

Staff-Led Camporee Information Packet for Service Units

A Girl Scout camporee, or encampment, brings Girl Scout troops from the same Service Unit together for camping and activities, often with a theme, to build courage, confidence, character, and leadership while having fun. It offers a chance to experience sisterhood in the outdoors.

Unlike troop camping, a camporee provides opportunities for both individual and shared activities among troops which may be themed or include an element of competition or collaboration.

Camporees help older Girl Scouts develop leadership skills, introduce new volunteers to camping, teach younger Girl Scouts new camp skills, and provide opportunities for all to improve their outdoor abilities.

This guide will provide you with an overview and resources on how to request, plan, and run a staff-led camporee at one of the four GSGCNWI camp properties.



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Planning Timeline

4-12 Months in Advance

- Tour properties (virtually or in person)
- Submit your request for a staff-led camporee by emailing customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org including requested location, dates, and approximate number of attendees

3-4 Months in Advance

- Determine the camporee's theme (if any)
- Review evaluations and past schedules (if applicable)
- Brainstorm ideas to fill activity spaces
- Share basic details and registration links with Service Unit members (shared from your lead facilitator)
- Have 1 adult from each troop register for the blended learning first aid/CPR and outdoor adult trainings online courses (if not already certified)

2-3 Months in Advance

- Remind service unit members to register and pay for the camporee and share updates
- Start narrowing down the program plan with your lead facilitator and finalizing cookout details (if applicable)
- Have 1 adult from each troop register for and attend the in-person portions of the first aid/CPR and outdoor adult trainings if they cannot attend the Friday night camporee training session
- Final payment due 2 months out

1-2 Months in Advance

- Finalize any last programming details with your lead facilitator
- Confirm health and dietary needs with your lead facilitator

2-3 Weeks in Advance

- Lead facilitator will share any additional resources, confirmations, & important information with participants
- Confirm final attendee numbers
- Finalize sleeping assignments with lead facilitator
- Confirm each troop has their required certifications
- Assign adult roles (as applicable)
- Finalize any other details with your lead facilitator

Planning Timeline

1-2 Weeks in Advance

- Start packing

Friday Adult Trainees

- Adults participating in the in-person segments of the first aid/CPR and/or outdoor trainings will arrive and jump right into training elements
 - Adults getting trained that need to bring their camper Friday night can do so. Please let the lead facilitator know ahead of time
 - Please bring proof of completion for the online portions of the trainings to show the facilitator
- A cookout dinner will be provided for trainees. Be sure to let the lead facilitator know of any dietary needs beforehand
- Trainees should plan to bring the clothes and gear they need for the whole weekend

Saturday

- Arrive at camp and check in
 - Troops should bring a roster of attending troop members to turn in as well
 - Troops should be in communication with any troop members that may arrive late and communicate with staff
- Troop leaders (or a designated troop adult) should collect and hold onto troop member permission slips and health histories for the duration of the event
- Any first aid/CPR and outdoor trained adults that did not need to attend the Friday night training sessions should bring proof of their online and in-person training completion
- Reference schedules and participate in designated activities
- Day only participants head home, overnighting participants stay over in units

Sunday

- Pack up and clean units
- Eat breakfast
- Visit the trading post
- Head home



Adult Responsibilities & Ratio Reminders

Adult Responsibilities

No campout can be run alone. GCNWI camp staff will work closely with you during the pre-planning process and throughout the camporee. At the camporee attending adults may need to assist with certain activities, behavior management, transportation, basic first aid, camp cleanliness, etc.

Volunteer-to-Youth Ratios

Though Service Unit camporees do not require a 1:1 adult-to-youth ratio, it is important to note that camporees must be chaperoned events and, at minimum, adults should meet the Girl Scouts volunteer-to-girl ratios for events, travel, and camping outlined in the [Girl Scout Safety Activity Checkpoints](https://girlscout.info/Safety).

