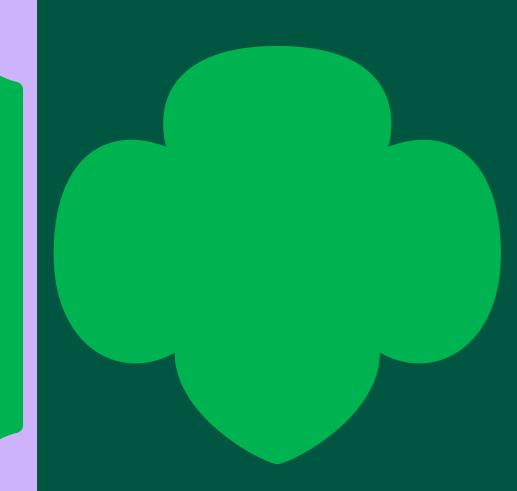
# October 2025 Council Updates

girl scouts
of greater chicago
and northwest
indiana



# **Service Unit Team**Meeting Schedule for MY26

# October SUM Meeting:

On Wednesday, October 8, we will host a virtual meeting for SUMs and/or SU Team members.

During this meeting will discuss topics and resources to help your troops plan for cookie funds (including SU cookie earning opportunities, guidelines for using troop funds to pay for volunteer costs, planning reward trips, budgeting for trips and troop activity, relevant AFR information, and our new insurance guidelines)

Click here to join
(The link will also be emailed out to you)

# February & May SUM Meetings

February meetings will take place:

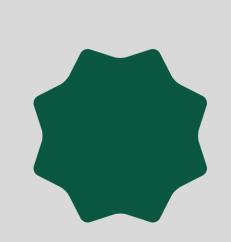
- February 10 Chicago location TBD
- February 11 virtual
- February 12 Greene Wood

May meetings will take place:

- May 14 Schererville
- May 18 virtual
- May 19 Joliet

Virtual SU Meetings will be held on November 13 & January 13.

# ACTION ITEMS



- Mark your calendars for our October 8 SUM virtual meeting (the link will be sent out ahead of the meeting)
- Tell your troops about Cookie U! (see slide 5)
  Get your tickets for the Cookie Rally (see slide 6)
  - Encourage your troops to update their meeting details (see slide 7)
  - Check out our *NEW!* Badge Boost of the Month (See slide 8) this month our training features the Volunteer Toolkit!
- Remind your troops to renew for 2026 so they don't miss out on all the fun!
- Refence your SU Planning Packet Activities by Focus Area (pg 16-17)

# Announcements

# Cookie U is our "first course" with the Sweet Success Entrepreneurial Initiative.

COST: \$10 per Girl Scout (includes one

accompanying adult\*)

BONUS: Each Girl Scout will receive a

special patch!

Older Girl Scouts (grades 6–12) interested in assisting with sessions? Let us know.

### What to Expect:

- Interactive stations: cash handling, sales pitches, goal setting, business ethics, cookie booth simulations & more!
- Girls earn "Cookie Expert" certification
- \*Plus: special adult breakout session to support your Girl Scout's entrepreneurial journey



Saturday, November 15, 2025 Vernon Hills & Joliet (simultaneous sessions)



Daisies/Brownies 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Juniors 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.



Scan the QR code or visit <a href="https://bit.ly/4mvsrTX">https://bit.ly/4mvsrTX</a>



Scan QR or visit <a href="https://display.15">bit.ly/46pCML4</a> to register today!





PRESENTED BY:

### girl scouts

of greater chicago and northwest indiana

> ORDERS OF 30+ TICKETS (ON ONE ORDER) WILL REGEIVE A CHICAGO WOLYES HAT FOR EVERYONE IN THE GROUP IF TICKETS ARE PURCHASED TOGETHER BY DEC. I.



FEATURING:





JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN FAMILY ACTIVITIES AT ALLSTATE ARENA. OPEN TO ALL GIRL SCOUTS, TROOPS, FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

### Schedule of Events

1:30-4:30 p.m.

Be Brave! Fierce! Fun!

- ·Games and activities for all ages!
- Skill builders for Girl Scouts
- \*Are you ready to groove and move? Learn some dance moves and then join in the fun at the concert!
- \*Exchange SWAPs and make Friendship Bracelets
- •Skating on the ice will be available from 2-4 p.m. You must bring your own skates to go on the ice.

4:45-5:45 p.m.

Cookie rally inside the arena featuring Red Revolution - The Taylor Swift Experience

6 p.m.

Doors open to the public.

