



Your Year in Girl Scouts



girl scouts 
of the commonwealth
of virginia

Program Guide
2025-2026 Girl Scout
Membership Year

12 You won't want to miss
the Grand Opening for our
brand-new Service Center!

23 Skin You're In Workshops
with VCU Medical School
for all levels!

32 Girl-Led Leadership
Conference for Older Girls

Your Year in Girl Scouts Starts Here

This is more than just a new Program Guide. It's an exciting fresh start to the best year ever.

With a new CEO, two new Service Centers, and new ideas driving our work, we're entering this Girl Scout year with energy, purpose, and a renewed commitment to you. With intention behind every detail, this Program Guide was created to help every Girl Scout build the courage, confidence, and character to make the world a better place.

This year, we're focused on creating more moments

that unite girls across the council through large-scale events, strong community partnerships, and unique experiences that connect us all. Whether you're ready for your next overnight, dreaming of earning your Highest Award, or eager to explore the outdoors, there's a place for you here.

We're also thrilled to introduce our new CEO, Megan O'Neill, whose leadership is already helping us dream bigger and bolder. Keep reading for a fun Q&A and meet the person helping us shape what's next!

We're so glad you're here. Let's make this year the start of something amazing...together.

*—Cierra, Director of Program
and the GSCV Program Team*



CEO Q&A: Kick Off the Year with Megan O'Neill!

An exclusive Q&A with our new CEO, Megan O'Neill, and a special note from your Program Team! At Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there's always something new and exciting around the corner, and this year, that includes welcoming a brand-new CEO! We sat down with Megan to ask a few fun (and a few serious!) questions about her favorite things, biggest goals, and why she's so excited about this Girl Scout year.

RAPID-FIRE FUN:

Q: Favorite Girl Scout Cookie?

Megan: Caramel DeLites right out of the freezer! Don't tell anyone, but I can eat an entire sleeve in one sitting!

Q: Favorite outdoor activity?

Megan: Anything I can bring my dogs to. Hiking, swimming, running them in fields, outdoor music concerts!

Q: If you could earn any Girl Scout badge today, which one would it be?

Megan: Cadette Special Agent! It just sounds COOL!



Q: What inspired you to join Girl Scouts as our new CEO?

Megan: Our mission is more relevant today than ever before. Girls who develop strong courage, confidence, and character turn into unstoppable women who become strong leaders making the world a better place for everyone.

Q: What's one thing you're most excited about for this Girl Scout year?

Megan: Picking one is impossible. I am excited to get out into our programs, meet the girls and see the magic happen. I am excited for our new service centers to come to life and serve our communities more fully. I can't wait for COOKIE SEASON.

Q: What do you want girls, families, and volunteers to know about you?

Megan: I am humbled to be on this journey. We are positioned to do amazing work and deepen our confidence, and reach. I am someone who has never met a stranger. Please stop by when you are in the neighborhood. I am excited to fully engage!

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What Girl Scouts is All About

What do Girl Scouts do? Anything they set their minds to.

When she hikes a rocky trail, she's learning to solve problems and notice the world around her.

When she sells Thin Mints, she's gaining the confidence to share her ideas.

When she laughs with her troop, she's building a support system that will help her through tough days.

From earning badges and stepping into leadership to making friends and giving back, Girl Scouts grow into leaders at every age and in every part of life. That's what Girl Scouting is all about!

Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

Girl Scout Promise

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

**Members may substitute for the word God in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.*

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong,
and responsible for what I say and do,
and to
respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place,
and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience

At the heart of everything we do is the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) — a research-backed Program designed to help girls grow into strong, compassionate leaders.

No matter how she participates, every Girl Scout is building confidence, developing new skills, and making a difference in her world. Through every badge earned, event attended, and adventure explored, she's becoming a leader - her way.

The Four Pillars of Girl Scouts

These four Program areas give every Girl Scout the freedom to explore what excites her:



STEM:

Code a game, build a robot, or explore space!



Outdoors:

Hike, camp, and explore the world around her.



Life Skills:

Learn to lead, care for herself, and give back.



Entrepreneurship:

Build a business and set big goals.

The Five Outcomes of GSLE

When girls participate in Girl Scouts, they thrive in five key ways:

- Strong Sense of Self: She believes in her abilities and knows her worth.
- Positive Values: She acts with honesty, fairness, and kindness.
- Seeks Challenges: She's not afraid to try, fail, and try again.
- Healthy Relationships: She builds supportive friendships and communicates well.
- Community Problem Solving: She takes action to improve her world.