<https://girlscout.info/Safety>

| Girl Scout Volunteer-to-Youth Ratios | Events, Travel, and Camping | |
|--|--|--|
| | TWO unrelated volunteers (at least one of whom is female) for up to this number of youths: | ONE additional volunteer to each additional: |
| Daisies (grade K-1) | 6 | 1-4 |
| Brownies (grade 2-3) | 12 | 1-6 |
| Juniors (grade 4-5) | 16 | 1-8 |
| Cadettes (grade 6-8) | 20 | 1-10 |
| Seniors (grade 9-10) | 24 | 1-12 |
| Ambassadors (grade 11-12) | 24 | 1-12 |

Training & Certification

Membership and Background Checks

Every attending adult must be a registered member, have an approved background check, and complete the GSUSA Girl Scouts Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Course. Youth participants should also be registered Girl Scout members.

Camporee Training

Every troop must have an adult who is certified in first aid/CPR and has their outdoor adult trainings completed. GCNWI staff-led camporees will all provide the opportunity for outdoor and first aid/CPR trainings for adults that need them on the Friday night of the camporee weekend for an additional fee. Adults needing to bring a tagalong camper to their trainings can do so at no extra cost. Friday dinner and Saturday breakfast will be included in the training cost. Be aware that these trainings also have pre-work that needs to be done on [gsLearn](#) or the first aid/CPR website prior to attending camp.

First Aid and CPR Training

Every troop needs one adult with council approved first aid/CPR training. Once your staff-led camporee is approved, your lead facilitator will set up and share out a specialized link for adults to register for the in-person skill and test session scheduled for the Friday night of the campout. This training will be \$50 per trainee and includes online coursework that must be completed prior to the campout. Those unable to attend the Friday in-person segment will need to [register for and complete](#) their training separately prior to the campout.

Outdoor Adult Training

Every troop needs one adult who has completed their outdoor adult trainings. Most of these trainings can be done for free before camp on [gsLearn](#). Once a staff-led camporee request is approved, the assigned staff member will create a registration link for the in-person skill session to share with adult trainees so they can pay the \$25 for the in-person portion of the blended training set to occur Friday night of the camporee. Those unable to attend the Friday in-person segment will need to [register for and complete](#) that element separately prior to the campout.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <u>Cabin Camping:</u> | Necessary for one or more nights when camping with no campfires. Every troop must have one or more trained adults for every camporee. |
| <u>Fire Safety and Fire Building:</u> | Necessary to have a campfire and s'mores or stick cooking. Every troop must have one or more trained adults for every camporee. |
| <u>Outdoor Cooking:</u> | Necessary for more extensive outdoor cooking over a fire or with charcoal. Recommended for every troop participating in a camporee cookout. (Online and in-person elements.) |
| <u>Rustic Camping:</u> | Necessary to sleep in platform tents, yurts, tabins, or pitch tent sites and cook outside. Recommended for every troop sleeping in rustic accommodations during the camporee. (Online and in-person elements.) |

Staff-Led Camporee Cost Breakdown

All GCNWI Staff-led camporees will run from Saturday at 9:00 AM to Sunday at 9:00 AM and will include specific elements and Girl Scout traditions.

For adults that need to complete the in-person elements of their Outdoor Adult Trainings and First Aid/CPR Training those courses will be available Friday evening.

- First Aid/CPR Blended Learning
 - Once your staff-led camporee is approved your lead staff member will create a camporee specific registration link that can be shared with adult attendees so they can register for and complete the online elements of the first aid/CPR training. Adults needing to complete the in-person training segment can do so from 4:00 PM-5:30 PM the Friday of the camporee. The cost of the combined training will be \$50 per trainee.
 - Note: if this timing does not work for an adult to complete their in-person training Friday night they will need to sign up for one of the other days listed on the [registration site](#) to complete their training prior to arrival. (They should NOT sign up using the camporee-specific link that will be shared from the lead facilitator.)
- Outdoor Adult Training Blended Learning
 - Adults needing this training should first complete the free online trainings that can be found on [gsLearn](#).
 - The lead staff member will create a camporee-specific link that can be shared with adult attendees to sign up to complete their required in-person outdoor training segment for \$25 from 5:30-9:30 PM the Friday of the camporee. This training will include dinner.
 - Note: if this timing does not work for an adult to complete their in-person training Friday night they will need to sign up for one of the other days listed on the [registration site](#) to complete their training prior to arrival. (They should NOT sign up using the camporee-specific link that will be shared from the lead facilitator.)