7 p.m

Chicago Wolves game with puck drop and color guard presentation by the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana. Earn the chance to drop the puck! The lucky winner will be chosen from ticket purchases made through Dec. 7.

### **Ticket Purchasing Information**

\$23 per person by Dec. 7, 2025. \$25 per person starting Dec. 8, 2025.

Your ticket includes:

 $Entrance\ to\ Cookie\ Rally\ \bullet\ Commemorative\ T-shirt\ \bullet\ Chicago\ Wolves\ game\ ticket\ \bullet\ Rally\ patch\ for\ Girl\ Scouts$ 

In addition, you may purchase a hot dog and soda voucher for \$7.

See details on how to register on the back.

Join your fellow Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from over 150 countries around the world to celebrate 100 years of World Thinking Day!

The 2026 activity guides are now available.



Visit <a href="http://bit.ly/4niMOVI">http://bit.ly/4niMOVI</a> learn more

# SU Meeting Details Link



It's the time of year to update your SU meeting details!

Sharing this information allows us to better support you and your volunteers.



Each Boost is practical and designed to give you new tools, ideas, and confidence to bring back to your troop.



Grow your skills—one badge at a time!

### Why now?

Because Girl Scouts is all about discovery—not just for girls, but for leaders, too!

Badge Boost makes gsLearn more than a place to check off requirements it's your space to explore, grow, and earn your next "badge" of leadership.

# Your FIRST Badge Boost is Here!



GSUSA Volunteer Toolkit— Troop Leader View

Ready to pick up a new tip, try something different, or just get inspired?

Head to the gsLearn library and search:

### 430 Volunteer Toolkit Resources

Learn how the VTK can simplify meeting planning, streamline parent communication, and spark new ideas for your troop's badge journey.

# Product Program

# 2025 Fall Product Program

Reminder



# **Important Dates**

| Last day for parents to enter nut/candy order card sales into the M2 online system.  Troop leader deadline for entering in-person orders (paper card orders).  Last day for customers to place orders online for both girl-delivered and direct ship.  Service Unit Fall Product Manager deadline for entering in-person orders (paper card orders).  Council ACH Sweep - 100% of the amount due to council.  Product delivery of in-person nut/candy items to service units.  Reward delivery to service units  October 14, 2025  October 15, 2025  October 16, 2025  October 16, 2025  October 24, 2025 |  | Order Taking Period                   | September 19 thru October 16, 2025 |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| in-person orders (paper card orders).  Last day for customers to place orders online for both girl-delivered and direct ship.  Service Unit Fall Product Manager deadline for entering in-person orders (paper card orders).  Council ACH Sweep - 100% of the amount due to council.  Product delivery of in-person nut/candy items to service units.  October 15, 2025  October 16, 2025  October 16, 2025  October 24, 2025   |  | nut/candy order card sales into the   | October 14, 2025                   |
| orders online for both girl-delivered and direct ship.  Service Unit Fall Product Manager deadline for entering in-person orders (paper card orders).  Council ACH Sweep - 100% of the amount due to council.  Product delivery of in-person nut/candy items to service units.  October 16, 2025  October 16, 2025  October 24, 2025  |  |                                       | October 15, 2025                   |
| deadline for entering in-person orders (paper card orders).  Council ACH Sweep - 100% of the amount due to council.  Product delivery of in-person nut/candy items to service units.  October 16, 2025  October 24, 2025  October 30 - November 2, 2025   |  | orders online for both girl-delivered | October 16, 2025                   |
| amount due to council.  Product delivery of in-person nut/candy items to service units.  October 24, 2025  October 30 - November 2, 2025  |  | deadline for entering in-person       | October 16, 2025                   |
| nut/candy items to service units.   |  | -                                     | October 24, 2025                   |
| Reward delivery to service units December 2025  |  |                                       | October 30 - November 2, 2025      |
|   |  | Reward delivery to service units      | December 2025                      |

# Ready to make Cookie Season BRAVE, FIERCE & FUN? Join us for the 2025-26 Service Unit Cookie Manager Training!

New volunteer or cookie season pro?

Get **BRAVE** fresh ideas, **FIERCE** insider tips, and all the **FUN** that Girl Scout Cookie Season has to offer!

### Plus:

- **New cookie taste test** try it first!
- Reward lineup reveal see what's new this year
- Network & Connect Mingle with fellow volunteers, share tips, and build those valuable connections that make our Girl Scout community special.

