

S'more News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers

- The GSCV Office & Retail Shop will be closed on Friday, February 9th for routine maintenance. Staff will work remotely. Please contact the Help Desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org with any questions.



[Trouble viewing? Click here.](#)

February 7, 2024 Edition

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Program Events & Activities



2024 events are open for registration.
[Sign up now!](#)

**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

GSCV SCHOLARSHIP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!



Calling all exceptional Girl Scout Ambassadors!

Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia is delighted to offer \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors who embody the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and have demonstrated outstanding leadership in our organization, academia, and their communities.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Registered member of Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia for a minimum of three consecutive years, including the current membership year.
- Graduating high school senior with a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Planning to attend an institute of higher education, such as a college, university, business school, trade school, or technical school.

Key Details:

- Application deadline: Sunday, March 3rd at 11:59pm.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to support your academic journey! Take the first step towards a brighter future. The link to the application is below. Good luck to all aspiring Girl Scout leaders!

Questions? Contact our Director of Program, Cierra Hall, at chall@comgirlscouts.org.

Apply Today



The team is having an AMAZING season so far (15-2!), and we would like to host a Girl Scout afternoon game for their last regular season match against George Mason University.

WHEN: Saturday, March 2nd at 1:00 P.M.

WHERE: VCU's Stuart C. Siegel Center, 1200 W. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23284

We will have patches to hand out on game day.

Tickets are FREE for Girl Scouts in Uniform and only \$3 for additional tickets!

Get Tickets!

We're going to... Wintergreen!

Grab your snow gear and get ready for two exciting sessions on The Plunge, the ultimate snow tubing experience, on **Monday, February 19, 2024.**

Bus pickup will be at our Service Center, 4900 Augusta Avenue, at 9:30 a.m. You'll arrive back safely by 6:30 p.m.

After conquering The Plunge, we'll refuel with lunch in a cozy area near the slopes. Following our action-packed day, the bus will safely bring you back to our Service Center by 6:30 p.m.



Don't miss out on this action-packed day and frosty-fun opportunity to make the most of the winter season with your Girl Scout friends. Reserve your spot now and let the winter adventure begin!

Tickets are \$80 per person. This includes a spot on a Passenger Coach Bus and two

tubing sessions.

We ask that you bring your own lunch. Snacks will be provided.

Registration is currently OPEN.

This event is open to Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors. This is not a drop-off event.

[Register Here!](#)

World Thinking Day 2024



World Thinking Day 2024 Activity Guide

Our World, Our Thriving Future:
The environment and global poverty

Fun activities for Girl Scout Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors.

On February 22 of each year, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides celebrate World Thinking Day. Each year has its own theme, such as helping the environment, fighting poverty, achieving gender equality, or making sure everyone has access to education. On this day, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides everywhere will honor their global community by doing activities around this special theme.

Here are the four steps to earn your World Thinking Day award.

1. Explore World Thinking Day.
2. Experience World Thinking Day with purpose.
3. Investigate this year's World Thinking Day theme.
4. Share what you learned and commit to a better future.

Ready to think big and explore meaningful issues in your community and

[Download the Guide](#)

2024 Cookie Program



Cookies Will Be Here Next Week!

Cookies will be here next week! If you are participating in one of our Cookie Drive Thru locations, be sure to come prepared. We have tips to help ensure you are ready!

Helpful Tips & Tricks for Cookie Drive Thru

- Be prepared for the weather. If you are picking up cookies in an open bed truck, please bring a tarp to protect the cookie boxes from rain.
- Clean out your vehicle ahead of time to maximize the space for carrying cookies.
- Please be prepared to wait in your vehicle until you enter the count/sort selection.
- If multiple vehicles are picking up for your troop, please pull over and wait for all vehicles to arrive prior to getting in the drive-thru line.

Wondering if you need multiple cars? Check out the chart below to help decide.

Picking Up Your Cookies

The majority of troops will participate in one of our cookie drive-thrus. Both the pickup location and time can be chosen in Smart Cookies after placing the initial order.



This helpful chart will assist in planning for cookie pick up and to determine how many vehicles will be needed.