GCNWI Staff-led camporees will be \$100 per person.

- This cost will include property rental, meals (Sat: lunch, dinner, snack, s'more; Sun: breakfast), activity supplies, staffing (1 staff per 25-30 people), a patch, and facilitation.
- Groups wishing to include swimming (June-September at Camp Butternut Springs (pool) or Camp Juniper Knoll (lake)) will be charged an additional \$10 per person.
- Groups wishing to add high adventure elements (rock wall/zipline or high ropes) (April-October) will be charged an additional \$25 per high adventure participant.

Girl Scout Traditions Included in Staff-Led Camporees

Flag Ceremonies

Typically led by a troop while others stand on to observe and reflect. Often includes someone calling out commands, the raising or lowering of the flag(s), reciting the Pledge of Allegiance along with the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Campfire Songs

A great way to bring everyone together around the campfire is by singing campfire songs as a group. Staff will lead camp songs and provide items for making s'mores. Troops or individuals are welcome to also take the lead in guiding the songs. This is something that can be decided with your facilitator before or during the camporee. It's helpful to remember that many popular songs have different variations, so it's a good idea to follow the version the song leader is singing. Often, groups may enjoy adding to the fun by incorporating skits or talent shows if there is time as well.

Kapers

Kapers are jobs or chores that can be used to divide up shared responsibilities during a campout. A kaper chart is a tool that can be used to indicate who is responsible for each item. Staff will share more information on kapers at the camporee but examples could include: cleaning lodging and activity spaces, helping with meals/cookouts, leading a game/song/activity, etc.

SWAPS

SWAPS are a time honored Girl Scout tradition where participants make and then exchange small tokens or crafts with one another which can then be pinned to a hat or banner. SWAPS stands for "Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere" and Girl Scouts across the globe take part in this trading activity. Troops can choose to pre-make their SWAPS or make them during turtle time in their schedule. Trading will happen after dinner on Saturday.

Friendship Circle

Representing the unbroken chain of friendship among Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world, the Friendship Circle involves Girl Scouts standing in a circle, crossing their right arms over their left, and clasping hands with their friends on both sides. Everyone then makes a silent wish as a friendship squeeze is passed from hand to hand around the circle. Camporee events often end with a friendship circle and a reflection on memories made.

Program Planning Considerations

Staff will need to know this information so have it ready to share

- Approximately how many troops will be in attendance and what Girl Scout levels are they?
- Approximately how many youth and adults do you anticipate?
- Will all attendees be spending the night or would you like a day only option as well?
 - If offering a day only option, approximately how many of the troops will not need a sleeping location?
- What type of programming were you looking for to fill the time?
 - Badgework (Note: only outdoor focused badges can be incorporated into staff-led camporee events)
 - General outdoor skills/activities
 - Recreation
- What season were you hoping for a campout in? Do you have any specific month or date requests?
- Do you have a specific camp property request?
- Did you want to incorporate a cookout meal into this camporee or skip it this time?
- What dietary needs might need to be considered?
- What health needs may need to be considered?