Scan QR code or register at bit.ly/3zmYByg



# Service Unit Cookie Manager Training



Choose Your Adventure - 6 Sessions Available (6:30 PM Start Time):

- October 21: Vernon Hills Gathering Place OR Schererville Gathering Place
- October 22: Greene Wood Gathering Place OR Burbank Gathering Place
- October 23: Joliet Gathering Place
- October 29: Virtual Session

Questions? Email productprogram@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

# 2026 Cookie Program



# Important Dates

December 12

First Day of Cookie Order Taking January 3

**Cookie Rally** 

January 22 thru February 1

Service Unit Delivery

January 26

Cookie Cupboards Open January 26

Goal Getter Program Begins January 30 thru March 8

Cookie Booth Period

February 13 and March 13

**ACH Sweep** 

March 9

\*\*Last Day of the Cookie Program



\*\* There are more opportunities like Loop Site, or we can work with you to extend the time if your Girl Scouts want to continue.



# Level Up Your Cookie Game!

Bulk Delivery
unlocks after the
Initial Order Period



# **Big Cookie Goals? We Deliver!**

Skip endless cookie cupboard trips with bulk delivery!

### Why Choose Bulk Delivery?

- Save Time One delivery vs. multiple pickups
- Focus on Sales Less logistics, more selling
- **Scale Up** Perfect for high-volume troops

### **How It Works (Starting February 2)**

- Order 300+ cases (any variety)  $\rightarrow$  We deliver to your door!
- Full payment due ACH Sweep (March 13<sup>th</sup>).

### Ready to Qualify?

- ✓ **Secure storage available** (garage, basement, indoor space)
- ✓ **Easy truck access** for delivery day
- ✓ **300+ cases minimum** per location
- ✓ **Full troop leadership buy-in** required

### **Final Details**

- All orders/sales are final plan your quantities carefully
- Maximize your cookie season potential!

Questions? Email <u>productprogram@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</u>

# Membership



### NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 31: Service Unit Membership Incentive Update!

We're halfway through the membership campaign, and it's time for an exciting update on how your Service Units are doing! Your dedication to early renewals, new member recruitment, and girl retention is making a difference.

- See which Service Units are leading the way
- **o** Check your progress toward incentive goals
- **f** Incentives:
  - Service Units that renew their girls by the October 31 deadline, will receive \$1 per renewed girl!
  - Receive \$1 for every New Girl through December 31

Let's keep the momentum going!



# Invite a Friend to Join the Fun!

Did you know that **you can get fun patch** when you invite a friend to join Girl Scouts?

All new Girl Scouts in grades K-12 who refer a friend to join Girl Scouts are eligible to receive:

A Lily pad friend patch...and
One baby frog patch for every friend you bring!

Learn more here



# There is always room for MORE Girl Scouts!

- Encourage troops to make sure all their spots are filled
  - Creating new troops in your communities

To learn more about the areas of opportunity in your community, contact your Community Specialist or email us at <a href="mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a>

If you're a returning volunteer recruiting girls in your community, visit <u>GirlScoutsGCNWI.org/recruitment</u> to access flyers and other recruitment materials.



# Girl Experience: Program

# Choose Your Side



Let's come together

celebrate friendship

to embrace our creativity,

while viewing Wicked 1

explore self-expression and

Join us for α
Wickedly Creative Pajama Paint Party



Cost: \$30 | Snacks Provided

All levels are welcome! This is a drop-off event.

Saturday, October 25 11:00am-2:00pm Joliet Gathering Place



girlscout.info/ wickedjoliet Saturday, October 25 11:00am-2:00pm Vernon Hills Gathering Place

> girlscout.info/ wickedvernonhills



# Register for the Fall Reading Challenge!

Cost: \$5 (includes reading list, reading tracker,

reflection log, and fun patch)

Dates: September 10-November 10

Register using the QR code or visit girlscout.info/FallReadingChallengeRegistration



### Will you earn them all?

Starting with our 2025 Summer Reading Challenge, each participant will receive a base patch and accompanying seasonal rocker.

First time participating? Select that you need a base patch when you submit your reading reflection log.



### Junior and Cadette Book Club

Juniors and Cadettes, join us for Book Club! We meet virtually on the last Sunday of each month.

This is a FREE program.