Compact Car	35
Mid-size sedan	35
Standard Car	45
Station Wagon	70-75
Sports Utility Vehicle	80
Mini-van (seats in)	100
Full Bed Pick-up Truck	100
Cargo Van	150-200

Additional Cookie Cupboards

We've got three additional cookie cupboards not listed in the leader guide.

Chickahominy Cupboard

8825 Mongo Way, Mechanicsville, VA 23116

Allie Griffith: (804) 921-5391 and Jen Newman: (804) 814-4413

Must call or text first to make pick up arrangements.

Stafford Cupboard

17 Hot Springs Way, Stafford, VA 22554

Karen Campbell: (703) 408-8002

Must call or text first to make pick up arrangements.

Prince George Cupboard

7017 Birchett Drive, Prince George, VA 23875

Ashley Huggi: (804) 859-3108

Must call or text first to make pick up arrangements.

Our Cookie Cupboards will open the week of February 22nd!

In order for us to have your cookies ready and guaranteed when you pick them up, we use a planned order system in Smart Cookies. Planned orders placed in Smart Cookies by 11:30 p.m. on Sunday evening will be available for pick up the following Friday or Saturday.

Here's how to place your planned order:

1. Log in to Smart Cookies
2. On your dashboard, click on "Orders"

3. Click on "Planned Orders"
4. Choose the location you want to pick up
5. Choose the date and time frame for pick up
6. Enter the cookie order
7. Click "Save"

Please Note:

Planned orders are only for full cases of cookies. Not all cupboards are able to take planned orders.

Girl Delivery Available Again

Girl Delivery orders submitted before 11:30pm on Sunday, January 21st were automatically transferred to Smart Cookies.

All other girl delivery orders need to be picked up from the cookie cupboard or the Troop Leader. Troop leaders and parents will need to check for new girl delivery orders and pick up cookies from the troop leader or at a cupboard.

An easy way to do this is to run the **All Order Data** report and then sort it by type or order and date to see what has come in since the initial order. Below is an example with personal information removed.

Once the cookies have been picked up by the girl, the leader can transfer the cookies to the girl in Smart Cookies to ensure she gets credit for the sale.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
	Troop Number	Girl First Name		Order Number	Order Date	Order Type	Billing First Name		Shipping First Name
1	99999	Susan	Jones	12345	1/22/24	In-Person Delivery	Jennifer		Robert
2	99999	Susan	Jones	12346	1/22/24	In-Person Delivery	Thomas		Zaira
3	99999	Susan	Jones	12347	1/22/24	In-Person Delivery	Pat		Frances
4	99999	Emily	Jones	13567	1/22/24	In-Person Delivery	Michelle		Kristen
5	99999	Emily	Jones	23567	1/19/24	In-Person Delivery	Christin		Christopher
6	99999	Emily	Jones	6282	1/16/24	In-Person Delivery	Shelly		Teresa
7	99999	Grace	Smith	8998	1/16/24	In-Person Delivery	Shelly		George
8	99999	Grace	Smith	4444	1/15/24	Shipped	Allene		Samantha
9	99999	Grace	Smith	5555	1/8/24	In-Person Delivery	Christopher		Heaven
10	99999	Grace	Smith	6666	1/7/24	In-Person Delivery	Teresa		Shelly
11	99999	Grace	Smith	7777	1/6/24	In-Person Delivery	Samantha		Glorinel
12	99999	Grace	Smith	8888	1/6/24	In-Person Delivery	Heaven		Jennifer
13									
14									
15									

Digital Cookie Q&A

A friend purchased cookies from my daughter, and they received an email saying the cookies would be ready for delivery March 2nd. Since we are picking up cookies in mid-February, why are customers being given a March delivery date?

When a customer purchases cookies through the Digital Cookie site, they receive an email telling them the cookies will be available for delivery March 2nd or 3rd. Most likely, you will have your cookies in-hand prior to that date since the cookie deliveries and drive thru will be happening mid-February. The system naturally adds two weeks to the deliveries date to give girls enough time to secure cookies from the troop leadership. Girls

and parents can let customers know if they plan to deliver the cookies prior to that date.

My troop is showing as "opting out of rewards" in Digital Cookie, but we want the rewards and are too young to opt out.

