lodge interiors are identical.)



All living units have their own nearby restroom, with flush toilets and running water.



#### Boating

All campers will have the opportunity to go boating at least once during their time at camp. Daisies and Brownies will go row boating while Juniors and older will go canoeing. Campers in aquatic-themed programs will have additional opportunities at the lake.

Most of our neighbors on the lake are residential, and Pleasant Lake is a "no wake lake" which means there is a strictly enforced speed limit for all motorized vessels. The lake is regularly patrolled by the Lauderdale Lakes Lake Management District Water Patrol.

#### Showers

All programs will have a shower time scheduled each day, but it will be camper choice to take a daily shower. All campers will, at minimum, be strongly encouraged to rinse off after swimming.

If your camper prefers baths at home, we encourage you to have them practice showering independently before attending camp.

#### Meals

Each full day at camp includes three meals and two snacks. Ample, well-balanced meals with vegetables, fruit, and protein are served at camp; exact menus vary every day of a session. Campers will eat in the dining hall for most meals during their session except for cookouts and off-site trips.

Please do not send food with your camper unless prearranged with the camp director. All food found in luggage or mail will be collected by camp staff and returned at the end of the session. Food in living quarters attracts unwelcome animals and bugs.

#### Cookouts

All campers will cook out at least once per week as part of their program. Campers in cooking programs will cook out multiple times.

Menus are planned by the campers during the week and prepared collaboratively over the campfire with staff supervision and assistance.

#### Kapers

Kapers are a Girl Scout tradition that help build responsibility and teamwork skills, while caring for their environment and camp. Kapers at camp are done as a group with staff assistance and are composed of unit and all-camp tasks and are done in accordance with appropriate health and safety procedures, depending on the task.

Unit kapers include tidying up sleeping areas, helping clean bathrooms, gathering firewood, and picking up litter.

All-camp kapers rotate between program groups at camp and include leading flag ceremonies, tidying up around camp, helping clean bathrooms and the shower house, picking up litter, and being meal hoppers (helping to set tables at mealtimes, leading the camp in a thank you before eating, and helping sweep after meals).

#### **Trading Post**

Camp operates a small store where campers can purchase a limited selection of small items such as postcards, pens, fun patches, stuffed animals, and camp apparel. Campers visit the trading post at least once during their session. There are no snacks or drinks for sale.

Money can be dropped off for your camper during check-in; it will be kept locked in the camp office when not at the trading post so it does not get lost. Remaining money not spent will be returned at the end of your camper's session.

Items in the trading post range from \$1 up to \$40, with most items costing less than \$10. \$5-\$20 is the average range of money families typically leave their camper for a week at camp; cash is preferred due to technology limitations at camp. If you have any questions about the trading post, please contact our retail team at <a href="mailto:ShopGS@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">ShopGS@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a>.

Camper Kits are also available to order in advance online and will be delivered right to your camper at the beginning of their camp session.

#### Off-Site Trips

Programs marked with a map icon in the Summer Camp Guide will travel off-site as part of their program.

Depending on the trip, some programs will have a specialty packing list of items to bring in addition to the standard packing list. These specialty packing lists can be found beginning on page 26 and are listed by program name. If your camper's program is not listed, there is not a specialty packing list.

Some off-site activities will require a parent/guardian-signed waiver; programs requiring a waiver will be marked with an \* in the specialty packing list section. Waivers will be sent to you via email two weeks prior to the program start date; blank waivers will also be available at check-in.

#### Camper Mail

Campers love receiving mail! Mail can be sent through the postal service to the camp address or dropped off during check-in. Please label all mail with your camper's first and last name, program name, program dates, and the day you would like them to receive it (if dropping off at check-in).

The US Postal Service makes daily deliveries to camp. If you are mailing anything to your camper, we recommend doing so in advance to ensure it arrives while they are at camp. Letters that arrive after your camper has gone home will be returned to sender as long as a return address is included on the envelope.

Mail is delivered to campers daily, except on the day they arrive at camp.