Junior October Book Club: girlscout.info/JROctBookClub Cadette October Book Club: girlscout.info/CDOctBookClub

# Community Service Corner

Join our virtual info sessions to learn more about upcoming Community Service Opportunities held every 2nd Tuesday

Daisy, Brownie, Junior Leaders 5:00 pm-5:45 pm <u>Join us to discuss</u>

Cadette, Senior, Ambassador Girl Scouts and Leaders 6:00 pm-6:45 pm Join us to learn more

Preorder your Kindness Rocks Kit at girlscout.info/kindnessrockskit from October 1 - October 25

Kits will be available for Pick up at your nearest Gathering Place during the week of Oct 27

Cost: \$30 which includes 10 Rocks, 10 patches, 10 cards to share as you spread kindness, paint markers and sealant



Feed My Starving Children Event

Saturday, November 8

555 Exchange Court Aurora, IL

\$12 (includes donation to FMSC & a patch)

Available shifts: 9am-10:45am or 2pm-3:45pm

Interested in Participating? Please complete interest form: girlscout.info/FMSCinterest

Winter Service Project 11/10-12/12

Collecting donations for senior holiday care packages: fuzzy socks, tea bags, hot chocolate packets, puzzles, word search books, handwritten cards at each Gathering Place



# Ooey Gooey Science

October 11 | 10:00am – 12:00pm | \$25 Schererville and Greene Wood Gathering Places Daisy, Brownie, and Junior (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade)

Let's get messy while we play with STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math)

Explore chemical reactions, make messy paintings, and create ooey gooey slime!



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/ooeygooeysci Wreath
Making
Workshop

Coming December 13

Girl Scouts (and their adults) are invited to join us for some cozy craft time fun!

You and Me Program Save the Date!

# More Spark Days

Girl Scout Money Workshop with U.S. Bank:
November 22
Columbus Park Refectory Building

Scan the QR code or click here to register







Rose Pest Spark Day:
November 1
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
Registration coming soon!



These badges (for K-12th grade) are all about helping girls see their bodies in a whole new way! Through fun, age-appropriate, and progressive activities, Girl Scouts build confidence, practice self-care, and start lifelong habits that support both physical and emotional well-being.

Girl Scouts get to move for fun, celebrate what makes them—and others—unique, and embrace their authentic selves. Along the way, they'll explore how to set healthy boundaries and handle pressures from society, media, and peers—all while learning how to lift others up and create a culture of kindness and respect.

Learn more here: girlscouts.org/en/activities-for-girls/for-every-girl/body-appreciation.html

# NEW! Girl Scouts and Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie!

Girl Scouts can get a free Gabby's
Dollhouse: The Movie Activity Book.
Find it here: girlscouts.org/en/activitiesfor-girls/for-every-girl/gabbys-dollhouse.html#download

Fun Patch available soon!



# Apply for Junior Pearls!

Junior Pearls are Junior Girl Scouts (grades 4-5) who are ready to shine through service, leadership, and community action. Named for the pearl, joining Junior Pearls symbolizes wisdom, growth, and strength. This program gives Juniors a dedicated space to dream big and dig into meaningful causes.

This is a new and unique program. Join our inaugural class!

Tuition includes all programming for the year.

### **Cost: \$200**

Includes:

- Dedicated space to earn a Leadership Award
- Participation in a Community Service Project
- Mentorship to design and facilitate a program in your Service Unit
  - Engagement in civic processes
    - Junior Camp CEO

Submit your application at girlscout.info/JuniorPearlApplication

# **Juniors & Cadettes**

Join us for the NEW Leadership Program with our Associate Board

Saturday, October 18, 2025 10:00am-1:00pm

Scan the QR code or visit girlscout.info/ LeadWithConfidence



Lincoln Belmont Library 1659 W Melrose Street Chicago, IL 60657

This session is all about exploring leadership as a shared journey, where each of you has the power to create positive change in your life and the world around you. Come hang out with the Associate Board!

Cost: \$25 (snack will be provided)

Nutcracker (Rosemont Theatre)

Sunday, December 14, 2025 2:00pm-5:00pm

https://girlscout.info/nutcracker



# Girl Scout Days





**Bulldog Ice Skating** Crown Point, Indiana

Sunday, December 21, 2025 6:00pm-9:00pm

https://girlscout.info/bulldogiceskating

4 Seasons Horse Stable Crown Point, Indiana

Saturday, March 7, 2026

3:30-5:30pm

Save the Date! **Register Today!** 



https://girlscout.info/4seasonshorsestable

# Save the Date

Project Law Track Chicago: February 28, 2026

Project Law Track Dupage: March 14, 2026

Spend the day with women law professionals serving as your mentors while you explore the path to law school and the many different opportunities a legal career can offer.



# TRIP & TRAVEL

# Savannah, GA Takeover



Join Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana on **August 3 – 7, 2026** as we take over Savannah, GA! Discover the roots of Girl Scouting in the charming city of Savannah—home of our founder, Juliette Gordon Low. Don't miss this unforgettable Girl Scout experience.