Whether she's a Daisy just starting out or an Ambassador working toward her Gold Award, the GSLE grows with her every step of the way

Badges vs. Patches: What's the Difference?

Badges and fun patches both recognize a girl's participation in Girl Scout experiences — but they serve different purposes and represent different levels of learning.

Badges = Skill-Building

Badges are earned by completing specific sets of hands-on activities tied to Girl Scout Leadership Experience pillars, STEM, Outdoors, Life Skills, and Entrepreneurship. When earned, these should be placed on the front of the uniform sash or vest.

Girl Scouts will earn Entrepreneurship Badges at this year's Cookie Rally! More information on [page 24!](#)

Fun Patches = Participation

Fun patches are a way to remember the awesome things you try, like attending an event, helping in your community, or trying something brand new. These are worn on the back of your vest or sash and show your unique adventures as a Girl Scout.

Girl Scouts will receive a fun patch at our Trunk or Treat event on October 24th! More information on [page 21.](#)

Also, to see a running list of our Patch Programs, check out our Patch Program page on our website.

How to Participate

Whether she's looking for a tight-knit troop or a flexible schedule filled with exciting opportunities, there's more than one way to be a Girl Scout - and each one leads to confidence, leadership, and unforgettable memories.

Girl Scouting Levels

Younger Girls	Daisy	Girl Scout Daisies Grades K-1
	Brownie	Girl Scout Brownies Grades 2-3
	Junior	Girl Scout Juniors Grades 4-5
Older Girls	Cadette	Girl Scout Cadettes Grades 6-8
	Senior	Girl Scout Seniors Grades 9-10
	Ambassador	Girl Scout Ambassadors Grades 11-12

Troop Member

The most popular Girl Scout experience! Girls join a local troop with others in their grade level — or in a multi-level troop with girls from different grades — to make friends, try new things, and grow together all year long. Troops meet regularly in schools, places of worship, libraries, or community centers - led by supportive volunteers. Together, girls build lifelong friendships, earn badges, explore the outdoors, and take the lead in making the world a better place.

Juliette / Individually Registered Girl Scout (IRG)

Want flexibility? This path is perfect for girls who:

- Don't have a troop nearby
- Have busy or unique schedules
- Prefer to explore on their own timeline

Juliettes are Girl Scouts who participate independently — they still belong to a Girl Scout level (like Daisy, Brownie, etc.), but instead of being in a troop, they chart their own path. They can earn badges, attend council events, join camp experiences, and even take part in the Cookie Program — all on a schedule that works for them.

Juliettes are self-driven and supported by their families and Girl Scout staff to create a leadership experience that fits their life.

Ready to join? Sign-up TODAY!

“When’s the best time to join Girl Scouts? Right now!”

We’re calling all girls in Kindergarten through 12th grade to discover everything Girl Scouts has to offer. Whether she joins a troop, camps with us, or shows up for just one awesome event — she belongs here.

We’re proud to offer flexible, inclusive opportunities for every girl to find her place and grow her potential.

- Want to learn more?
- Need help finding or starting a troop?
- Looking for where to begin?



Scan the QR code to find information sessions in your area. Join Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia at one of our events within your community to enjoy fun, hands-on activities and learn more about Girl Scouts and how to become a member.

And don’t forget to visit www.comgirlscouts.org or email us at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org — we’re here to help you start strong.



Registrations

How to Register

Ready to join the fun?
Here's how to register for
Program events.



*Not a Girl Scout
yet? Scan here
to join?*

1

Visit www.comgirlscouts.org

Click the **Calendar icon** at the top of the page (hover text: "Events").

2

Or log in to MyGS

Go to **My Account**, select **My Events** from the left-hand menu, and then click **"Register for another event."**

3

And use this guide!

Clicking on any event title in the digital version of this Program Guide will take you straight to that event's registration page.

READ ME! Important Registration Info!