Please limit mail to postcards, letters, and small packages. Care packages can sometimes lead to group conflict or negatively impact other campers. We appreciate if package size and contents can be kept modest or can be shared with the entire program group. As an alternative to mailing a care package or gift, you can hide it in their luggage while packing for camp with instructions on when to open it.

Please do not send campers any food or gum as these items can attract unwelcome animals and bugs.

## Camper Cell Phones & Smart Watches

Campers staying at camp for a week or longer program have the option to check in a cell phone/smart watch to use at camp during the weekly designated phone time. There is no cell phone time during 3-day sessions and campers in those programs do not have the option to bring a cell phone/smart watch.

Campers who choose to bring a phone/smart watch to camp will have the opportunity to call home on Wednesday afternoon, during our 15-20 minutes phone time. Cell phone time typically happens around lunch time but may vary depending on program activities. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated to you at check-in so you will best know when to expect your camper's call.

While we encourage campers to call parents/guardians, it is their choice whether or not to call.

Please note that camp is located in a rural area. We cannot guarantee cell phone service nor verify service availability. The camp phone is for emergency and business use only. If no phone is checked in or the checked in phone does not work at camp, we are unable to provide campers access to the camp phone.

Phones will be left off and stored in the camp office. Please note that GSGCNWI is not responsible for damage to phones. Electricity for phone chargers and Wi-Fi connections are not available. Campers with phones cannot share with other campers unless noted by a parent/guardian at check-in.

Please assist us in honoring our values and procedures by not giving your camper a cell phone to keep with them in their luggage. We will contact you if your camper is having a difficult time adjusting to camp life.

Based on our experiences, even campers who are having a great time often become homesick while speaking to someone at home. It is natural to miss home, and our staff are prepared to support your camper during their session. We ask for your support in encouraging your camper to focus on the fun of camp and to reach out to their counselor or other staff if they still do not feel better by the end of the day. Focusing on other successful overnight experiences or how much you believe in them helps too!

Note: Smart watches without a data plan are acceptable at camp and do not need to be checked in, but campers will not have a place to charge them.

#### Health & Safety

#### Weather

Programs are held rain or shine! Schedules remain flexible to adapt to weather changes so that campers are safely participating in fun and challenging activities. Help your camper have a successful time at camp by checking and preparing for the weather prior to arrival.

Camp staff constantly monitor weather radios and alerts from the National Weather Service. There are designated indoor storm shelters in cases of severe weather. If severe weather develops during the camp day, campers will be moved to a shelter until the weather situation passes. At night, campers will be moved to an indoor sleeping location for the night.

Please do not call camp regarding weather updates. Staff will be busy attending to the safety of the campers and the phone line must remain open in case emergency services need to be contacted. You will be notified of any emergencies involving your camper.

#### Check-in Health Screening

Upon arriving at camp, campers will complete a health screening that ensures they are healthy to attend camp.

During this health check, camp staff will ask health screening questions, take the camper's temperature, and check heads for lice or nits (campers may be asked to undo their hair or remove hats or bandanas for this check).

If lice/nits are found, parents/guardians will be responsible for taking their camper home to be treated before they can return to camp. Though often a hassle, lice can happen; talk with the camp director to determine return options for your camper.

#### Sick Policy

Maintaining a safe and healthy environment for our campers and staff is very important to us. If your child is sick and/or could possibly be contagious, please do not send them to camp, instead email or call your Camp Director to note your camper's absence.

#### Camp Health Center

The camp health center is equipped to handle common camper illnesses and minor injuries. If a camper gets hurt or shows signs of illness, they will be taken to the health center for evaluation by the health supervisor.

(continued on next page)

## Camp Health Center (continued)

Though we will not call home for every scrape or stomachache, we will notify parents/guardians by phone if any of the following occur and will work with you to determine the best care for your camper:

- Any illness or injury that interferes with a camper's participation in the program or requires the camper to spend the night in the health center
- Any vomiting or allergic reactions
- Any illness or injury requiring outside medical attention, including COVID symptoms

#### Homesickness

It is not uncommon for campers to experience some homesickness while away at camp. Homesickness typically resolves within the first two days at camp as campers adjust to the new people, environment, and routine. Camp staff are trained to work through this with your camper. When sending mail or speaking with your camper, we recommend keeping things as upbeat as possible and avoiding phrases such as "the dog refuses to eat since you left."

