



gcnwi

Summer Camp Information Packet

Camp Juniper Knoll



Camp Director

Margaret Gawlik

“Strike”

mgawlik@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

(224) 207-9207



Assistant Camp Director

Stacey Herman

“Chocolate Chip”

sherman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

(224) 207-9277

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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 Summer Camp Phone: (262) 642-5455
Number The summer camp phone number will be answered June 1-August 3. 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: customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

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 1:30-3:00 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 1:30-2:15 p.m. and campers whose last name begins with M-Z arrive between 2:15-3:00 p.m. However, you may arrive in the timeframe that is most convenient to you. **Please do not arrive earlier than 1:15 p.m.** If you are carpooling with a camper whose 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 3:00 p.m. with our closing ceremony. Please do not arrive earlier than 2:30 p.m.** All family members are invited to attend the closing ceremony but **please leave pets at home.**

If you are unable to pick up your camper at the 3:00 p.m. check-out time, please see the next section regarding After Care.

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 3:00 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.

Camp will remain open until 4:30 p.m. for any campers who would like to show their family around camp. The trading post will also be open during this time.

After Care **NEW this year**, if you are unable to make it to camp for the 3:00 p.m. check-out at the end of your camper's session, you are able to add-on After Care and pick your camper up at 7:00 p.m. on the last day of their session.

After Care runs from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and includes dinner. Campers will be picked up from the Dining Hall; there is no closing ceremony for campers in After Care.

Bridge Weekend	Attending multiple weeks of camp and don't want to go home? This summer, you can register for a bridge weekend where you can stay the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday between sessions and turn one week of camp into two. This is not a stand-alone program; campers must be registered for programs before and after the weekend.
Late Check-In & Early Departure	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Early departures can take place at 9:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. on the last day of your camper's session.</p>
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, stand up paddleboards, 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.

KultureCity Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana is excited to share that we are now certified as a 'Sensory Inclusive' organization by KultureCity, a leading nonprofit dedicated to accessibility and inclusion for individuals with sensory and invisible disabilities. This partnership helps make all of the programs and events hosted by Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana sensory inclusive.

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 beyond the activities promised in their program's description.

Most activities take place outdoors in the open air whenever possible. More information about weather accommodations can be found on page 16.

Girl Scout Badges & Patches 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 what badges they have earned or badge steps they have completed towards earning a badge. At minimum, all campers will earn the below badge based on the age level of their program:

- Daisy: Buddy Camper
- Brownie: Outdoor Adventurer
- Junior: Camper
- Cadette: Archery

Badges are not provided by camp and must be purchased separately from the [Girl Scout Shop](#).

All campers, regardless of age level, will get a 2025 summer camp fun patch and Camp Juniper Knoll rocker at the end of their session.

All campers who complete Program Aide training will get their PA pin and all campers who complete Counselor-in-Training will get their CIT pin at the end of their session. These pins are provided by camp.

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.

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 pre-arranged 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 At least once per week, all campers will cook out over the campfire with staff supervision and assistance. Campers in programs with overnight off-site trips will cook out multiple times.

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).

Summer Camp Recruiter Do you love Girl Scout camp? Tell your friends and you can earn a special recruiter patch!

In order to earn the recruiter patch, you must recruit a camper who is NEW to GCNWI summer camp. Friends do not need to attend camp together and do not need to be the same age. Friends that are recruited must not have attended Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana day or overnight camps previously.

Fill out [this form](#) and tell us who you recruited. You will receive the patch when you attend camp this summer.

Summer Camp Milestones Have you attended GCNWI summer camps for 5 years? What about 10? We want to celebrate your milestone with a special patch! Please let us know by answering the 5- and 10-year camper question during registration. If you missed answering this question while registering, please contact your camp director.

To be eligible, campers must have attended a minimum of 1 summer camp session every year for 5 years to earn the 5-year patch and for 10 years to earn the 10-year patch. Years do not need to be consecutive but they do need to be at a current or former GCNWI property (Butternut Springs, Greene Wood, Juniper Knoll, Palos, and/or Pokanoka).

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. The trading post is also open following check-out 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 ShopGS@girlscoutsgcnwi.org.

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.

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

Dining hall meals may be 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, art projects, archery (4th 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.” 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 10-24 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.

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 30 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 from the vendor; 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, Monday-Saturday. 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 Sundays.

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 enough 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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
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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.
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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.
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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.

Homesickness Coming to camp may bring up feelings of “homesickness.” We consider this a normal, healthy occurrence, and refer to this as “missing home” to disassociate it from an illness. Learning to cope with missing home is a great life skill to learn, and we are well-equipped to help campers through this!

It is not uncommon for campers to experience missing home while away at camp, and experience tells us that it typically resolves within two or three days of arriving at camp as campers adjust to the new people, environment, and routine. If a camper is missing home, our counselors will listen empathetically, try to help them understand these feelings are natural, and then encourage them to get involved in camp activities because having fun and making friends are some of the best remedies for missing home.

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.” You can help contribute to the success of your camper by encouraging them to have a great time.

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 and is missing home intensely, we will contact you to brainstorm together the best ways to support them.