- Registration opens Tuesday, August 19th at 6:00 PM.
Visit www.comgirlscouts.org to view all available Program events and register.
- Registration deadlines are set by the Program Team and typically fall between 7 and 14 calendar days before the event.
- Deadlines are listed in both this Program Guide and MyEvents. Registration will automatically close on the listed deadline and will be enforced to ensure and maintain a quality experience for all registrants.
- All registrations must be completed online to secure your spot.
GSCV reserves the right to turn away any unregistered participants at the door. We appreciate your understanding as we work to provide safe, high-quality events.
- Confirmation emails are sent one week before each event. Please ensure your email address is accurate in your MyGS account.



Cancellations, Transfers, Refunds and Safety Guidelines

We understand that plans change! Here's what to know if you need to cancel your registration:

If You Need to Cancel

- 30+ Days Before the Event: You may request a full refund or transfer your payment to a future event.
- 14–29 Days Before the Event: You may transfer your payment to a future event. A \$5 processing fee will apply per girl.
- Less than 14 Days Before the Event: Fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.

Refund Requests

For all refund requests, please reach out to our helpdesk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org

If Council Cancels

If GSCV cancels a Program event, all registrants will automatically receive a full refund.

Safety Guidelines

Some events in this guide are girls-only and will be supervised by council staff or approved volunteers. Other events require that adults register and attend with girls.

If an event requires adult participation, the adult must:

- Register for the event
- Be a current Girl Scout member
- Be at least 18 years old
- Successfully complete a background check in accordance with council policy

All groups must follow the volunteer-to-girl ratios listed below. These ratios show the minimum number of volunteers needed to ensure girls' safety and well-being during events, and are required by GSUSA.

At least two unrelated, approved volunteers must be present at all times. One of these adults must be female, and additional volunteers may be required depending on group size.

	Volunteer-to-Girl Ratio	D	B	J	C	S	A
Troop or Group Meetings	Two unrelated volunteers (at least one of whom is female) for this number of girls:	12	20	25	25	30	30
	Plus one additional volunteer for each additional number of this many girls:	1–6	1–8	1–10	1–12	1–15	1–15
Events, Travel, Camp	Two unrelated volunteers (at least one of whom is female) for this number of girls:	6	12	16	20	24	24
	Plus one additional volunteer for each additional number of this many girls:	1–4	1–6	1–8	1–10	1–12	1–12



Community Partners and Episodic Volunteers

Community Partners

Girl Scouts love discovering new experiences — and that's where our Community Partners come in!

Community Partners are local businesses and organizations who collaborate with Girl Scouts to provide enriching, memorable opportunities that support our mission and bring the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to life. These partnerships fall into three main tiers:

Program Partners deliver Girl Scout-aligned programming, often tied to badges or patches. These experiences are typically structured, hands-on, and designed to support skill-building and leadership.

Experience Partners offer exclusive access, discounts, or activities that feel extra special because of Girl Scout membership — like museum tours, theater performances, or fun adventures. These may not always align with badge work, but they create meaningful memories.

Service Partners help us connect girls with their communities through impactful service opportunities. These partnerships give girls the chance to make a difference and take action.

We're always looking to grow our network of partners!

Interested in becoming a Community Partner? Email gshelper@comgirlscouts.org to learn more and get started.

- Some Program events are hosted in partnership with outside organizations. These events may have separate registration links or special requirements that GSCV is required to follow.
- If a community partner cancels or changes their portion of an event, GSCV is not responsible for those changes. We'll always do our best to notify you as quickly as possible and suggest alternate opportunities when available.



Episodic Volunteers



Want to lead a badge workshop? Have a special skill that could bring one of our events to life? Or maybe you're just great at jumping in where needed — from helping at registration to supporting a craft station.

There's a place for you on the Program Team! Episodic Volunteers step in to support events on a one-time or short-term basis, based on their interests and availability. Whether you're passionate about STEM, love the outdoors, or just want to cheer on girls as they explore something new, your time and energy can make a big impact.

Interested in becoming an Episodic Volunteer? Email gshelper@comgirlscouts.org to learn more and get started!

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can register for Program events?

Troop leaders can register their troop (full or partial) through MyEvents. Families can register their Girl Scout and themselves through their MyGS account. “Tagalongs” are non-Girl Scout family members who are invited to join Girl Scout events, often at a reduced registration fee.

Do adults need to be registered members?

Yes. Unless listed as a Family event or otherwise noted, all girls and adults attending an event must be current, registered Girl Scout members.

Certain GSCV events will be open to non-registered family members. *Details on which events are open to non-registered family members are provided within their respective event descriptions listed in this Program Guide.*

Can I drop off my Girl Scout?