The first night at camp is always the most difficult. Many times, letters written home at this point are not full of the fun things they are doing at camp. Please consider the amount of time a letter has taken to reach you; your camper has often adjusted to camp life by the time you receive such a letter in the mail. The camp office is available to check on your camper and update you on their experience and how they're doing at any time.

We encourage families to reassure their camper that they will be successful during their camp experience and that you look forward to seeing them on closing day. If your camper struggles to adjust to camp life, the camp director will contact you.

Campers who go home early are not eligible for a refund of the camp fee.

#### Dietary Needs

Please let us know of any allergies and dietary restrictions before coming to camp. This information should be noted on the camper's CampDoc paperwork.

We can accommodate a variety of dietary needs and allergies. We provide similar substitutes to meet the needs of each camper, while providing a balanced and complete meal, safe from cross-contamination. We are happy to talk with you about your camper's specific dietary needs and how to ensure your camper has a successful camp stay.

#### Bug Spray & Sunscreen

In the case of missing or depleted sunscreen, staff will provide sunscreen with a minimum of SPF30. When necessary, staff members may assist with applying bug spray or rely on the buddy system to see the needs of the camper. Please be sure to provide your camper with your desired brand and strength. In the case of missing or depleted bug spray, staff will provide bug spray with a minimum of 10% DEET.

If your camper is allergic to a particular sunscreen or bug spray (or a specific ingredient in either), please let us know ahead of time so that we can help your camper avoid the allergen. Please specify this information in the Medications & Allergies section of your camper's paperwork, including the alternative brand and strength of sunscreen or bug spray preferred.

## Camper Paperwork & CampDoc

**Camper Paperwork is due May 1, 2024.** Overnight camp paperwork consists of a variety of forms that must be completed for your camper to attend camp and participate in activities. Paperwork is completed online using the CampDoc platform.

Beginning February 19, 2024, within 14 days of registering for camp, you will receive an email from a **campdoc.com** email address with a link to your camper's electronic paperwork. If you do not see an email from CampDoc, make sure to check your spam/junk folders. If you need any assistance accessing your CampDoc account, please contact us at <a href="mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a>.

We recommend having the following resources available to you when completing your camper's paperwork:

- Current health exam/physical
- Doctor & dentist contact information
- Immunization records with dates
- Dietary restrictions
- Allergy information

Paperwork does not need to be completed in one sitting and can be edited at any time before the May 1 paperwork submission deadline, when the forms will be locked for staff review.

Health standards require a current health exam/physical that is from within 24 months of the camper's last day at camp and is signed by a doctor. We will also accept copies of school/sports physicals as long as they meet the date requirements.

(continued on next page)

Camper Paperwork & CampDoc (continued)

No camper will be allowed to stay at camp without a signed and completed health physical form. Health exam/physical forms can be uploaded directly to your camper's paperwork or emailed after May 1 to <a href="mailto:camper@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">camper@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a>. Please make sure to include the camper's name, camp location, and program name in the subject line of the email. We are unable to return any hard copies of health forms turned in at check-in.

If your camper is taking any prescription or over-the-counter medication or supplements (i.e. vitamins, melatonin, etc.), these should be listed in the medications portion of their paperwork. Per state laws and health codes, all medications sent to camp must be in the original labelled container; any non-prescription medications must have the camper's name legibly written on the container in permanent marker.

The over-the-counter medication section of the paperwork must be completed for all campers and signed by a parent/guardian. Our health centers are stock with a supply of common over-the-counter medications, as authorized by a physician, to treat simple complaints such as bug bites, headaches, mild upset stomachaches, menstrual cramps, etc. Any medications listed in this section are kept in stock in the health center and you do not need to send them to camp with your camper. You are also able to indicate in this section if you do not want us to give your child any over-the-counter medication.