Activity Ideas to Consider

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Adventure | Hiking, Scavenger Hunt, Letterboxing or Geocaching, Swimming, Water Balloon Fun, Make and Partake in a DIY Escape Room, Creek Stomping, Archery, Rock Climbing, Canoeing, Wagon Ride, etc. |
| Creative | Candle Making, Landscape Painting, Birdhouse Building, Friendship Bracelets, Lanyards, Beadie Buddies, Fairy Houses, Photography, Skit Writing, Dream Catchers, Paracord Bracelets, Wind Chimes, etc. |
| Nighttime | Night Hike, Glow Games, Flashlight Tag, Campfire Sing Along, Shadow Puppet Skits, Star Gazing, Glow Stick Dance Party, Story Telling, Campfire Charades, Movie Night, Talent Show, Night Photography, etc. |
| Outdoor Skills | Knot Tying, Map & Compass Skills, Tent Set Up, Outdoor Cooking, Shelter Building, Plant Identification, Fire Building, First Aid, Water Purification, Leave No Trace, Survival Skills, Track Identification, etc. |
| Recreation | Capture the Flag, Tag, Duck Duck Goose, Parachute Games, Kickball, Obstacle Course, Bird Watching, Volleyball, Gaga Ball, Soccer, Simon Says, Charades, Red Light Green Light, Freeze Tag, Hide & Seek, etc. |
| Relaxation | Yoga, Hammock Hangout, Journal Prompts, Letter Writing, Turtle Time, Reading, Meditation, Nature Sound Immersion, Riddles or Brain Teasers, Puzzle, Silent Hike, Hair Braiding, Coloring, DIY Spa, etc. |
| Service* | Trash Pick Up, Invasive Species Removal, Collecting Firewood for Future Campers, Make Tie Blankets to Donate, Hold a Food Drive, Plant a Tree, Do Some Extra Cleaning Inside & Outside the Unit, etc. |
| STEM | Explore the Water Cycle, Build a Marshmallow and Toothpick Tower, Dissect an Owl Pellet, Make Elephant Toothpaste, Egg Drop Challenge, Make Food from Scratch, Count a Tree's Rings, Bridge Building, etc. |
| Team Building | Ice Breaker Questions, Build the Tallest Tower, Make Up A New Game, Team Relay Races, Work Together to Make a Camp Meal, Play Four Corners, Never Have I Ever, Egg Toss, Human Knot, Silent Line Up, etc. |
| Traditions | Flag Ceremony, SWAPS Making & Trading, Camp Songs, Friendship Circle, Badgework, Learn the Girl Scout Handshake, Hold a Bridging Ceremony, Plan a Girl Scouts' Own Ceremony, Share Stories, etc. |

*Communicate with GCNWI staff before implementing a service project at camp.

Blank Schedule, No Cookout

| Fri. Time | Adult Trainees |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4:00-5:30 p.m. | First Aid/CPR Skills Session |
| 5:30-9:30 p.m. | Outdoor Adult Training (and Dinner) |
| 9:30 p.m. | Bedtime |

| Sat. Time | Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3 | Group 4 |
|-----------------------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| 8:00-9:00 a.m. | Breakfast for Trainees/Check-in for Troops | | | |
| 9:00-9:45 a.m. | Group Welcome and Flag Ceremony | | | |
| 9:45-10:00 a.m. | Transition Time | | | |
| 10:00-10:50 a.m. | | | | |
| 10:50-11:00 a.m. | Transition Time | | | |
| 11:00-11:50 a.m. | | | | |
| 11:50 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | | |
| 12:00-1:00 p.m. | Lunch | | | |
| 1:00-1:50 p.m. | | | | |
| 1:50-2:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | | |
| 2-2:50 PM | | | | |

Blank Schedule, No Cookout

| Sat. Time | Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3 | Group 4 |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2:50-3:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | | |
| 3:00-3:50 p.m. | | | | |
| 3:50-4:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | | |
| 4:00-4:50 p.m. | | | | |
| 4:50-5:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | | |
| 5:00-6:00 p.m. | Troop Time | | | |
| 6:00-7:00 p.m. | Dinner | | | |
| 7:00-7:30 p.m. | SWAPS Trading | | | |
| 7:30-8:00 p.m. | Flag Ceremony & Friendship Circle | | | |
| 8:00-9:00 p.m. | Campfire, Songs, S'mores | | | |
| 9:00-9:30 p.m. | Night Activity | | | |
| 9:30 p.m. | Bedtime | | | |



