

S'more News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers



Cookie Drive Thru is next week!
***NEW location for Fredericksburg.**
Not sure of your location or time,
contact the GSCV Help Desk.

[Trouble viewing? Click here.](#)

**February 8, 2023
Edition**

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Cookie Program

Rise & Shine, It's Cookie Time!



Cookie Drive-Thru 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

1. 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.
2. Clean out your vehicle ahead of time to maximize the space for carrying cookies.
3. For your safety, please be prepared to stay in your vehicle until you enter the count/sort selection.
4. 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.

Type of Vehicle | **Approximate Number**

of Cases of Cookies

Compact Car | **35 cases of cookies**

Mid-sized sedan | **35 cases of cookies**

Standard car | **45 cases of cookies**

Station Wagon | **70-75 cases of cookies**

Sports Utility Vehicle | **80 cases of cookies**

Mini-van with seats in | **100 cases of cookies**

Full bed pick-up truck | **100 cases of cookies**

Cargo Van | **150-200 cases of cookies**



Change in Cookie Drive Thru location in Fredericksburg

The cookie drive thru previously scheduled at the Fredericksburg Expo on Thursday, February 16th has been moved to the Ron Rosner YMCA located at 5700 Smith Station Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22407. When entering the Y parking lot turn to the right and head towards the playground or where the cookie cupboard is normally located.



Raspberry Rally Update



The launch of the new Raspberry Rally cookie has been an incredible success. Our girls are perfecting their digital skills and customers are loving the new flavor. Due to this success, the Raspberry Rally will be temporarily unavailable on the Smart Cookie Direct Ship site. We anticipate it being available again February 10th. Please note this is a change from the original anticipated return date of February 6th.

Cookie Booths: important reminders and exciting updates!



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 site. Listing them in Smart Cookies enables your troop to use Smart Cookie credit card processing for electronic payments at your booth.

When scheduling your troop's booths, keep in mind 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 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

Each booth will need to be approved by a member of the GSCV staff before it shows on the Cookie Finder site or as a booth in your troop listing. Booths are approved daily.

Cookie Booths Update

We added more booth opportunities in Smart Cookies. **Troops now are eligible to sign up for 10 council sponsored booths in the Smart Cookies system.** Please remember if you sign up for a booth but then are unable to be there, please release that booth in Smart Cookies so another troop can have that opportunity.

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

1. Log into Smart Cookies
2. Click on Booth at the top of your dashboard
3. Click on Schedule Booth
4. Select a booth out of the available opportunities

Below is an update on the status of some of our community partners and cookie booths:



Stores **Troops Can Contact** to set up cookie booths:



Stores who are currently not allowing booths to be scheduled - **Troops should not contact them:**



Stores working with the council for booth opportunities - **Troops should not contact**

Kroger (except Willow
Lawn)
Dunkin Donuts
Sam's Club
Tractor Supply
small locally owned
businesses

Wawa
Kohls
Target
Publix

them:
**will be available in
Smart Cookies- first
come/first serve.**

Walmart
JoAnne Fabrics
Triangle Rock Climbing
Club
GNC
Food Lion
7-11 Travel Center (Colonial
Heights)
more updates coming



Our Cookie Cupboards will open the week of February 20th!

In order for us to have your cookies ready and guaranteed when you pick 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 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 pickup
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.

First Troop Payment

Your troop's first payment for cookies will be drafted from your troop bank account on Wednesday, March 15th. The Smart Cookies system calculates the payment amount by pulling the balance due from

your initial order January 26th and subtracting the amount of money that was collected electronically from online payments. The balance is split in half for this first payment. Two days prior to the draft, you will receive an email detailing the amount to be drafted. If your troop is unable to accommodate the scheduled draft, please notify the help desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org or by calling (804)746-0590 x316 no later than Tuesday, March 14th by 10:00 a.m. If your troop currently doesn't have a Girl Scout bank account, please let us know by emailing the help desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org or calling (804)746-0590 x316.



2023 Important Cookie Dates

As you plan your troop 2022/2023 membership year, these are the most important cookie dates to assist in your planning.

February 15th-22nd

Traditional deliveries (rural communities)

Thursday, February 16th

Cookie Drive Thru in Fredericksburg

Friday, February 17th

Cookie Drive Thru in Richmond

Saturday, February 18th

Cookie Drive Thru in Chesterfield

Tuesday, February 21st

Cookie Cupboards open

Wednesday, March 15th

First ACH draft (50% of initial order)

Friday, March 31st

Final day of cupboard operation, last day of program

Tuesday, April 4th

Second ACH draft (balance due) and Reward orders due in Smart Cookies by Troop Leaders

Program Events and Activities

The Flaming Arrows



Did you know that GSCV has a competitive archery team? We do! Girls ages 10 and up with archery experience are welcome to join our medal winning team. Anyone interested should attend our parent information meeting on February 25th at 2:00 p.m. This meeting will give you all the info you need to see if this

program is for you! We look forward to seeing you there!

Email the GSCV Help Desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org for meeting location details and if you have any questions.

It's time for another Real Life Academy session! Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors are invited to register for the February 16th **“Thrifting your Way to a Better World” virtual event**. This session will talk about the adverse environmental impact of fast fashion. Learn tips for thrifting and repurposing your way to a better world and cute closet.



STEMazing with Mad Science

On March 18th, come have a STEMazing time with Mad Science at Camp Pamunkey Ridge. Girls will conduct experiments at different science stations. Make your own bouncy ball and receive a Mad Science patch to take home.