#### General Information

## Communication from Camp

Emails with important camp information will come from:

- Girl Scouts GCNWI Registrations & Reservations, <u>girlscoutsgcnwi@active.com</u>
- CampDoc, @campdoc.com
- Camp Director, Margaret "Strike" Gawlik, mgawlik@girlscoutsgcnwi.org
- Assistant Camp Director, Stacey "Chocolate Chip" Herman, <u>sherman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</u>

Make sure to check your email (including junk/spam folders) for any additional important information before coming to camp!

#### Contact Information

#### **Ouestions? Contact:**

- Camp Director Margaret "Strike" Gawlik, <u>mgawlik@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</u>
- Customer Support, <u>customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</u> or (855) 456-8347

After June 3, the summer camp phone number (262) 642-5455 will go live. Before June 3 contact Customer Support or the camp director.

#### **Buddy Requests**

Campers can attend camp with a buddy. During registration families will have the opportunity to add a buddy request; please contact Customer Support or the camp director if you need to add a buddy request after completing your registration.

Campers may request one buddy. Buddies must request each other and be in the same program, for the same dates, at the same camp location. Groups, troops, and multiple buddy requests are not guaranteed for summer camp programs.

All program participants will be sharing the same living unit at camp and will be bunking near each other if they are not in the same tent or yurt.

#### Girl Scout Membership

Girl Scout membership is required to participate in camp. If your camper is not currently registered, a \$25 membership fee can be added when registering for camp. This fee includes basic accident insurance coverage for all registered Girl Scouts as a supplement to existing insurance coverage. For more information about becoming a Girl Scout visit <a href="https://www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/join">www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/join</a>

#### Behavior Issues

All campers and their caregivers are asked to review and commit to a behavior and expectations agreement. If a camper is struggling, camp staff will work with the camper and the family to try to help the camper succeed in the camp setting, but our staff are only equipped to support up to a certain extent. If a camper poses a safety risk to themselves or other campers on site, the caregiver will be called and asked to pick up their camper. There will be no refund for early dismissal.

#### Photos & Video

When filling out your camper paperwork, you have given the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana permission to take photos and/or videos of your camper(s) while they are at camp.

These photos or videos may be used for future promotional materials.

If you do not want Girl Scouts GCNWI to take and use photos and videos of your camper(s), send an email indicating this at least one week out from your camp program to <a href="majority">mgawlik@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a> or send a written note on the first day of camp.

#### Camp Staff

Our summer staff are composed of carefully selected and screened adults, who display a commitment to working with children and a love for the outdoors. Background checks and reference checks are completed for all staff members. All staff members complete pre-camp training that includes First Aid, CPR, child development, Girl Scout programming, and much more.

Each staff member chooses a "camp name." These are nicknames that allow staff to create memorable relationships with campers distinguished from that of their teacher, other authority figure, or even yourself. It also keeps us from having multiple staff members with the same name and adds to the magic of Girl Scout camp.

#### Item Drop-Off

Forgotten items may be dropped off at the dining hall or mailed to camp in a package addressed to your camper.

If dropping off, please let us know in advance. When you arrive, please do not walk into camp. Park outside the Dining Hall and call the camp office at (262) 642-5455; someone will come pick the item(s) up from you. Please make sure all items are labelled with the camper's name.

In some situations, camp will have a supply of items in stock that we can give to your camper to ensure they have what they need for their time at camp (i.e. toothpaste, bug spray, sunscreen).

#### Lost & Found

Help us keep track of your campers' belongings by labeling all personal items with their first and last names. Camp staff will do their best to reunite owners with their belongings daily.

When you pick your camper up at the end of the session, you will be able to view any lost and found items. Unclaimed lost and found items will be brought to GSGCNWI Gathering Places at the end of the camp season and held until October 1. Contact the camp director to arrange for item pick up from a Gathering Place.