# TRIP INFORMATION

- Round-trip transportation from Chicago, IL to Savannah, GA via private charter bus
- Four-night hotel stay
- Ground transportation in Savannah, GA
- Visit Juliette Gordon Low's birthplace and the first Girl Scouts headquarters
- Visit to Tybee Island with a dolphin cruise
- Daily breakfast at the hotel
- Open to troops and individually registered members.
- Leaders and families are invited to attend.

Scan QR code or visit
girlscout.info/SavannahTakeover26
by October 15 to register

\$200 Deposit secures your spot

# TRIP & TRAVEL WORKSHOP



Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors (Grades K – 5)

# **ADVENTURE CITY**

Saturday, November 8, 2025 Schererville Gathering Place 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Cost \$25

Fun patch included

Come join the fun as we imagine, create and explore in this hands-on adventure!
Girl Scouts will learn to plan for a trip,
design a city, create a map and
build a sculpture!

Financial Assistance is available

Scan QR code or visit girlscout.info/travel



# TRIP & TRAVEL WORKSHOP

### TRAVEL SMART!

### Calling all adventurers in grades 6 - 12

Using fun, interactive activities, Girl Scouts will explore how to choose a destination, pack efficiently, and prepare for a trip. This workshop will inspire young adventurers to travel with confidence and excitement!

Friday, November 7, 2025 Schererville Gathering Place 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Cost \$25

Fun patch included Financial Assistance is available



Scan QR code or visit girlscout.info/travel



# Custom Programs are back!

Let us bring the programming to you.
Choose from 1 of 4 engaging activities:
Spa Science, Food Science, Craft It Engineer It,
or Colorful Science

Custom programs are \$20 per person and last two hours each. The cost includes all supplies, staff facilitation, and a patch!

Scan the QR code or visit <a href="https://girlscout.info/CustomPrograms">https://girlscout.info/CustomPrograms</a> for more details or to start scheduling your custom program:



Questions? Contact programs@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

# **Bronze Award Leader Training**

Join us for a training for Troop Leaders, to help you confidently guide Girl Scouts through their FIRST Highest Award.
We'll go over each step, project inspiration, and new prerequisites.

Participants will be mailed their guidelines, plus other helpful resources for you and your Girl Scouts!

**Dates:** October 21 and January 20

**Time:** 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual - meeting link will be emailed to participants.

**Cost:** \$8



October Registration Link: girlscout.info/OctBronzeTraining

January Registration Link: girlscout.info/JanBronzeTraining

# Got a vision for a better world?

Join us for our **Highest Award** workshops to learn everything you need to know to be ready to get started on your **Silver or Gold Award.** 



Upcoming Gold Award Workshop: November 20, January 15

All workshops run from 6:00pm-7:00pm (Link provided after registration)

Cost: \$8

Scan the QR code or register at bit.ly/highestawardstraining



#### Volunteers:

Are you interested in helping girls achieve the highest award in Girl Scouting?

Our Gold Award Committee is growing! We are looking for new panelists and coaches.

The panel meets once a month to review final reports, and coaches support the girls throughout their project with monthly check ins.

If you are would like to know more, reach out to Sam Lehman at goldaward@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

## Girl Experience: Outdoor Program



#### Astronomy Club October 26 at Camp Greene Wood

Connect with nature by exercising your wild side!
Celebrate National Howl at the Moon Day by taking a night hike prowl. Come with your Girl Scout pack or as a lone wolf.

Sign-Up HERE

#### Astronomy Club November 1 at the Vernon Hills Gathering Place

Join us for a mind-bending journey into the mysterious world of black holes! We'll explore how they form, what makes them so powerful, and enjoy interactive activities to help us have fun while we learn.

Sign-Up <u>HERE</u>



#### **Pumpkin Archery**



#### November 1, 8, and 9 at Camp Butternut Springs and Camp Greene Wood

Learn the basics of holding and shooting a bow and arrow at our pumpkin-themed archery clinics.
Bring your leftover pumpkin(s) to compost at camp for some extra bonus archery fun!

Click <u>HERE</u> > go to "2025-2026 *Year-Round Programs*" > filter for a session near you

#### Pumpkin Smash November 8 and 9 at Camp Greene Wood

Bring your old pumpkins to compost... and SMASH!

Join us for our 8th annual Pumpkin Smash event and unite with others in the effort to help divert compostable material from our landfills.

