

# S'm*s*re News

#### exclusively for leaders and volunteers

#### **Important notice:**

The GSCV Office and Retail Shop will be closed beginning Friday, December 15, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. through Monday, January 1, 2024, in observance of the holidays.

GSCV Office and Shop will re-open Tuesday, January 2, 2024.



### Cookie Rally this Sunday!

Join us for the best time ever at the 2024 Cookie Rally with exclusive use of Kings Dominion before the general public can enter.

**Registration links** in this edition of S'more News.

Trouble viewing? Click here.

#### December 6, 2023 Edition

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Code<sup>V</sup>/A

• Retail Shop

### **Program Events & Activities**

Girl Scouts, come try out the same computer thinking skills that professionals use in programming careers! Explore how computers improve the lives of others through hands-on practice designing games, brainstorming 21st Century solutions to global issues, and learning new practical skills. Badge Earned: Coding Basics Badge Cost: Girl/Adult, \$20/\$0 Location: central region/ Richmond

#### Metro/ CodeVA

Saturday, January 13, 2023 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Brownie 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Junior 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Cadette <u>Registration closes Saturday,</u> <u>December 30, 2023. This program</u> <u>activity is at risk of cancellation due</u> <u>to low registration, so register today</u> <u>if you are interested.</u>



**2024 events are open for registration. <u>Sign up now!</u>** 

Program Events & Activities for all Program Age Levels

Daisy (D) grades K-1 Brownie (B) grades 2-3 Junior (J) grades 4-5 Cadette (C) grades 6-8 Senior (S) grades 9-10 Ambassador (A) grades 11-12

#### 2024 Cookie Program

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#### Important message about the 2024 Cookie Program

The Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world. Girl Scouts learn five essential skills including decision making, goal setting, business ethics, people skills, and money management. Proceeds from the program fuel amazing experiences like troop travel and outdoor adventures.

For the 2024 Cookie Program, the council made the decision to adjust the price of cookies due to an increase in the cost of commodities to produce the cookies, supply chain challenges and corresponding increase in cost, combined with the need to keep pace with rising costs of programming and support to members. The price to the consumer will increase to \$5 per package with the cost of the gluten-free variety increasing to \$6 per package.

This is the first price increase at GSCV in ten years and is necessary to continue to provide support and services to members including financial assistance, camp property maintenance and improvement, and councilsponsored programming along with an increase in troop proceeds to assist with troop programming.

We are committed to all members having a fun and memorable cookie

season. We will continue to support our volunteers and girls as they take on the world and master entrepreneurial leadership skills.



# Join us at Kings Dominion Winterfest Sunday, December 10th!



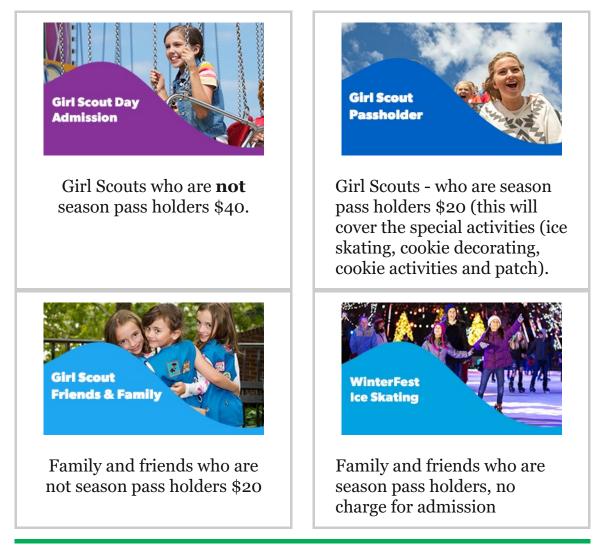
Girl Scouts and their family and friends can enter the park at 2:00 p.m. and will have exclusive use of the park until 5:00 p.m. when the general public can enter.

Girl Scouts will have access to ice skating, cookie decorating, cookie themed activities under the Eiffel Tower and a cookie rally patch.

Girl Scouts and their family and friends will be able to enjoy:

- Sally Brown's Christmas Crafts
- Shop in Build-A-Bear Workshop with Girl Scout clothing
- Available rides: Dominator, Berserker, Kite Eating Tree, Peanuts 500, and Flying Ace
- Enjoy something to eat or drink at: Starbucks, Pizza Parlor, and International Street Funnel Cake

**New this Year:** Girl Scouts will select their ice-skating time when purchasing their ticket. Girl Scouts under 10 years old must have a companion on the ice-skating rink. Companion passes are available for purchase in advance or at the park. Waivers will also need to be signed for ice-skating. The ice-skating ticket has a link to a waiver that they complete before skating – this will cut down on the line inside the park.



#### **New Digital Cookie Platform**

In Girl Scouts, girls engage in activities that spark curiosity, confidence, and innovation. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the foundation of entrepreneurial experience in Girl Scouts and is an important (and exciting!) part of being a Girl Scout. Research shows that girls are interested in becoming entrepreneurs, developing financially stable futures, and using their skills to make a meaningful impact on the world. As cookie entrepreneurs, they sharpen their business savvy and work as a team to accomplish common goals and solve problems, while building the confidence they need to shine as girls, as young women, and as future leaders. And did we mention fun? They have lots of that along the way, too. Every year, Girl Scouts all over the country use their cookie earnings to have amazing experiences in their communities and beyond.

This year it's more important than ever for Leaders to take part in Cookie Training. GSUSA is launching Digital Cookie, one unified platform for all girls and their parents to manage the cookie program.