Troops Cadette-Ambassador who want to opt out of cookie rewards will need to do that through Smart Cookies under the Troop Information tab. Because GSCV is not using the rewards portion of Digital Cookie this year (we are waiting on some improvements), all troops show in Digital Cookie as having opted out. It simply means the Council has opted out of the rewards tab, not that the troop has opted out of rewards.

When I try to use the mobile app I'm getting an error message. What am I doing wrong?

In order for the mobile app to work, the troop must first set up its virtual booth in Digital Cookie. Once this is completed, the app will allow troops to take orders and collect payments through the mobile app. For more information on setting up your troop virtual booth, check out **[this helpful tip sheet](#)**.

For more information on setting up the mobile app, check out **[this tip sheet](#)**.

How will troops take payment at booths this year?

Girls will be able to take payment at booths using the Digital Cookie mobile app, but only if the booth is added to the Smart Cookies system. Girls can also take orders for individual sales using the mobile app.

I can't pick up my cookies the day that the drive-thru is going to be held. What should I do?

If you are picking up your cookies at one of the three drive-thru locations February 15th, 16th, or 17th, you have several options.

- You can choose to come to any of the three locations that best meet your needs.
- You can have a parent or Troop Cookie Manager pick up the cookies on behalf of your troop.
- If you still don't have any way of getting the cookies, please contact our HelpDesk, at **gshelper@comgirlscouts.org** and they will connect you with someone who can arrange to meet you at our warehouse in Chesterfield the following week to pick up your cookies.

General Cookie Questions

Cookie Booths –Smart Cookies

At 4:30 P.M. today, the number of booths each troop can secure increased from four to six.

Are you scheduling booths on your own for your troop? Remember to enter those in Smart Cookies so they will show up on the Cookie Finder app. Listing them in Smart Cookies enables your troop to use Digital Cookie credit card processing for electronic payments at your booth. When scheduling your troop's booths, keep in mind this guidance from Girl Scouts of the USA:

"Certain locations may be inappropriate for young girls based on the standards of your local community, may negatively impact the cookie program experience for girls, and/or may negatively impact our brand in your community. For clarity, girls should not sell in or in front of establishments that they themselves cannot legally patronize."

For this reason, GSCV does not approve cookie booths at breweries, wineries, and dispensaries.

To enter your troop's secured booth in Smart Cookies, follow the steps below:

- Log into Smart Cookies
- Click on Booth at the top of your dashboard
- Click on Troop Secured Booths
- Enter the location with the complete address
- Enter the day and time of the booth
- Click Save

These booths will need to be approved by a member of the GSCV staff before they show in the Cookie Finder app or as a booth in your troop listing. Booths are approved weekly prior to cookies arriving and daily once booth season begins.

The first come, first serve cookie booths went live in Smart Cookies on January 22 at 7pm for all troops. We will continue to add more booth locations as they become available so be sure to check back with Smart Cookies regularly. Initially we will limit troops to one booth so everyone has a chance of getting one. Later in the program we will expand the number of booths a troop can sign up for as we add more opportunities.

To register for one of these booths, follow the steps below:

- Log into Smart Cookies
- Click on Booth at the top of your dashboard
- Click on Schedule Booth
- Select a booth out of the available opportunities

Opting out of Cookie Rewards – Older Girl Troops Only

If your troop is made up of just Cadettes, Seniors, and/or Ambassadors, and your girls have decided to opt out of recognitions, it is important you do this prior to placing your initial order. Follow these steps to complete this process:

- On your Troop Dashboard, click on My Troop
- Click on Troop Information
- Click on Main Recognition Plan and choose Opt Out. This will change to opt out in both the main recognition line and the troop recognition line.
- If Opt Out doesn't appear and you can't make the choice, it may mean your troop isn't strictly older girls and is not eligible to opt out, or you may have already created a recognition order and will need the Help Desk to assist you. You can contact the Help Desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org.

Looking for Cookie Training? A recorded version of our online cookie training is available on our website under Helpful Videos: [For Volunteers | Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia \(comgirlscouts.org\)](#)



Parent/Guardian agreement
(pdf option)

Don't forget to have the parents/caregivers in your troop sign the parent/guardian agreement.

