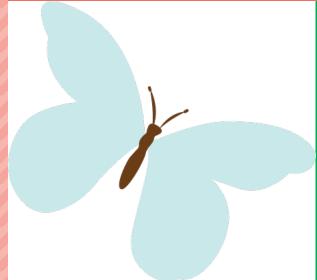


S'm*s*re News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers



2022 Spring Edition

The 2022 Spring Edition of the Program Events and Activities Guide is now available on our website. Registration opens tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. Check it out <u>here</u>! Trouble viewing? Click here.

February 9, 2022 Edition

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Cookie Drive Thru

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

- 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. Please be prepared to wait 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.



Picking Up Your Cookies

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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 pickup and to determine how many vehicles will be needed.

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



Cookie Booths

We added more booth opportunities in Smart Cookies. Look for new booth locations at a few Village Banks and some Party City stores. 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.

Cookie Cupboards

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

Troop Link on the Cookie Locator App

If your troop is interested in having your link for direct ship appear in the Cookie Locator App, your troop will need to opt in. The GSUSA Troop Link will go live on Friday, February 18th. You can do this with these easy steps:

- 1. Log into Smart Cookies on or after February 18th
- 2. Under your troop dashboard click on "My Troop"
- 3. Click on "Troop Information"
- 4. Scroll down to find the option It will appear just before "Primary Contact for the Troop"
- 5. It will ask "Publish Troop's Direct ship Link to GSUSA ?"
- 6. Check yes if you would like your troop's direct link to appear in the Cookie Locator App

First Cookie Payment

Your troop's first payment for cookies will be drafted from your troop bank account on Wednesday, March 9th . The Smart Cookies system calculates the payment amount by pulling the balance due from your initial order 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 8th by 12:00 p.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.

Camp Training Registration

Beginning Camping



Training: April 9th | 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. | Camp 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. Registration for Beginning Camping closes Saturday, March 26th.

Intermediate Camping

Required Prep Session: April 19th | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. | Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Training: April 29th-May 1st | 9:00 a.m. Saturday - 1:00 p.m. Sunday (Friday is optional) | Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Time to get outdoors! The Intermediate Camping Course is designed for leaders and troop volunteers



seeking to take their troop tent camping. This course will give leaders hands-on experiences so they can successfully lead girls on outdoor experiences for multiple nights. Girl Scouts has a lot to offer through outdoor adventures and you will gain knowledge and practical training to prepare you to plan and manage overnight camping trips. You will learn a variety of safety techniques for fires, cooking and camps. You will also receive valuable tips for program planning, clean up, kapers and packing. Registration closes Friday, April 15th for Intermediate Camping Training.

This training does require a Prep Session. The Prep Session will be held at the Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia office, located at 4900 Augusta Ave, Suite 200, Richmond, VA 23230.

Sign Up for Intermediate Camping HERE!

Thursday, February 17, 2022	 Cookie drive thru (cookie pick up) in Fredericksburg Traditional deliveries in rural areas
Friday, February 18, 2022	 Cookie drive thru in Chesterfield Traditional deliveries in rural areas
Saturday, February 19, 2022	 Cookie drive thru in Richmond at The Diamond Traditional deliveries in rural areas
Tuesday, February 22, 2022	Cupboards open
Saturday, February 26, 2022	• Discounted shipping begins
Wednesday, March 9, 2022	• First ACH payment (50% of initial order)
Saturday, March 12, 2022	Last day for discounted shipping

Important Dates for the Cookie Program

Friday, April 1, 2022

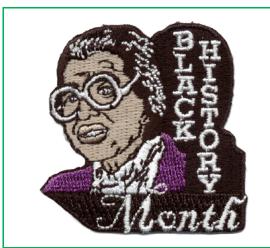
- Final day of main cupboard operation (smaller cupboards may close sooner)
- Troop recognition orders due in Smart Cookie
- Last day for online sales
- Final ACH draft

Happy Black History Month

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements and contributions by the African American and Black communities—a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event was the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson, known as the "father of Black history", and other prominent African Americans. February was chosen by Woodson for the originally week-long observance, as it coincides with the birthdates of both former U.S. President Abraham Lincoln and social reformer Frederick Douglass. Both men played a significant role in helping to end slavery. Woodson also understood that members of the Black community already celebrated the births of Douglass and Lincoln and sought to build on existing traditions.

Heritage month celebrations are important in providing the space to teach, learn, and appreciate the cultural richness of the communities they represent within the wider American narrative.

The Girl Scout Black History Month Celebration Fun Patch is designed for Girl Scouts of all levels. Check it out in the shop!





World Thinking Day



Since 1926, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world have celebrated World Thinking Day on February 22nd. It's a special day when we come together as a global sisterhood of Girl Scouts and take action to make the world a better place.

The theme for World Thinking Day 2022 is *"Our World, Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality"*. With this year's activities, Girl Scouts can explore how girls and women are disproportionally affected by climate change —and take the Girl Scout Tree Promise!

Purchase your patch online or in the Retail Shop Cost \$3



Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia

804-746-0590 • 800-4SCOUT4 toll-free gshelper@comgirlscouts.org • www.comgirlscouts.org

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