# Digital Cookie®

This cookie season, superpower your sale by adding Digital Cookie® to your toolkit.



#### Troop Leaders and Troop Cookie Managers with less than 2 years managing a cookie program are encouraged to attend New Leader Training.

This training will cover Digital Cookie as well as Smart Cookies, the system leaders will use to manage the troop's experience. Experienced Leaders with 2 or more years managing a cookie program are recommended to attend the experienced leader training to learn all about Digital Cookie.

In addition to training, we will offer multiple opportunities to pick-up your troop cookie packet. If you choose to attend an in-person training, you will pick-up your materials at training. If you attend virtual training, you will be able to pick-up your materials quickly at one of the designated cookie packet pick-up locations. A variety sample package of cookies will be available for \$10 (at packet pick-up).

After choosing the best day and time for your schedule, let us know which cookie training you will attend so we can ensure plenty of materials are there!

#### **Cookie Training Registration**

Wednesday, December 6th 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. New & Experienced leader training Rappahannock Community College 52 Campus Drive Warsaw, VA 22572

In-person location

Wednesday, December 6th | 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Cookie packet pick-up Rappahannock Community College| 52 Campus Drive Warsaw, VA 22572 In-person location

Monday, December 4th - Friday, December 8th







### **Feature Your Troop on Social Media!**

WE WANT TO FEATURE YOUR GIRL SCOUT TROOP ON OUR SOCIAL MEDIA!



Has your Girl Scout troop completed a project, taken a trip, or done something worthy of a shout out? Let us know!

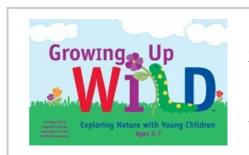
#### We're looking for more incredible Girl Scouts to feature on our social media.

Submit your photos and a short description to our **Help Desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org**. We can't wait to feature them!

# **Training Opportunities**

January 20, 2024 Chester, VA	Growing Up WILD and Flying WILD
March 9, 2024 Pamunkey Ridge	Outdoor Cooking
Open 24/7 on-demand	<b>gs</b> Learn

Questions about training? Need assistance registering for a training course? <u>Contact the GSCV help desk: gshelper@comgirlscouts.org</u>



Looking for activities that enhance and support the outdoor and environmental badges?

If so, join us for a hands-on training session. Leaders attending will receive personal copies of both Flying WILD and Growing up WILD activity



guides from the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources.

Saturday, January 20, 2024 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Chester United Methodist Church 12132 Percival St, Chester, VA 23831

The Flying WILD guide contains 43 activities about birds, their habitat and issues facing birds worldwide. The guide includes activities suitable for developing a Wide Game based on birds. Growing Up WILD contains 27 activities that include crafts and songs on a wide range of wildlife species and their habitats. The Growing Up WILD program is perfect for Daisy and Brownie leaders and is a useful resource for Junior and other levels.

This workshop is suitable for Daisy through Ambassador Leaders. Participants must attend the entire workshop to receive the guides. Please bring a bag lunch | Minimum 12 – Maximum 25 Cost: \$5.00 to offset cost of supplies

#### Register here!

# **Girl Scout Outdoor Cooking** course

Calling all Girl Scout culinary pioneers - what will your troop cook for dinner at your next camping adventure?

Saturday, March 9, 2024 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Camp Pamunkey Ridge Cost: \$10.00 Registration closes March 1, 2024



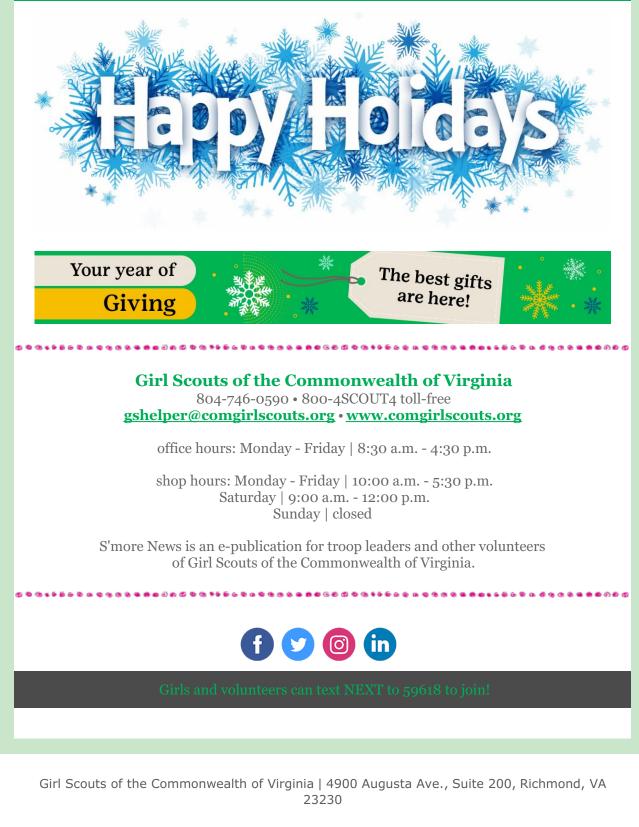
Tired of cooking the same old meals each

time your troop goes camping? Join experienced GSCV Outdoor Trainers for a day of cooking and eating! You will have the opportunity to try out a variety of cooking techniques, as well as sample what you cook. Included will be the use of a Dutch Oven, Box Oven, Foil Packs, Stick Cooking, as well as just-for-fun methods such as baking rolls in a flowerpot. Participants will receive copies of recipes cooked during the session.

Please note that course participation space is limited, so please consider one adult volunteer from your troop attending.

#### **<u>Register here!</u>**

# **Retail Shop**



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