

# S'more News

exclusively for leaders and volunteers



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**March 6, 2024 Edition**

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## 2024 Cookie Program



## First Troop Cookie Payment

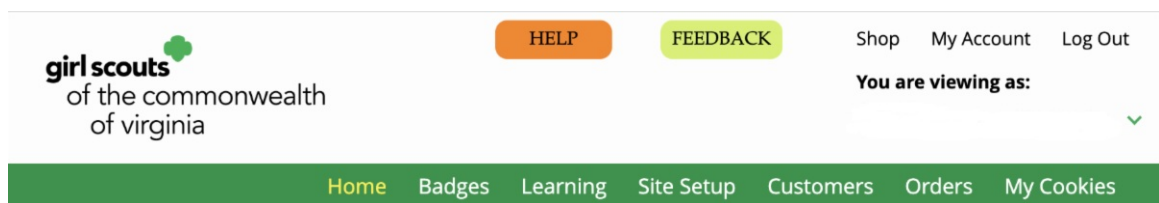
Your troop's first payment for cookies will be drafted from your troop bank

account on Wednesday, March 13th.

The Smart Cookies system calculates the payment amount by pulling the balance due from your initial order placed in January 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](mailto:gshelper@comgirlscouts.org) or by calling (804)746-0590 x316 **no later than Tuesday, March 12th 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](mailto:gshelper@comgirlscouts.org) or calling (804) 746-0590 x316.

## Please Share your Feedback on Digital Cookie



GSUSA and ABC Bakers are asking for ways to make our Digital Cookie experience a smoother one next season.

Next time you log into the Digital Cookie platform, look for the green button at the very top of the page that says FEEDBACK.

Then, take a few minutes to share your feedback with the Digital Cookies team on what improvements would be helpful for next season.

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



### **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

only submit if there is an outstanding balance at the end of the program.

[Parent/Guardian agreement](#)  
(digital option - complete online)

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.

## VOTE: Bling Your Booth!

We've got awesome #BlingYourBooth submissions pouring in. Check out the latest entries below and click the links to vote for your favorite!



**Vote for Girl Scout Junior Sophie's "Skookie Booth"!**



**Vote for the Daisies of Troop 4290 and their Rainbow Connection-themed Cookie Booth!**

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**Vote for Girl Scout Troop 612 and their eco-friendly cookie booth!**

They used recycled materials and repurposed cookie cases to bring their booth.

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**Vote for Troop 632's Cookie Zone booth at Ashland Dance Academy!**

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**TO ENTER THE #BLINGYOURBOOTH CONTEST:**

- Decide on a fun theme for your cookie booths.
- Snap photos of your troop and their creative booth in action.
- Submit photos to our Director of Marketing, Janna Joyner, at [jjoyner@comgirlscouts.org](mailto:jjoyner@comgirlscouts.org).
- Photos will be shared on our Facebook page and in S'more News.
- Have friends and family vote on your troop's photo by "Liking" it on Facebook.
- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes will go to the photos with the most likes.

**Winners will be selected on Wednesday, March 20th.**

**Sweet Success: Share the Impact of Your Girl Scout Cookie Proceeds**



Have a unique idea for how to use your Cookie proceeds? Share your plans with us! We are thrilled to announce an exciting new initiative that celebrates the incredible impact your hard work during the Girl Scout Cookie Program can have on your communities and personal growth. We invite all troops and individual girls to share their stories of how they are using their Girl Scout Cookie proceeds to make a positive impact.

Whether it's giving back to the community, supporting Gold Award projects, or engaging in other meaningful initiatives, we want to celebrate your efforts. Starting on March 10th, coinciding with the beginning of Girl Scout Week, simply **fill out this submission form** detailing your troop or individual contributions and provide any supporting materials. The form will be open until April 10th.

Three outstanding troops or individuals will be honored at our "Inspired by a Girl" ceremony.

We believe *every* Girl Scout has the power to create positive change, and we can't wait to hear about the incredible ways you're making a difference. Thank you for being a part of this inspiring journey!

## 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**

## Girl Scout Week: March 10-16, 2024



**In honor of the anniversary of the founding of Girl Scouts on March 12, 1912, we've got 12 fun ways to celebrate. One day just isn't enough! Celebrate with us all week, from March 10th through 16th.**

### Spirit Week

#### 1. Sunday: Faith-Filled Sunday

Faith is not just a word; it's at the core of our Girl Scouting journey, instilled in us since the founding of the organization in 1912. Wear your Girl Scout uniform proudly as you attend a religious service, symbolizing our unity in faith and service. Collaborate with your house of worship to actively contribute to the **week's worship service**, embodying the Girl Scout promise. Take this opportunity to explore and work towards earning the "**My Promise/My Faith**" Girl Scout pin, delving into the rich connections between your faith and the principles of Girl Scouting. And let's extend the spirit of service by participating in a service project that supports members of our religious community. Let Faith-Filled Monday be



a day of unity, reflection, and Girl Scout values shining bright. *Inserts for worship service bulletins are available from the Council office upon request.*

**Girl Scout Sunday: March 10, 2024**

**Girl Scout Jummah: March 15, 2024**

**Girl Scout Sabbath/Shabbat: March 15-16, 2024**

## **2. Monday: Cookie Costume Day**

Dress up in costumes inspired by your favorite Girl Scout Cookies. Whether it's a Thin Mint fairy, a Peanut Butter Sandwich superhero, a Toast-Yay cheerleader, or an Adventurous explorer, this day will be filled with sweet and imaginative outfits.

## **3. Tuesday: Birthday Bash**

Let's turn March 12th into a fantastic Birthday Bash Spirit Day to celebrate the founding of the Girl Scouts! Wear your Girl Scout gear, troop colors, or anything that sparkles with Girl Scout pride. Create birthday-themed accessories, like DIY crowns or party hats! You could even host your own birthday party, complete with cake decorating, games, and of course, singing Happy Birthday to the Girl Scouts.