Keep these on file for your troop and only submit if there is an outstanding balance at the end of the program.

Parent/Guardian agreement
(digital option - complete online)



Correction in the *How to Guide for Troop Leaders and Troop Cookie Managers*

Under Options for customers on page 9 in the guide it refers to being able to order online and pay at the time of delivery. This season all cookies ordered online will be paid for at the time of the order. The only orders that are not paid for at the time of ordering are the orders taken on the hard copy order card.

2024 Cookie Phone Backgrounds are Here!



Celebrate Cookie Season in style with our cool new phone backgrounds! Jazz up your device with images of the cookies that change the world.

[Download them here.](#)

Training Opportunities

**March 9, 2024
Pamunkey Ridge**

Outdoor Cooking

**March 23, 2024
Pamunkey Ridge**

Beginning Camping

**April 28, 2024
Pamunkey Ridge**

Archery Level I

**Open 24/7
on-demand**



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

Girl Scout Outdoor Cooking Course

**Have you ever cooked in
a box oven?**

**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.

[Register here!](#)



Beginning Camping training

Girl Scouts are ready to go camping, are you?

Let's get your troop outside! The Beginning Camping course is designed for leaders and troops who have little camping experience and want to take their troop camping. Upon completion of this course, you will be certified to take your Girl Scout Troop on a camping trip in the backyard, in a permanent structure such as a cabin at a state park, or Girl Scout Camp. The course follows progression in the outdoors and is specifically designed for Daisy, Brownie and Junior Leaders. We can't wait to see you at training! This course takes place in a single day with a required prep video to watch prior to training. You will be sent the video after registration is completed and processed.

Beginning Camping Training:

March 23rd | 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. | Camp Pamunkey Ridge
registration closes March 9, 2024

[Register here!](#)

Are you ready to hit the mark?

Level 1 Archery Training
Sunday, April 28th
9:00a.m.- 4:00p.m. Camp
Pamunkey Ridge | \$40



Archery is a Girl Scout staple and a confidence boosting experience for girls.

The Level 1 Archery Training is for instructors and those interested in becoming an instructor. In this training you will become certified to bring this experience to girls in your troop, service unit, and special events! Adult instructors are required for Girl Scout archery activities.

Certification for GSCV's archery program is provided through USA Archery. USA Archery offers Level I Instructor courses in a blended learning format.

Volunteers will need to complete the knowledge portion of the course online prior to completing the in-person session at Camp Pamunkey Ridge.

USA Archery Level I Instructor certification is a required course for volunteers who wish to teach beginning archery skills to Brownies through Ambassadors. In Level 1, participants learn about range safety, range setup, the steps of shooting, equipment, and equipment repair. Girls 16 years of age and older are welcome to participate. This USA Archery certification is valid for three years and renewable online through USA Archery.

Registration for USA Archery Level I starts at the link below. You will receive the information to complete the required online course, then attend the in-person course on Sunday, April 28th.

[Register for Archery Level I here!](#)

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 **Janna Joyner** at [**jjoyner@comgirlscouts.org**](mailto:jjoyner@comgirlscouts.org). We can't wait to feature them!

Retail Shop



Gear up for cookie booths!

Cookies? ✓ Uniforms? ✓ Cookie badges, bags, and accessories? ✓✓✓

Girl Scouts can't wait for cookie booths because they get to have fun with friends, gain confidence, and reach for their dreams! And when they wear their official Girl Scout gear, they show how proud they are to be unboxing the future!

Shop Cookie Booth Essentials

Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia

804-746-0590 • 800-4SCOUT4 toll-free

gshelper@comgirlscouts.org • www.comgirlscouts.org

office hours: Monday - Friday | 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

shop hours: Monday - Friday | 10:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Saturday | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Sunday | closed

S'more News is an e-publication for troop leaders and other volunteers of Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia.



Girls and volunteers can text NEXT to 59618 to join!

Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia | 4900 Augusta Ave., Suite 200, Richmond, VA 23230

[Unsubscribe ksestak@comgirlscouts.org](mailto:ksestak@comgirlscouts.org)

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