#### Financial Information

#### Camp Fee Payments

Overnight camp registration fees cover a wide variety of weekly camp activities including program supplies, meals, lodging, off-site trips (program-specific), and supervision from trained and caring adult staff.

At registration, there are two options to pay for summer camp:

- 1. Pay camp fees in full at time of registration, including non-refundable deposit.
- 2. Pay the non-refundable deposit at time of registration and pay the remainder on a payment plan.

\*The non-refundable deposit is \$100 for 3- and 6-day programs and \$150 for two-week programs.

Payment plan participation requires you to save a debit/credit card to your secure account during registration.

Payment(s) towards a payment plan can be made at any time after registration by accessing your program registration account and selecting "Pay on Account." These payments can be made with a card other than the one on file on your account.

Any remaining balance on a payment plan will be automatically charged to the debit/credit card on file on the account on June 1, 2024.

#### Financial Assistance

Any Girl Scout who is a registered member of Girl Scouts GCNWI is eligible to receive financial assistance for **one** day or overnight camp program per year. Girl Scouts GCNWI makes funds available for participants whose caregivers could otherwise not afford the cost of camp. Assistance is distributed based on available funds. Questions about financial assistance can be sent to <a href="mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a>.

How to Receive Financial Aid:

- 1. Register for summer camp and only pay the deposit. *Camp registration must be completed prior to applying for financial aid.*
- 2. Complete the Girl Scout Financial Assistance Application which is available at <a href="https://www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/financial-assistance#camp">www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/financial-assistance#camp</a>
  - This application will go live on February 1 at 6:00 a.m.
- 3. Approved financial assistance will be deducted from the total owed for the summer camp program.

If payment of deposit or other factors pose a barrier, please contact <a href="mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a> as soon as possible.

## Using Cookie Dough & Nutty Bucks

Individuals can pay for their camp registration with the rewards they earn through the Girl Scout Cookie Program as well as the Fall Product Program. If you would like to use your earned finances to pay for part, or all, of your summer camp registration, please contact our program registrar at

reghelp events@girlscoutsgcnwi.org. Because camp space is limited, we highly recommend not waiting for Cookie Dough or Nutty Bucks to process before registering for a camp program. When registering, we encourage you to pay the deposit instead of paying in full to more easily apply Cookie Dough or Nutty Bucks funds later.

## Cancellations & Refunds

All camp programs are subject to cancellation or rescheduling by GSGCNWI. If a camp program is cancelled by GSGCNWI, and the camper is unable to attend an alternate session, all fees will be refunded, including any deposit made. If a program is cancelled, notification will be sent by email or phone.

Camp program cancellations received at least 14 days prior to the program start date are eligible for a refund, minus the non-refundable deposit. Refunds will be issued to the same credit or debit card they were paid with.

Cancellations due to medical reasons less than 14 days prior to the program start date are eligible for refund, minus the non-refundable deposit. Requests for cancellation due to medical reasons must be made by August 31, 2024 and include a doctor's note. Cancellation due to COVID-19 must provide dated proof of positive test.

Refund requests must be submitted in writing. Please email <a href="mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a> with the subject line: Attn: Summer Camp Refund.

Refunds will not be made for the following:

- No shows, late arrival, early departure, or partial program attendance.
- Cancellation requests less than 14 days prior to the program start date.
- Campers who violate camp policies and are sent home.

## Overnight Camp Packing List

Quantities are recommended below; pack what makes the most sense for your camper based on length of stay and anticipated weather forecast for their time at camp.