Only at events labeled as “drop-off.”

Otherwise:

- Troops must meet girl-to-adult safety ratios.
- Individually registered girls must attend with a registered adult.
- Family events require a registered adult to attend with the girl.

What if a community partner cancels the event?

Some events are hosted with community partners and may follow their own registration or cancellation policies. If a partner cancels, GSCV will communicate any updates—but is not responsible for third-party changes.

Can I attend if I didn’t register for an event?

No. All attendees must be registered in advance. GSCV reserves the right to turn away unregistered participants at the event.

Can I register for an event after the deadline?

Late registrations will not be accepted, unless approved by the Program Team for extenuating circumstances.

Is there a waitlist if registration is full or closed?

If you miss the deadline, you may request to join a waitlist if one is available.



Welcome to the New Richmond Service Center

**We're proud to unveil our brand-new
Service Center in Richmond, Virginia!**



Our vibrant new space is a hub for all things Girl Scouts! This space was built with intention, heart, and a whole lot of green spirit. Whether it's for troop meetings, hands-on programming, special events, or simply a place to connect, this center is designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and community.

But this is more than a building; it's a bold investment in girls and their future. Every room, resource, and opportunity here is crafted to help Girl Scouts lead with courage, confidence, and character. We believe that when girls are equipped with the tools they need, there's no limit to what they can achieve.



This is your space. It's a place to learn, grow, collaborate, and, of course, have fun. We can't wait for you to explore it.



Grand Opening Save the Date

GSCV Grand Opening

Saturday, October 4th, 2025

3214 Skipwith Road, Richmond, VA 23294

You're Invited: Girl Scouts Grand Opening Celebration!

Join us for a day of joy, discovery, and community as we cut the ribbon on our brand-new Girl Scout space! We'll kick things off with a flag raising and inspiring remarks from Girl Scout leaders and special guests, then it's time to celebrate with a block party-style bash.

Enjoy hands-on activities both indoors and out, including face painting, bubble fun, garden planting, and creative crafts like friendship bracelets and a collaborative canvas handprint mural. Capture the excitement with a photo booth all set to the sounds of live music and entertainment.

Shop new and themed Girl Scout merchandise, connect with fellow alumni in a special gathering space, and help us honor adult volunteers receiving top awards. Community certificates will also be presented throughout the day. As we wrap up, join us for a classic Girl Scout friendship circle and a SWAPS exchange to mark the moment.

Come celebrate the future of Girl Scouting and be part of the magic!

#GSCVGrandOpening

No Cost!

Min/Max: All Welcome

Register by: September 20th, 2025



Richmond Service Center Rooms

Take a look around and see how your troop can make the most of everything our new home has to offer!

Teaching Kitchen: *Where confidence simmers and skills sizzle!*

Whether your troop is earning the Junior Simple Meals badge or preparing a five-star menu for the Ambassador Dinner Party badge, our Teaching Kitchen offers the perfect setting for Girl Scouts to explore the culinary arts. Outfitted with professional appliances and spacious workstations, this kitchen encourages hands-on learning and teamwork. A wall-mounted TV makes it easy to follow virtual cooking classes or recipe demos, making it a breeze to stir, sauté, and succeed together. Here, Girl Scouts don't just cook. They create lasting memories over delicious discoveries.

Maker Space: *Where creativity comes to life and imaginations take flight!*

Whether your Daisies are earning their Art & Design badge or your Cadettes are diving into the Woodworker badge, the Maker Space is the go-to hub for all things hands-on and imaginative. This vibrant, flexible studio is stocked with both classic art supplies and specialty tools that empower Girl Scouts to explore, invent, build, and express. From messy masterpieces to innovative designs, it's a space where girls are encouraged to take creative risks and embrace the magic of making.

Recording Studio: *Speak up. Shine bright. Share your story.*

Our state-of-the-art Recording Studio gives Girl Scouts the tools and space to explore the world of digital media, music, and storytelling. Whether they're earning the Ambassador Cookie Influencer badge by creating video content or exploring rhythm and vocals for the Junior Musician badge, girls can step into the spotlight and let their talents shine. Equipped with audio recording gear, cameras, lighting, and editing software, this space is also a hub for council-wide promotions. Girl Scouts can even collaborate with our Marketing team to create social media content or campaign videos. It's more than a studio. It's a launchpad for every girl's unique voice.