Blank Schedule, No Cookout

| Sun. Time | Group 1 | Group 2 | Group 3 | Group 4 |
|----------------|---|---------|---------|---------|
| 7:00-8:00 a.m. | Clean Up, Kapers | | | |
| 8:00-9:00 a.m. | Continental Breakfast, Pack Cars, Trading Post Open | | | |
| 9:00 a.m. | Head Home | | | |

Blank Schedule, w/Cookout

| Fri. Time | Adult Trainees |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4:00-5:30 p.m. | First Aid/CPR Skills Session |
| 5:30-9:30 p.m. | Outdoor Adult Training (and Dinner) |
| 9:30 p.m. | Bedtime |

| Sat. Time | Daisy/Brownie | Junior/ Cadette | Senior/ Ambassador |
|------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------|
| 8:00-9:00 a.m. | Breakfast for Trainees/Check-in for Troops | | |
| 9:00-9:45 a.m. | Group Welcome and Flag Ceremony | | |
| 9:45-10:00 a.m. | Transition Time | | |
| 10:00-10:50 a.m. | | | |
| 10:50-11:00 a.m. | Transition Time | | |
| 11:00-11:50 a.m. | | | |

Blank Schedule, w/Cookout

| Sat. Time | Daisy/Brownie | Junior/ Cadette | Senior/ Ambassador |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| 11:50 a.m.-12:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | |
| 12:00-1:00 p.m. | Lunch | | |
| 1:00-1:50 p.m. | | | |
| 1:50-2:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | |
| 2:00-2:50 p.m. | | | |
| 2:50-3:00 p.m. | Transition Time | | |
| 3:00-4:00 p.m. | Troop Time | | |
| 4:00-7:00 p.m. | Dinner Cookout | | |
| 7:00-7:30 p.m. | SWAPS Trading | | |
| 7:30-8:00 p.m. | Flag Ceremony & Friendship Circle | | |
| 8:00-9:00 p.m. | Campfire, Songs, S'mores | | |
| 9:00-9:30 p.m. | Night Activity | | |
| 9:30 p.m. | Bedtime | | |
| Sun. Time | Daisy/Brownie | Junior/Cadette | Senior/Ambassador |
| 7:00-8:00 a.m. | Clean Up, Kapers | | |
| 8:00-9:00 a.m. | Continental Breakfast, Pack Cars, Trading Post Open | | |
| 9:00 a.m. | Head Home | | |

Meals & Cookout Ideas

Cookout menus will be decided between the group and facilitator. Ideas are listed below.

Non-Cookout Camp Meals

- Food menus for meals at camp will be determined by trained camp staff.
- Meals will be well-rounded and include a grain, protein, fruit and/or vegetable, drink, and dessert.
- Staff are well trained to accommodate dietary needs as applicable. Participants will need to share their dietary needs and restrictions during the registration process.
- Allergens to consider include, but are not limited to: gluten/wheat, peanuts, tree nuts, shellfish, milk, eggs, soybeans, fish, and sesame.

No Cook

- Fruit salad/kabob
- Ants on a log
- Woman on the moon
- Edible campfire
- Veggies and dip
- Chips and dip
- Salad
- Trail mix
- Cheese and crackers
- Dirt pudding

One Pot

- Chili
- Mac and cheese
- Walking tacos
- Soup and sandwiches
- Breakfast skillet
- Spaghetti
- Sloppy joes
- Nacho skillet
- Chicken and rice
- Meatball subs

Foil Packet

- Camper packets
- Cinnamon sugar apple crisp
- Banana boats
- Campfire cones
- Steamed veggies
- Corn on the cob
- Loaded potatoes
- Chicken fajitas
- Cinnamon rolls