> November 8 <u>Sign-Up</u> November 9 <u>Sign-Up</u>

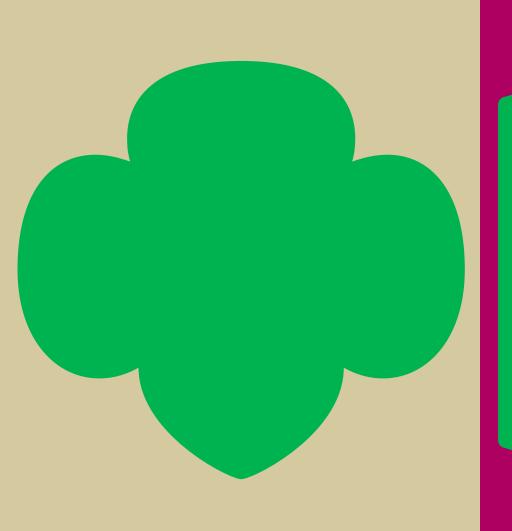




# Fall Fest November 8 and 9 at Camp Greene Wood

Participate in various activities that include making a themed craft, adventuring through the forest, playing games, and enjoying a snack around the campfire's glow.

Attend our fun Fall Fest either before or after the Pumpkin Smash! November 8 <u>Sign-Up</u> November 9 <u>Sign-Up</u>



#### Hike and History at Isle a la Cache November 16

Embrace the great outdoors and enjoy the benefits of hiking with your Girl Scout friends.

This month we will be hiking at Isle a la Cache (in Romeoville).

Step into the past and hike island trails surrounded by water, wildlife, and rich 18th-century fur trade history!

Sign-Up <u>HERE</u>

Outdoor Leadership Club Weekend at Camp Palos November 14-16, 2025

Spend the weekend with Outdoor Leadership Club! We will have plenty of fun camp activities, outdoor cooking, and teambuilding.

Celebrate Camp T-Shirt Day by leading other Girl Scouts in creating their own tie dye shirt and helping to design the Summer 2026 Camp Shirt!

Sign-Up HERE



#### Tees, Trees, and Camp Memories November 15 and 16 at Camp Palos



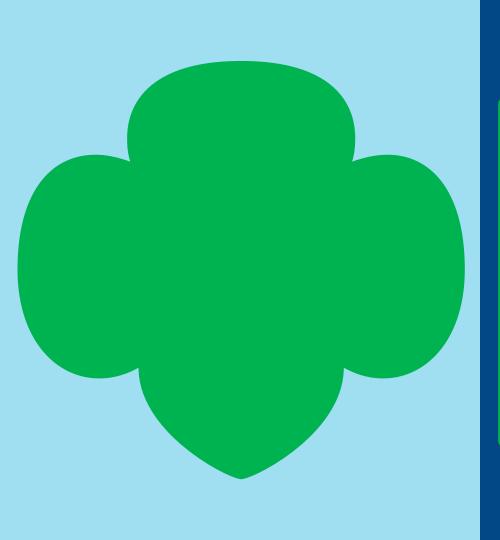
Celebrate National Camp Shirt Day by joining us for a cozy and creative weekend filled with, s'mores, stories by the campfire, silly games with friends, and outdoor adventures! This overnight experience is all about celebrating the traditions, skills, and friendships that make Girl Scout camp unforgettable!

This weekend is going to be tee-rific!

You'll also get to help design the 2026 Summer Camp T-Shirt!

Sign-Up HERE





## Camp Lights December 5, 6, 12, and 13 at Camp Palos

Camp is getting a festive glow-up during our annual Camp Lights event— an evening filled with twinkling lights, winter-themed fun, and magical memories waiting to be made.

Wander through camp and choose your own adventure with a variety of glowing, wintery, hands-on activity stations!

Register by clicking a date below:

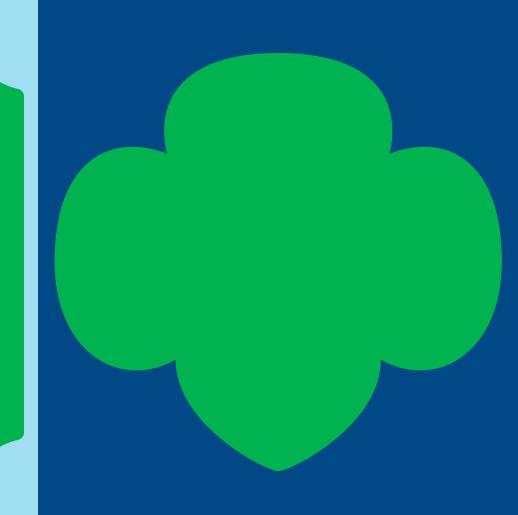
<u>December 5</u> | <u>December 6</u>

<u>December 12</u> | <u>December 13</u>

Camp Lights:
Troop Decorating
Extravaganza!
December 3 and 4
at Camp Palos

Bring your troop to camp and help decorate Camp Palos for the holidays and the upcoming Camp Lights events!