Black History Month Celebration “I’m A Girl Scout!” Fun Patch

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements and contributions of the African American and Black communities—a time (though not the only time!) for emphasizing the central role of this varied community throughout U.S. history.

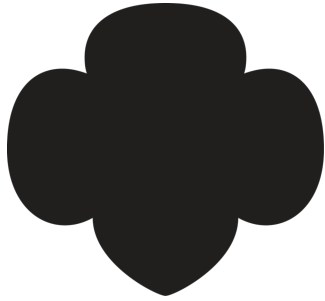
Number of activities required to complete the patch: Daisy (3) • Brownie (4) • Junior (6) • Cadette (8) Senior (10) • Ambassador (12)

Here are three of the many activities you can do this week to celebrate and work towards getting your patch!

- 1) Make a music playlist featuring 12 Black artists with different styles of music and from different decades. Read the National Museum of African American History and Culture’s blog post “Celebrating Black Music Month” for some inspiration and history.
- 2) Learn about African American folk art and share with your family or troop a picture of your favorite piece, some background information

about it, and why you like it.

3) Research the term “diaspora” and learn what the term “African diaspora” means.



Girl Scout Program Age levels welcome to register for each program activity featured are indicated by a letter for the level.

D - Girl Scout Daisy (K-1)

B - Girl Scout Brownie (2-3)

J - Girl Scout Junior (4-5)

C - Girl Scout Cadette (6-8)

S - Girl Scout Senior (9-10)

A - Girl Scout Ambassador (11-12)

Family Events!



Sporting events are right around the corner and now we have dates! Be on the lookout for more details soon in S'more News.

Fred Nats – May 3rd

Girl Scout Night at the Diamond – June 2nd

Tri-City Chili Peppers – June 16th

Richmond Kickers – July 1st

There is still time to sign up for these February events, but they will be closing soon, so don't delay!

Older Girl Community

2/11 - Sister Saturday: Hot Chocolate at Midlothian Mines Park (S, A)

Bring your hot chocolate and join other Girl Scouts for a walk through the park.

2/16 - Thrifting Your Way to a Better World (C, S, A)

Fast fashion is having an adverse impact on our environment. Learn tips for thrifting and repurposing your way to a better world and cute closet.

Outdoors

2/17-2/18 - Camping 101 (B, J, C, S, A)

For girls ready to try out an overnight campout, spend the night in the cabins at Pamunkey Ridge and practice camp fundamentals.

2/19 - Say Hello to Camp (B, J, C, S, A)

For folks ready to just dip their toe into what camp has to offer! Ease yourself outdoors with a fun filled day where girls will get to try their hand at canoeing, classic camp crafts, and learning to cook a basic meal over the campfire. This

day event is perfect for anyone interested in beginning to explore outdoors!

2023 Summer Camp



Our amazing summer camp staff can't wait to see you and start the best summer camp season yet!

2023 is here and you know what that means – camp season is fast approaching! We are excited to share with you the **2023 Camp Book**, filled with exciting new offerings and classic camp fun. As you plan your summer break this year, consider giving the gift of summer camp! Each session is a chance for campers to learn new skills, make new friends, and gain self-confidence all while having boatloads of unplugged fun in the great outdoors.



Registration opens Wednesday, February 15th, 6:30 p.m. We hope to see lots of you at camp check-in this summer!

Training Opportunities

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

Camping Training

Beginning Camping Training Pamunkey Ridge

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:
May 6th | 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.
Camp Pamunkey Ridge
Registration closes Monday, April 24th.

[Register here!](#)

Intermediate Camping Training Camp Kitty

Required Prep Session (two locations* will be offered - choose the location that is most convenient for you):

March 21st | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | metro Richmond

March 23rd | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | metro Fredericksburg

***Each Prep Session option requires a minimum of six participants to be held.**

In-person training session: March 31st- April 2nd
starts 9:00 a.m. Saturday - ends 1:00 p.m. Sunday
(Friday night is optional) | Camp Kittamaqund "Kitty"

Time to get outdoors! The Intermediate Camping Course is designed for leaders and troop volunteers seeking to take their troop tent camping. Registration closes Tuesday, March 14th for Intermediate Camping Training.

[Sign Up for Intermediate Camping HERE!](#)

Canoe/Kayak/Paddleboard Training



Paddlesports training (canoe, kayak, paddle boarding)

April 15-16, 2023, at Pamunkey Ridge
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. both days

By taking the Canoe, Kayak, and Standup Paddleboard (SUP) Certification, you will become certified to bring this experience to girls in your troop, service unit, and special



Paddlesports training (canoe only)

April 29, 2023, at Pamunkey Ridge
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

By taking the Canoe Certification, you will become certified to bring this experience to girls in your troop, service unit, and special events! Certified adult instructors are

events! Certified adult instructors are required for Girl Scout canoeing, kayaking, and SUP. Space is limited so be sure to register right away! You will receive an email from the trainer with details regarding what you will need to bring the day of the training. [Register today!](#)

required for Girl Scout canoeing activities. Space is limited so be sure to register right away! You will receive an email from the trainer with details regarding what you will need to bring the day of the training. [Register today!](#)

Black History Month Patches



February is here, and it's time to celebrate Black History with these fun patches both at \$1.50. Call or stop by the retail shop to purchase.

Fun Patches are a great addition to the Girl Scout Experience! Keep in mind, all fun patches are unofficial and must be placed on the back of a tunic, vest, or sash. Don't let the "Fun" stop there! Add fun patches to a favorite bucket hat, tote bag, and so much more! Earn as a troop or self-discover on your own.

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!