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

Camper Paperwork is due May 1, 2025. 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.

Within 3 weeks 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 customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org.

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.

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 camper@girlscoutsgcnwi.org. 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.

(continued on next page)

Camper Paperwork &
CampDoc
(continued)

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.** This medication will be collected during camper check-in and stored in the health center to be dispensed by the health supervisor as needed; it will be returned at the end of camp.

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.

Please assist us in honoring our procedures and keeping our campers safe by not giving your camper any medication to keep with them in their luggage. If a camper is found with any medication, it will be collected and stored in the health center. A call will be made home to notify the parents and confirm dosage if it is a medication the camper needs while at camp.

General Information

Communication from Camp

Emails with important camp information will come from:

- Girl Scouts GCNWI Customer Support, customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org
- CampDoc, @campdoc.com
- Camp Director, Margaret “Strike” Gawlik, mgawlik@girlscoutsgcnwi.org
- Assistant Camp Director, Stacey “Chocolate Chip” Herman, sherman@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

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

Contact Information

Questions? Contact:

- Camp Director Margaret “Strike” Gawlik, mgawlik@girlscoutsgcnwi.org
- Customer Support, customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org or (855) 456-8347

After June 1, the summer camp phone number (262) 642-5455 will go live. Before June 1 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 www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/join

Behavior Issues All campers and their caregivers are asked to review and commit to a behavior and expectations agreement found in their CampDoc paperwork. 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.

Camp will post photos and videos on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and Bunk1 throughout the week. Bunk1 is an accessible parent portal where families can stay in touch with what is happening at camp via mobile app or online. It is private to only Juniper Knoll families where you can send digital camper mail, view shared photos and videos, and get real-time updates as they are posted by camp administrators. More information on how to access Bunk1 will be shared after registering for camp.

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 mgawlik@girlscoutsgcnwi.org 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. All staff complete an interview process, pass a background check, and attend 12-14 days of on-site camp training prior to camper arrival on-site. They are certified in CPR & First Aid and trained in outdoor skills, camp programming, child development, and how to facilitate an exceptional camper experience.

We are proud to be an equal opportunity employer and embraces the unique perspectives employees have in terms of education, opinions, culture, ethnicity, race, sex, gender identity and expression, nation of origin, age, languages spoken, veteran's status, color, religion, disability, sexual orientation, and beliefs.

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 are based on the true cost of running the camp program. This includes staff salaries, food service, program and operational supplies, lodging, off-site trips (program-specific), a camp t-shirt, a summer camp 2025 fun patch, supplemental insurance, and other overhead costs.

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, 2025.**

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 customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org.

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 www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/financial-assistance#camp
 - This application will go live on February 3 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 customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org 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 us at customercare@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.
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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.
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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, 2025 and include a doctor's note. Cancellations due to COVID-19 may provide dated proof of positive test in lieu of a doctor's note.

Refund requests must be submitted in writing. Please email customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org 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.
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Frequently Asked Questions

Are special dietary needs and allergies accommodated?

We do our best to accommodate all special dietary needs and allergies. Make sure to fill out your CampDoc paperwork completely so we can best prepare for your camper.

What happens if my camper gets sick or injured while at camp?

Each camp has a health supervisor who will contact caregivers as needed, in addition to monitoring and administering first aid and routine health care.

Campers may not remain at camp with a fever, signs of a contagious condition, or signs of head lice. If a camper is sent home at check-in, they may return no sooner than 24 hours later with a signed letter from a physician stating they are in good health. Arrangements to attend a later session may also be made with the camp director if space is available.

What happens if there is bad weather at camp?

Programs are held rain or shine! If the weather is unusually hot or cold, activities are changed to keep campers safe. Weather alert radios are constantly monitored and there are designated storm shelters for each camp in cases of severe weather. Help your camper have a successful time at camp by checking and preparing for the weather prior to arrival.

What new skills will my camper learn?

Camp activities are age-based and progressive. This means that younger campers start off with easier and more manageable versions of certain camp activities like outdoor skills and boating. Progressive activities give campers an opportunity to build up their skills and confidence before aging into more challenging activities.

An example of our skills progression: To teach targeting skills, Daisies or Brownies may learn how to use sling shots or try out rock throwing, Juniors learn how to target the bullseye with bows and arrows, while Cadettes and older Girl Scouts perfect their skills through a series of archery challenges.

My child has never been to camp and doesn't know anyone. Is this typical?

Yes! We see a mix of new and returning campers every week. Summer camp is a place to make new friends! Open to Girl Scouts from all over our council, summer camp programs are designed to facilitate individual campers connecting with each other. Camp brings kids of diverse experiences and backgrounds together and facilitates deep and lasting friendships.