Girl Chill Space: *Relax. Recharge. Reconnect.*

This one's just for the girls. The Girl Chill Space is a welcoming lounge where Girl Scouts can unwind with friends before or after troop meetings or while caregivers browse the Girl Scout Shop. Cozy seating, engaging games, and a fun, relaxed atmosphere make this the perfect spot to bond, laugh, and be yourself. It's a vibe all its own and a great reminder that sometimes, the best thing to do is just hang out.

Leader Resource Room: *Support for the superstars behind every troop.*

We see you, volunteers, and we've got your back. The Leader Resource Room is a dedicated space for troop leaders and adult volunteers to recharge, connect, and access all the tools needed for a successful Girl Scout year. Whether you're a new leader gathering startup resources or a seasoned pro participating in our Equipment Share Program, this space offers everything from curriculum guides to badge kits and project materials. It's also a hub for idea swapping, inspiration, and support. When our leaders thrive, Girl Scouts soar.

How to Reserve

Reserve Your Space at the Richmond Girl Scout Service Center!

1

Request the Form

Contact our GSCV Helpdesk to get started:

Email: gshelper@comgirlscouts.org

Phone: 804-746-0590 ext. 316

2

Fill It Out

Complete the form and send it to the Front Desk Administrative Specialist.

3

We'll Check the Calendar

We'll look at the Richmond Center calendar to see if your requested space is available.

4

Final Confirmation & Access Info

Once your reservation is confirmed, you'll get a confirmation email and the building access code for the front door.

5

After Your Visit

The next business day, our team will do a quick check to make sure everything was cleaned up and left in good shape. If anything seems out of place, we'll follow up with your contact person.



Welcome to the Fredericksburg Service Center!

This is your hub for all things Girl Scouting in the northern region.

Whether you're earning badges, shopping for your next vest, or planning your next troop adventure, the Fredericksburg Service Center is your go-to destination. Located in the heart of our northern region at 3629 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA, this space is open to all Girl Scouts, troop leaders, and volunteers looking for connection, resources, and fun.



What You'll Find Here

Girl Program Space

Our vibrant, multi-purpose space is where council-sponsored programs come to life, and where Girl Scouts can gather for troop meetings, ceremonies, or special events! Whether you're celebrating a bridging milestone, diving into a STEM badge activity, or collaborating on your next Take Action project, this space is designed to inspire, connect, and empower.

Reserve your troop meeting or activity online!

Retail Shop

Forgot a badge? Need a sash? Want to browse the newest Girl Scout swag? We've got you. Stocked with uniforms, insignia, fun patches, badges, gifts, and gear, our shop is here to help every Girl Scout look the part and feel proud of her journey.

Shop Hours

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10 AM – 5 PM

Second Saturday of Each Month: 9 AM – 12 PM

Why Visit?

The Fredericksburg Service Center is more than just a building; it's a hub of sisterhood, growth, and adventure.

Come for a program. Stay to shop. Return again and again as your troop's home base in the region. Whether you're new to Girl Scouts or a seasoned volunteer, there's a place for you here.



How to Reserve

Reserve Your Space at the Fredericksburg Girl Scout Service Center!

1

Request the Form

Contact our GSCV Helpdesk to get started:

Email: gshelper@comgirlscouts.org

Phone: 804-746-0590 ext. 316

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4

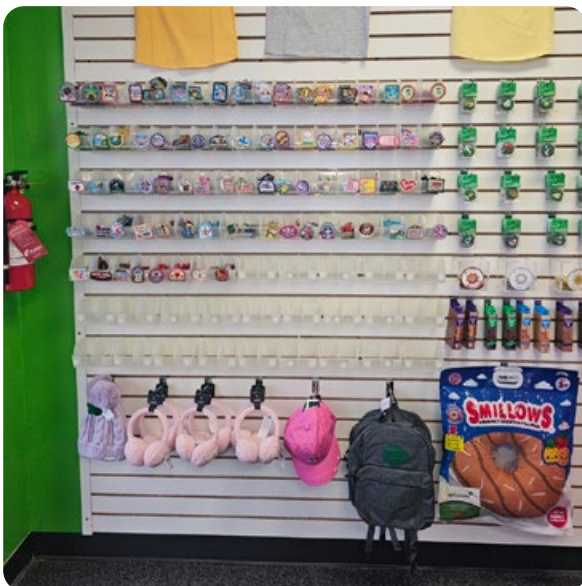
Final Confirmation & Access Info

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5

After Your Visit





























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Events and Activities Overview