Roasting Stick

- Hotdogs
- Hamburgers
- S'mores
- French toast sticks
- Crescent roll
- Veggie skewers
- Fruit skewers
- Cinnamon roll
- Cheesy breadsticks
- Pigs in a blanket

Pie Iron

- Grilled cheese
- Pizza
- Quesadillas
- Pudgie pies
- S'more packet
- Cinnamon rolls
- Cookies
- Taco packet
- French toast
- Panini

Box Oven

- Cookies
- English muffin/bagel pizzas
- Garlic bread
- Brownies
- Muffins
- Biscuits
- Queso
- Muffin tin eggs rounds
- Cake

Dutch Oven

- Extreme ravioli
- Taco tower
- Lasagna
- Dump cake
- Chili
- Mac and cheese
- Pizza
- Pot roast
- Baked apples
- Cornbread

Packing List

The Basics

- Weather appropriate clothing including pants, shirts, and underlayers
 - Consider season-specific items such as boots, scarves, extra layers
 - 1 outfit per day plus 1 extra set of clothes just in case
 - Don't forget undergarments
- Rain jacket/poncho and boots (no umbrellas please)
- Sweatshirt(s)
- Hat/bandana/sunglasses
- Close-toed shoes (like sneakers)
 - Leave open-toed shoes like sandals, Crocs, and flip flops at home unless being utilized indoors or during water activities. Open-toed shoes are not safe for the rough terrain found at the camp properties.
- Reusable water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Hair ties/clips
- Unscented lip balm
- Small backpack for day activities
- Flashlight
- Mess kit (optional but recommended for cookouts)
 - Any reusable, non-breakable, plate, bowl, cup, and silverware typically stored in a mesh bag for air drying.
- SWAPS to trade (unless making at camp)
- Sit upon (optional)
- Camera (optional)
- Unscented hand lotion (optional)
- Small tissue pack (optional)
- Leaders - permission slips and health forms (to keep in your possession)



Overnight Packing List

Additional Generic Overnight Items

- Extra clothes
- Extra socks and underwear
- Pajamas
- Sleeping bag
- Blanket
- Pillow
- Twin sheets (optional)
- Flashlight/headlamp
- Toiletries
 - Toothbrush and toothpaste
 - Hairbrush
 - Wash cloth
 - Deodorant
 - Floss
 - Soap
 - Shower items (like shampoo and conditioner, shower shoes, towel, etc.) (if showers are available)
 - Feminine hygiene supplies
- Swimsuit and goggles (if applicable)
- Laundry bag (optional)
- Small book or journal (optional)
- Small stuffed animal (optional)
- Medications (clearly labeled with name and instructions to turn in upon arrival)
- Money for the trading post

Additional Items for Rustic Camping

- Battery operated lantern
- Extra blankets
- Additional clothing layers
- Portable charger (for adults)
- Sleeping mat (for pitch tent camping only)



Important Links

★ Training ★

First Aid & CPR

-CPR and First Aid In-Person and Blended Learning Skills Testing Sessions

<https://girlscout.info/facprregistration>

Outdoor Adult Training

-Online trainings (myGS/gsLearn) <https://mygs.girlscouts.org>

-In-person outdoor cooking and rustic training <https://girlscout.info/outdoortraining>

★ Paperwork ★

Permission Slips

-English <https://girlscout.info/PermissionSlipEnglish>

-Spanish <https://girlscout.info/PermissionSlipSpanish>

Health History

-Adult <https://girlscout.info/AdultHealthHistory>

-Girl English <https://girlscout.info/GirlHealthHistoryEnglish>

-Girl Spanish <https://girlscout.info/GirlHealthHistorySpanish>

Troop Roster

-Roster Template (link coming soon to the [website](#). GCNWI staff will share out once camporee is approved)

★ Other Documents and Resources ★

Girl Scout Resources

-Safety Activity Checkpoints <https://girlscout.info/SafetyActivityCheckpoints>

-Volunteer Essentials <https://girlscout.info/VE>

-Girl Scouts GCNWI Camp & Outdoors Website <https://bit.ly/gcnwioutdoors>

-Girl Scouts GCNWI Outdoor Programs Website <https://girlscout.info/outdoorprograms>

-Accident or Incident Report Form <https://girlscout.info/AccidentIncidentForm>

Reference the [Forms and Documents](#) page of the website for more resources. Or email customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org or with your outdoor facilitator for additional questions.