	T-Shirts: 1 per day, plus 1 extra Shorts: 1 per day, plus 1 extra		ional Items: Laundry bag Washcloth Personal hand sanitizer Masks: 1-2 per day Inexpensive camera Paper, pen/pencil, envelopes, and stamps Shower shoes (i.e. flip flops)
	(sports bras recommended)		Sunglasses
	Pajamas: 2+ sets		Book to read
	Swimsuit Towels: 2-3 Gym shoes, rain boots, or hiking boots: 2	X	ase do not bring: Electrical appliances (including but not limited to hair dryers, personal music devices, computers, gaming devices, etc.)
_	pairs		Glass bottles or containers Umbrellas
	Mess kit (unbreakable plate, cup, bowl, & utensils in a dunk bag)		Snack food (including candy or gum)
	Flashlight with extra batteries		Hidden cell phones and/or smart
	Reusable water bottle		watches
	Comb/brush and hair ties or other hair accessories		
	Toothbrush and toothpaste		
	, ,		
	Deodorant		
	Personal sanitary supplies		
	Eyewear supplies (glasses, glasses care, and/or contacts)		
П	Sunscreen (minimum SPF 30)		
	Bug spray		
	Small pouch to carry toiletries		

#### **Packing List Details**

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Please try to limit your camper to three pieces of baggage: a sleeping bag with pillow, suitcase or duffel bag, and a backpack to carry around camp each day.

Be sure to label your camper's belongings with their name. Luggage tags for baggage will be provided at check-in.

Be sure to pack enough clothes to last the entire program session.

Have your camper help pack for camp, including rolling their sleeping bag, so they are familiar with what they have with them and will know how to pack up at the end of their session.

#### What to wear

Camp life involves a lot of hiking, wooded areas, dirt, and outdoor time. Campers should wear casual clothing that can get dirty. Campers will frequently use art supplies and play outdoors; we recommend clothes you won't mind getting stained.

Socks and sturdy, close-toed shoes should be worn to protect feet on trails and gravel roads at camp.

Clothing is there to protect campers from the environment, such as the sun, bugs, and sticks/uneven walking surfaces. Short shorts, tank tops with spaghetti straps, halters, crop tops, sandals, crocs, and other open-toe shoes should not be worn at camp.

#### Backpack

Campers will carry the Fab 5 with them every day: sunscreen, bug spray, flashlight, raincoat/poncho, and water bottle.

Campers also carry items to and from swim and shower times. We recommend using a regular backpack instead of a drawstring bag.

#### Water Bottle

Water bottles should be reusable—Girl Scouts stay green! Please bring the water bottle filled to camp. The water at camp is well water and may taste different than at home, but it is all potable and safe to drink.

### Specialty Program Packing Lists

All specialty program packing list items are in addition to the packing list above. If your camper's program is not listed below, there are no additional items needed.

Programs indicated with an asterisk (\*) have an additional waiver(s) that will be emailed to you two weeks prior to the program start date.

Backpack Explorer Wildlife Explorer	<ul> <li>Hiking boots</li> <li>A hat or other head covering (i.e. bandana) to aid in tick prevention on trail</li> </ul>
Paddling Explorer Sailing Explorer Canoe, Kayak, & You Taste of Sailing Hoist Yer Sails Smooth Sailing Boats & Brunch	<ul> <li>□ At least 1 additional swimsuit</li> <li>□ Water shoes (traditional water shoes or an athletic sandal with a strap that will remain firmly on feet if worn in the water—i.e., Keens, Tevas, Chacos, etc.)</li> </ul>
Adventure Explorer*	<ul> <li>Long pants/jeans for riding</li> <li>Sturdy shoes/boots for riding (preferably with a heel)</li> <li>Longer shorts or leggings for climbing activities (aka shorts that will not ride up under a harness)</li> </ul>
Girl vs. Wild Wilderness Trek	<ul> <li>☐ Hiking boots</li> <li>☐ 2-3 "quick dry" shirts</li> <li>☐ Shorts/leggings/pants that are comfortable for hiking</li> <li>☐ 3 pairs wool socks</li> <li>☐ Long sleeve shirt</li> <li>☐ Jacket or sweater (fleece/wool preferred)</li> <li>☐ Long pants (not jeans)</li> <li>☐ Rain jacket and rain pants</li> <li>☐ Gloves</li> <li>☐ Fleece or wool cap</li> <li>☐ 2 water bottles</li> <li>☐ Compact sleeping bag or sleeping bag with compression stuff sack</li> <li>☐ Sleeping pad (provided if needed)</li> <li>☐ Backpacking pack (provided if needed)</li> <li>☐ Chapstick (with sunscreen!)</li> <li>☐ A hat or other head covering (i.e. bandana) to aid in tick prevention on trail</li> </ul>
On Belay*	<ul> <li>□ Longer shorts or leggings for climbing activities (aka shorts that will not ride up under a harness)</li> <li>□ A small duffel bag for off-site trip to Devil's Lake</li> </ul>