## **4. Wednesday: Wacky Hair Day**

Show off your wild and wacky hairstyles! Use colorful hair accessories or even temporary hair color to express your creativity.

## **5. Thursday: Eras Day**

Did you know Taylor Swift was a Girl Scout? On this day, celebrate both the timeless charm of Taylor Swift's music and the rich history of Girl Scouts. Pick a Girl Scout era that resonates with you – from the vintage uniforms of the past to the modern styles of today! Just like Taylor Swift's musical evolution, Girl Scouts have their own unique journeys through the different Girl Scout eras.

## **6. Friday: Axolotl Adventure Day**

Channel your inner axolotl spirit by wearing shades of pink and sporting axolotl-themed accessories, like headbands or pins! Get creative by hosting your own Axolotl Art Contest, where you can showcase your artistic talents in drawing, painting, or crafting axolotl-inspired masterpieces.

## **More Ways to Celebrate Girl Scout Week**

### **Girl Scout Week Shop Discount Drawing**

Is your troop hosting a cookie booth during Girl Scout Week? If so, you will be automatically entered into a drawing for a GSCV Shop discount. Booths must be approved in Smart Cookies or be a Council Sponsored Booth. Your troop can sign up for as many council sponsored booths as possible.

- Five lucky troops will win a one-time 30% discount for the GSCV Shop, to be used by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- Another five troops will win a one-time 15% discount for the GSCV shop to be used by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

### Speaking of Cookie Booths during Girl Scout Week...

All troops hosting two cookie booths on March 9<sup>th</sup> through March 17<sup>th</sup> will be automatically entered into a drawing for a pizza and movie night! Five lucky troops will win pizza and a list of recommended Girl Scout-themed movies to stream.

### You'll need cookies for those booths!

If your troop is placing a planned order of 100 or more cases the week of March 10<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>, sit back and relax; we will have them delivered to you.

### First Cookie Booth?

Attention all new troops! If this is your FIRST season participating in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, send us a photo of your troop at their booth and we will send you a free “My First Cookie Booth” patch.

Send photos to [jjoyner@comgirlscouts.org](mailto:jjoyner@comgirlscouts.org). Be sure to include the best mailing address for the troop and the number of girls participating in the Cookie Program.

### Share your Girl Scout pride with the world.

Post on Instagram detailing the impact Girl Scouting has had on your life and tag [@girlscoutsofva](https://www.instagram.com/girlscoutsofva). Two girl winners will receive a Girl Scout backpack.

*\*Girls under the age of 13 should work with a parent or guardian to post on social media.*

## STEAM-H Essay Contest



Each year, the Virginia Council on Women (Council) hosts an Annual STEAM-H Essay Contest. The Contest awards high school senior girls pursuing STEAM-H majors and careers with scholarships to aid with their tuition at institutions of higher education, to include but not limited to four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, and career and technical schools in the

Commonwealth of Virginia and throughout the United States. Since the establishment of the Contest, the Council has awarded more than \$150,000 in scholarships.

Contest Guidelines:

### **Essay Prompt**

Write a 700-1,000-word essay responding to the following:

- Your motivation for pursuing a STEAM-H career
- Your anticipated course of STEAM-H study, trade, and/or profession

You can find the submission form [HERE](#). The deadline to submit is **April 1st, 2024**.

For more information on eligibility requirements, judging criteria, and more, click [HERE](#).

## **Girl Scout Science Day at VCU**

WOMEN IN SCIENCE @ VCU PRESENTS



# GIRL SCOUT SCIENCE DAY



We're introducing young women to an array of exciting career possibilities in the sciences through a fun-filled day of hands-on workshops, facilitated by **REAL** scientists!

**Date:** Saturday, March 16th, 2024

**Time:** 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

**Cost:** \$20 for Girls & Adults (Lunch Included)

**Location:** Sanger Hall

Medical College of Virginia (MCV) Campus

Virginia Commonwealth University

1101 East Marshall Street

**Parking:** Visitor Parking Deck @ 529 N. 12th street

## Girl Scout Science Day Stations May Include:

- **Make no bones about it:** Construct bones and perform a 3-point stress test to see how they break!
- **How the brain works:** Analyze real brain samples for disease and learn what areas of the brain control what human activity!
- **Crime scene investigation:** Learn about forensic science and investigate a crime scene!
- **Clinical lab sciences:** Look at different specimens, blood smears, and parasites under the microscope!
- **DNA structure and function:** Learn about the molecule that makes us all unique - DNA - and even extract some to take home!

Register Today!

## Training Opportunities

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](mailto:gshelper@comgirlscouts.org)**



## 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**  
**Registration closes April 11th**



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!](#)

## TREK Weekend 2024... Save the Date!



**September 27-28, 2024**

**For Volunteers - By Volunteers!**

Our theme this year is *TREK Through Georgia, held at Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp*. So, save the date and join us for exciting Girl Scout leader focused workshops, a chance to explore Pamunkey Ridge Camp, and a Georgia inspired menu. This adult only weekend is just for you! Watch S'more News for more details and the link to register.

## Retail Shop

**Girl Scout Week is March 10-16th!**

This exciting annual event builds on the rich history of the Girl Scouts, and girls will want to show their Girl Scout pride!

Place your order in time for Girl Scout Week!



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## Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia

804-746-0590 • 800-4SCOUT4 toll-free

[gshelper@comgirlscouts.org](mailto:gshelper@comgirlscouts.org) • [www.comgirlscouts.org](http://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.

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Girls and volunteers can text NEXT to 59618 to join!

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

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