Event	Date	Levels	Page Number
Girl Scouts Love State Parks	9/13/25	 All Levels	20
Ashland Takeover	9/27/25	 All Levels	21
Skipwith Service Center Grand Opening	10/4/25	 All Levels	13
Camp Sampler - Pamunkey Overnight	10/10-11/2025	 All Levels	36
Explore Pamunkey Ridge	10/12/25	 All Levels	36
Daisy Day	10/12/25	 D	27
Girl Scouts Science Day	10/18/25	 J  C  S	30
Older Girl Adventure Tower/Archery Day	10/18/25	 C  S  A	40
Younger Girl Adventure Tower/Archery Day	10/19/25	 B  J	40
Trunk or Treat	10/24/25	 All Levels	21
Art “In-tents-ive” Weekend @ Camp Kitty	10/24-26/2025	 J  C  S  A	37
Younger Girl Adventure Tower/Archery Day	11/1/25	 B  J	40
Older Girl Adventure Tower/Archery Day	11/2/25	 C  S  A	40
Democracy Day	11/3/25	 C  S  A	31
A Little Bit of Camp and J. Low Campfire	11/8/25	 All Levels	22
Skin You’re In - Workshop 1	11/9/25	 D  B  J	23
Skin You’re In - Workshop 1	11/9/25	 C  S  A	23
Go for Gold!	11/10/25	 S  A	31
Outdoor Journey Weekend - Pamunkey	11/14-16/2025	 J  C  S  A	37
MadScience	11/15/25	 D  B  J	27
Skin You’re In - Workshop 2	11/16/25	 D  B  J	23
Skin You’re In - Workshop 2	11/16/25	 C  S  A	23
Traveling Wellness Day	11/22/25	 J  C  S  A	26
Skin You’re In - Workshop 3	11/23/25	 D  B  J	23
Skin You’re In - Workshop 3	11/23/25	 C  S  A	23
Highest Awards Brainstorming - Open House	12/12/25	 C  S  A	42
Cookie Rally	12/13/25	 All Levels	24
Traveling Wellness Day	1/10/26	 J  C  S  A	26
Highest Awards In-Person Training	1/12/26	 All Levels	42
Girl-Led Conference	1/16-18/2026	 C  S  A	32
Fireside Fiends - Pamunkey Weekend	1/23-25/2026	 All Levels	37

Events and Activities Overview

Event	Date	Levels	Page Number
Groove n' Glow - (and Sleepover!)	1/31/26		28
Discovery Day	2/1/26		28
Great Wolf Lodge Overnight	2/6-7/2026	 All Levels *	25
MadScience	2/21/26		27
Virginia War Memorial	2/21/26		33
Traveling Wellness Day	2/28/26		26
Chef's Table - Pamunkey Weekend	3/6-8/2026		38
Booth Boss Pit Stop	3/14/26	 All Levels	42
Out the Mud	3/20/26		34
Paint and Play - Pamunkey Weekend	3/20-22/2026		38
Legislative Day	3/26/26	 All Levels	24
College, Civics & Campus	3/26/26		33
Highest Awards Brainstorming - Open House	3/27/26		42
Younger Girl Adventure Tower/Archery Day	3/28/26		40
Older Girl Adventure Tower/Archery Day	3/29/26		40
Theater Workshop 1	4/13/26		34
Cinematic Magic (Bring a Friend!)	4/10/26		29
Palling Around - Kitty Weekend	4/10-12/2026		38
Ready, Set, Budget. - Richmond	4/14/26		34
Ready, Set, Budget. - Fredericksburg	4/15/26		34
Ready, Set, Budget. - Virtual (Program in a Box!)	4/16/26		34
Outdoor Journey Weekend - Pamunkey	4/17-19/2026		39
Inspired by a Girl	4/19/26	<i>Invite required</i>	45
Theater Workshop 2	4/20/26		34
Theater Workshop 3	4/27/26		34
Traveling Wellness Day	5/2/26		26
Highest Awards In-Person Training	5/4/26	 All Levels	42
Adventure Tower/Archery Day	5/9/26	 All Levels	40
STEM Carnival	5/16/26	 All Levels	25