> December 3 <u>Sign-Up</u> December 4 <u>Sign-Up</u>





#### Outdoor Clubs Combined Holiday Party December 7 at Camp Palos

Join us for a club holiday party and get excited for 2026 club and outdoor opportunities! Reminisce about your favorite camp and outdoor memories, enjoy some delicious pizza, play some fun holiday-themed games, and do some favorite camp crafts.

Sign-Up HERE

## Belonging and Culture

## Nourish & Lead: A Workshop Series for Youth Workers



This initiative is designed to refresh, connect, and celebrate the vital roles you play in the lives of young people. This environment is tailored for YOU, whether you are a volunteer or part of the staff.

We are thrilled to introduce a unique workshop series presented by Amulet Consortium: **Nourish & Lead** 

Session 1: Finding Joy and Purpose as a Volunteer

Date: Saturday October 25, 2025

Time: 10am - 12:30pm

Location: Schererville Office

Session 2: Cultural Awareness & Emotional Intelligence

Date: Sunday November 9, 2025

Time: 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Location: Schererville Office

Session 3: Metal Health Care and Fatigue

Date: December 10, 2025

Time: 7pm Location: Virtual





Questions? Email: everygirl@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

## Introducing our council's ALL ABILITIES Patch Program

#### Completing this patch program will strengthen the following skills:

- Recognizing the abilities of others
- Embracing one another and appreciating our individual talents
- Embodying the fundamental human right to belong

Click here or visit
<a href="mailto:bit.ly/AllAbilitiesPatchProgramRequest">bit.ly/AllAbilitiesPatchProgramRequest</a>
to request a copy of the All Abilities Patch Program



Questions? Email: everygirl@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

#### Does your troop have sensory support needs?

Our council is now sensory certified...
And we can provide resources for YOU and YOUR TROOP!

Register for a session to learn more, during which you will learn how to:

- Support individuals with sensory needs
- Better engage with individuals with sensory needs



Click here to register or visit <a href="https://doi.org/bit.ly/KultureCityTrainingforLeaderTeams">bit.ly/KultureCityTrainingforLeaderTeams</a>

# We're for EVERY Girl Scout!

Girl Scouts of Greater

Chicago and Northwest Indiana welcomes the participation of all youth and adults. Our council strives to ensure that our activities are accessible to everyone, regardless of ability. Contact our Belonging and Culture Team to discover all that Girl Scouts has to offer you or your Girl Scout.

#### Looking for resources? We've got them!

KIT (Kids Included Together) provides training and development opportunities. Visit training options in gsLearn (through your MyGS account) or visit kit.org

Looking for accessible supports? Click this link to complete a request form.

Looking for mindful resources?

Contact our Belonging and Culture Team to discover more

Veronica Aguiñaga, Director vaguinaga@Girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Christine Ward, Manager cward@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

## Fund Development





Click here to donate



Give the gift of Girl Scouts with a donation to Family Partnership Annual Giving Campaign.

Family Partnership donations support our financial assistance program which provides opportunities for girls to have a full Girl Scout experience.

Gifts of \$10 or more will receive our Family Partnership patch.

## Governance



Washington, DC July 20-25, 2026

Registration is now open for the 2026 National Council Session and Girl Scout Convention



Once every three years, Girl Scouts from across the movement gather for this exciting event! Want to learn more? Visit the <u>GSUSA Convention Page</u>. Tickets and hotel room blocks are now available.

General questions about the convention experience? Email Alaina Greene at <a href="mailto:agreene@girlscoutsgcnwi.org">agreene@girlscoutsgcnwi.org</a>

#### Why are District Delegates important?

District Delegates – along with our National Delegates and our Board of Directors – make up the voting body for our council. In other words, District Delegates have a direct impact on decision making for our council!

Learn more by visiting our <u>Democratic Process page</u>

#### Here are the details:

- Each Service Unit is allowed to select 2 District Delegates
- Delegates may be Adult Members or Girl Scouts who are at least 14 years of age at the time of selection
- Delegates typically attend 5-9 virtual meetings a year and our Annual Meeting (which typically happens in April)

Interested? Contact your Service Unit Manager to see if your Service Unit is looking for a District Delegate.

SUMs may use the email below to inform us of any selections.

Become a District Delegate!