Post Event Evaluations/Overview

Participant Evaluation

Camporee Date(s): ___/___/___ - ___/___/___ Camporee Location: _____

Name (optional): _____ Troop #: _____

Girl Scout Level (Circle): Daisy Brownie Junior Cadette Senior Ambassador Adult

What did you enjoy?

What would you change?

Other suggestions:

Camporee Overview Evaluation

Camporee Date(s): ___/___/___ - ___/___/___ Camporee Location: _____

Service Unit #: _____ Contact Name: _____

Number of Registered Youth: _____

Number of Youth that Attended: _____

Number of Registered Adults: _____

Number of Adults that Attended: _____

Number of Day Only Attendees: _____

Number of Overnight Attendees: _____

Total Number of Attending Troops: _____

Age Range: _____

Number of Buildings Rented: _____

Number of Rustic Sites Rented: _____

What went well?

What could be changed?

Suggestions for the future:

FAQ

Q: Who can I contact if I have more questions?

A: You can email customer care@girlscoutsgcnwi.org with the subject line “Staff-Led Service Unit Camporee Inquiry” and a member of the Outdoor Program team will reach out to you.

Q: Will every participant be able to do every activity?

A: It depends. Some activities (like archery) are age restricted so some Girl Scout levels will have the opportunity to do that activity while others don’t. Every group will be able to have a well-rounded schedule even if they don’t look exactly the same.

Q: Can we have male chaperones?

A: Yes, as long as they become members and pass a background check. If males are staying over they will need their own sleeping accommodations which could be their own unit or tent. They also need access to their own bathroom facilities.

Q: Can we get a camp tour before scheduling our camporee?

A: Absolutely! Email customer care@girlscoutsgcnwi.org with subject line “Camp Tour Request”. You can also view our virtual camp tour videos on the “[Camp Properties and Reservations](#)” page of our website.

Q: Can we have the trading post open during the camporee?

A: Yes, the trading post will be open Sunday morning as you are packing and heading out of camp. If you would like to adjust the day the trading post is open you can discuss this with your facilitator.

Q: Where can I find ideas for SWAPS?

A: There are tons of SWAPS ideas floating around the internet. You can also reference the [SWAPS folder](#) on the GCNWI Pinterest page for more ideas to get you started.

Q: What if we want to have a longer camporee or remove some of the included elements?

A: All GCNWI staff-led camporees will include elements like campfires, flag ceremonies, SWAPS trading, kapers, friendship circle, and trading post. If you would like a camporee without some of these elements or would like a camporee that is longer or shorter than the one proposed in this guide we would recommend that you plan and run your own camporee. A planning guide can be found on the “[Outdoor Experiences](#)” page of the website to help you get started.

Q: What is your refund policy?

A: A service unit that cancels at least 6 weeks prior will receive a full refund. Refund requests 4-5 weeks prior can receive their refund in the form of a credit on their account or try to reschedule to an alternate date. No refunds will be given for a service unit that cancels less than 4 weeks out.

Q: What is the check in and check out process?

A: An email will be sent to registered participants the week of your camporee with details including check in and check out processes.

Q: Where can I follow you on social media?

A: Instagram & Tiktok: [@girlscoutsgcnwi](#), [@campbutternutsprings](#), [@campgreenewood](#), [@campjuniperknoll](#), [@camppalos](#) (Camp Palos is not currently on Instagram)

Facebook: Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana, Camp Butternut Springs, Camp Greene Wood, Camp Juniper Knoll, Camp Palos