Can I bring a friend to camp?	<p>Yes! Individual campers may attend summer camp with a buddy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campers may request one buddy when registering for camp. • Both campers must request each other. • Campers who have requested each other as buddies must be registered for the same program, during the same week/session of camp. • Groups, troops, and multiple buddy requests are not guaranteed for summer camp programs.
I changed my mind! Can I transfer to a different program?	<p>Transfers may be made at no charge for a similar program and are based on availability. Please contact customer care@girlscoutsgcnwi.org if you would like to request a transfer.</p>
The program I want is full. Can I join a waitlist?	<p>If a program is full, join the waitlist by selecting the program in the registration system and clicking the “Join Waitlist” button. You will be contacted if a space becomes available, but joining a waitlist is not a guarantee of entry. We recommend registering for a different program in the meantime to ensure that you don’t miss out on the camp fun. We can transfer your camper if a spot opens in the waitlisted program.</p> <p>Please note – Adding a program to your “Wish List” is not the same as joining the “Waitlist.”</p>
What happens if not enough campers register for a program?	<p>Girl Scouts GCNWI strives to be responsible with how we staff programs within our staffing budget and our ultimate goal is for every camper to have an amazing camp experience. If a program does not meet the minimum number of campers required to successfully and responsibly run the program, it will either be cancelled or combined with another program of a similar age level. In the event a program is cancelled due to low enrollment and no alternatives can be found, Girl Scouts GCNWI will provide a full refund of registration fees.</p>

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.

- ☐ Warm sleeping bag or bed roll
- ☐ Pillow
- ☐ Backpack
- ☐ T-Shirts: 1 per day, plus 1 extra
- ☐ Shorts: 1 per day, plus 1 extra
- ☐ Jeans, pants or sweatpants: 1-2 pairs
- ☐ Socks: 1 per day, plus 1 extra
- ☐ Underwear & Bras: 1 per day, plus 1 extra (sports bras recommended)
- ☐ Pajamas: 2+ sets
- ☐ Sweater/Sweatshirt/Jacket
- ☐ Bandana, bucket hat, or baseball hat
- ☐ Rain suit, raincoat, or poncho
- ☐ Swimsuit
- ☐ Towels: 2-3
- ☐ Gym shoes, rain boots, or hiking boots: 2 pairs
- ☐ Mess kit (unbreakable plate, cup, bowl, & utensils in a dunk bag)
- ☐ Flashlight with extra batteries
- ☐ Reusable water bottle
- ☐ Comb/brush and hair ties or other hair accessories
- ☐ Toothbrush and toothpaste
- ☐ Shampoo, conditioner, and soap
- ☐ Deodorant
- ☐ Personal sanitary supplies
- ☐ Eyewear supplies (glasses, glasses care, and/or contacts)
- ☐ Sunscreen (minimum SPF 30)
- ☐ Bug spray
- ☐ Small pouch to carry toiletries

Optional 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)
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Book to read

Please **do not** bring:

- X Electrical appliances (including but not limited to hair dryers, personal music devices, computers, gaming devices, etc.)
- X Glass bottles or containers
- X Umbrellas
- X Snack food (including candy or gum)
- X Hidden cell phones and/or smart watches
- X Short shorts, tank tops with spaghetti straps, halters, crop tops, sandals/crocs for use outside of the shower house, and other open-toe shoes
- X Alcohol, drugs, or weapons

Packing List Details

Packing Tips 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.

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

Adventure Out!*	<input type="checkbox"/> Hiking boots
Adventure Bound*	<input type="checkbox"/> Long pants/jeans for riding
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sturdy shoes/boots (preferably with a heel)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Longer shorts or leggings for climbing activities (aka shorts that will not ride up under a harness)
	<input type="checkbox"/> A hat or other head covering (i.e. bandana) to aid in tick prevention on trail
Keep Calm & Paddle On*	<input type="checkbox"/> 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.)
Go With the Flow*	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 additional swimsuit
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 “quick dry” shirts
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 “quick dry” shorts
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 pairs wool socks
	<input type="checkbox"/> Long sleeve shirt
	<input type="checkbox"/> Jacket or sweater (fleece/wool preferred)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Long pants (not jeans; “quick dry” preferred)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Rain jacket and rain pants
	<input type="checkbox"/> Gloves
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fleece or wool cap
	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 water bottles (wide mouth, plastic, and at least 32 oz; no water bottles with attached straws, please)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Compact sleeping bag or sleeping bag with compression stuff sack
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping pad (provided if needed)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Small dry bags for gear (not bigger than 10L; provided if needed)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Chapstick (with sunscreen!)
CIT Mastery	<input type="checkbox"/> CIT Binder from CIT I
Counselor-in-Training II	
CIT Internship	
CIT Mastery	*Varies by program area and week; please see specialty packing lists for programs below based on the interest you indicated when registering
	<input type="checkbox"/> Week of June 22-27: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Aquatics</i>: Canoe, Kayak, & You; Taste of Sailing <i>Backpacking</i>: Wilderness Explorer <i>High Adventure</i>: Adventure Explorer, Adventure Out!
	<input type="checkbox"/> Week of July 6-11: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Aquatics</i>: Hoist Yer Sails <i>Backpacking</i>: Girl vs. Wild <i>High Adventure</i>: Adventure Explorer
	<input type="checkbox"/> Week of July 27-August 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Aquatics</i>: Sailing Explorer, Keep Calm & Paddle On <i>Backpacking</i>: Keep Calm & Paddle On <i>High Adventure</i>: Adventure Explorer, Adventure Out!