Adventure Bound* Adventure Out!*	<ul> <li>☐ Hiking boots</li> <li>☐ Long pants/jeans for riding</li> <li>☐ Sturdy shoes/boots (preferably with a heel)</li> <li>☐ Longer shorts or leggings for climbing activities (aka shorts that will not ride up under a harness)</li> <li>☐ A hat or other head covering (i.e. bandana) to aid in tick prevention on trail</li> </ul>
Keep Calm & Paddle On* Go With the Flow*	<ul> <li>□ Water shoes (traditional water shoes or an athletic sandal with a strap that will remain firmly on feet if worn in the water—i.e. Keens, Tevas, Chacos, etc.)</li> <li>□ 1 additional swimsuit</li> <li>□ 2-3 "quick dry" shirts</li> <li>□ 2-3 "quick dry" shorts</li> <li>□ 3 pairs wool socks</li> <li>□ Long sleeve shirt</li> <li>□ Jacket or sweater (fleece/wool preferred)</li> <li>□ Long pants (not jeans; "quick dry" preferred)</li> <li>□ Rain jacket and rain pants</li> <li>□ Gloves</li> <li>□ Fleece or wool cap</li> <li>□ 2 water bottles (wide mouth, plastic, and at least 32 oz; no water bottles with attached straws, please)</li> <li>□ Compact sleeping bag or sleeping bag with compression stuff sack</li> <li>□ Sleeping pad (provided if needed)</li> <li>□ Small dry bags for gear (not bigger than 10L; provided if needed)</li> <li>□ Chapstick (with sunscreen!)</li> </ul>
Taste of Adventure*	☐ Longer shorts or leggings for climbing activities (aka
	shorts that will not ride up under a harness)
Boundary Waters Expedition	A detailed packing list for this program will be sent to participants by the end of March.

Expedition Wilderness	<ul> <li>☐ Hiking boots</li> <li>☐ Shorts/leggings/pants that are comfortable for hiking</li> <li>☐ 4+ "quick dry" shirts</li> <li>☐ 4+ pairs wool socks</li> <li>☐ Long sleeve shirt</li> <li>☐ Jacket or sweater (fleece/wool preferred)</li> <li>☐ Long pants (not jeans; "quick dry" preferred)</li> <li>☐ Rain jacket and rain pants</li> <li>☐ Gloves</li> <li>☐ Fleece or wool cap</li> <li>☐ 2 water bottles (wide mouth, plastic, and at least 32 oz; no water bottles with attached straws, please)</li> <li>☐ Compact sleeping bag or sleeping bag with compression stuff sack</li> <li>☐ Sleeping pad (provided if needed)</li> <li>☐ Backpacking pack (provided if needed)</li> <li>☐ Chapstick (with sunscreen!)</li> <li>☐ A hat or other head covering (i.e. bandana) to aid in tick prevention on trail</li> </ul>
Counselor-in-Training II	☐ CIT Binder from CIT I
CIT Mastery	*Varies by program area and week; please see specialty packing lists for programs below based on the interest you indicated when registering  Week of June 23-28:  Aquatics: Paddling Explorer, Taste of Sailing  Backpacking: Girl vs. Wild  High Adventure: Adventure Explorer, Adventure Out!  Week of July 21-26:  Aquatics: Taste of Sailing; Canoe, Kayak, & You  Backpacking: Wilderness Trek  High Adventure: Adventure Explorer, Adventure Out!  Week of July 28-August 2:  Aquatics: Sailing Explorer; Canoe, Kayak, & You  Backpacking: Backpack Explorer  High Adventure: Adventure Out!