Questions? Email democraticprocess@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

## Volunteer Experience



### The GCNWI Council Historians invite you to explore Girl Scout history!

To earn this fun patch, Girl Scouts must collect 10 points which can be earned through a variety of activities that explore Girl Scout history. This can be done at the Girl Scout History Center in Vernon Hills or at a location of your choice.

Girl Scouts can also utilize the
Historian Activity Kits
available to borrow at all Gathering Places
to help complete the activities!

# Learn about our Girl Scout History with our new patch program!



Find the full patch program details on our websites <a href="Patch Program Page">Patch Program Page</a>.

Patches will be available soon at the GCNWI shop.

Starting this fall, all registered Girl Scout adults will be required to complete our Volunteer Basics Training.

## This learning path includes five courses:

- Delivering Inclusive Program
- Mental Wellness 101
- New Leader
   Onboarding: Troop
   Safety
- Troop Safety Update
- Girl Scouts Child
   Abuse and Neglect

   Prevention



#### Why was this new learning path created?

This new training is an opportunity for all adults who register with us to learn about the Girl Scout mission, culture, and how we keep Girl Scouts safe.

Having this new training in place for everyone also minimizes the amount of training volunteers will need to take for other roles as they grow with the organization.

All five courses (combined) will take about 2 hours to complete. They do not need to be completed all at once.

Learn more about our adult training at

https://www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/en/members/for-volunteers/volunteer-resources/volunteer-training.html



## Customer Care, Retail, and Program Registration

## Design your own custom apparel.

Mix and match designs on t-shirts, crewneck sweatshrts and a baseball t-shirt!





# Mark your Calendars!

Burbank, Greene Wood, Joliet, Schererville & Vernon Hills

October 11 & 25 November 15 December 13

Shops open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Schererville open 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



# Troop Treats and Shopping Sprees!

Themed activities, discounts, spin the prize wheel, and more...

Make your own trick or treat bag!

October 7
November 18
December 9

Burbank, Chicago, Greene Wood, Joliet, Schererville & Vernon Hills

Shops stay open till 6 p.m.

NOW OPEN!

Build-A-Bear Workshop at our Schererville Shop!





shop.girlscoutsgcnwi.org/contact-us/



## Brand-new Booth in a Bag!





## 20% off Official Apparel





## Council programs, camp, outdoor programs, and leadership training:

https://girlscout.info/gcnwiregistration

#### How to use your Cookie Dough voucher:

Use this link <a href="https://girlscout.info/useCDandNB">https://girlscout.info/useCDandNB</a> to request that Cookie Dough be applied to your account on our registration site. Follow the instructions on the form and we will apply the requested amount towards your registration.

If you have any questions, contact customercare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org

Using Cookie Dough, Nutty Bucks, or a Gift Card for council programs, camp, outdoor programs, and leadership training, on our registration site.

## Troop and Volunteer Resources



Use the **Troop Year Planner** to plan an amazing Girl Scout year!

Visit <a href="https://doi.org/10.2016/bit.ly/TroopYearPlan">bit.ly/TroopYearPlan</a> to learn more



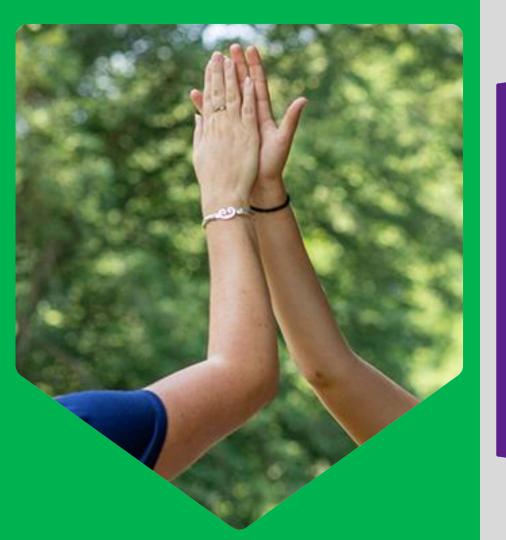
# Are you looking for a no-cost meeting space for your Service Unit or troop?

Look no further. You can reserve space at one of our Gathering Places.





Scan the QR code or <u>click here to book meeting space</u> <u>fs24.formsite.com/gsgcnwi2/jgrefeuz7u/index</u>



#### Need Help?!

Whether you need help with a parent meeting or recruiting to fill your troop, we are here to help.

Contact Girl Scouts by phone or email to get connected to someone who can assist you!

Phone: 855-456-8347

Email: CustomerCare@girlscoutsgcnwi.org