*All Levels and Families

All Levels and Families

Girl Scouts Love State Parks

All Levels **Families**

Community **Outdoor** **Patch**

Saturday, September 13th, 2025

12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Location: Pocohontas State Park, Lake Anna State Park, Westmoreland State Park

Cost: \$20/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult • \$20/Tagalong

Join your fellow Girl Scouts in the Great Outdoors for a day full of adventure, exploration, and outdoor skill-building! Virginia is home to 41 state parks, 5 state forests, 3 national historic parks, and 2 national parks—and this special Girl Scouts LOVE State Parks weekend is all about celebrating nature.

From park ranger talks and guided hikes to plant identification, survival bracelet making, campfire building, and backpacking basics, this day is packed with engaging activities to help Girl Scouts build confidence and develop new outdoor skills.

Each Girl Scout will receive a **GSCV Park Patch** and

the **GSUSA Girl Scouts LOVE State Parks Patch** for participating. Follow along with the GSCV Loves State Parks Activity Booklet (provided on-site) to complete the full experience!

Min/Max: 15/150 youth • 10/50 adults

Register by: September 4th, 2025



All Levels and Families

Ashland Takeover



Saturday, September 27th, 2025

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Ashland, VA

No Cost

Discover the magic of Ashland with our EXPLORE Patch Series during the Ashland Takeover!

This fun and educational adventure invites you to experience the heart of historic downtown Ashland, Virginia—named one of America’s top Main Streets. Nicknamed the Center of the Universe, Ashland is full of small-town wonder and big-time charm.

Snap a selfie with the only monument of Secretariat in Virginia, then wander past vibrant public art, cozy cafés, and porch-front restaurants serving up cookies, coffee, and farm-to-fork favorites. Whether you stroll, bike, or dance your way through town, you’ll do it all within view of powerful Amtrak and CSX trains racing through the center of it all.

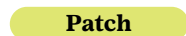
Plan your visit and explore more at **AshlandVirginia.com**—your guide to the delights of this unforgettable destination downtown.

All Girl Scouts will take home and **Explore Ashland Patch!**

Min/Max: All Welcome

Register by: September 13th, 2025

GSCV Trunk or Treat



Friday, October 24th, 2025

5:30–8:00 PM | GSCV Skipwith (Richmond, VA)

- 5:30–7:00 PM: Daisies, Brownies, Juniors
- 6:30–8:00 PM: Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors

(Multi-Level Troops and families with girls in both age groups are welcome to stay for the full event.)

Cost: \$25/Girl Scout Trunk Reservation

No cost to attend.

Show off your trunk style and celebrate spooky season with your fellow Girl Scouts! Decorate a trunk, dress up, and enjoy treats, games, and activities both indoors and outdoors.

How It Works:

1. Choose a theme
2. Deck out your trunk
3. Join the fun!



Thirty parking spots for decorated trunks are designated for this event. Carpooling is encouraged. A waitlist will be available to request extra spaces in case spots remain after registration closes.

Please arrive by 5:00 PM to set up trunks.

Girl Scouts will receive a **Trunk or Treat Fun Patch!**

Min/Max: All Welcome

Register by: October 10th, 2025

All Levels and Families

A Little Bit of Camp & Juliette Gordon Low Campfire



All Levels

Families

Saturday, November 8th, 2025

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

All Welcome, No Cost!

You're invited to a full day of free fun and celebration at Camp Pamunkey Ridge! Whether you're curious about camp or already missing summer, this is the perfect way to reconnect with the outdoors and celebrate the spirit of Girl Scouts.

1:00–5:00 PM – A Little Bit of Camp

Try out all the best parts of camp in one exciting afternoon! Girls will canoe, climb the Adventure Tower*, craft, sing, play games, and more. It's a great introduction for first-timers and a fun reunion for returning campers. Bring a friend and share the adventure!

6:00–9:00 PM – Juliette Gordon Low Campfire

As the sun sets, gather around the fire to honor the birthday of Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low. We'll sing, share stories, enjoy s'mores, and celebrate the legacy of Girl Scouts together.

Staying All Day?

We encourage full-day attendees to bring dinner and enjoy a picnic on our beautiful playing field between events.

Choose Your Experience:

- Register for A Little Bit of Camp
- Register for the Juliette Gordon Low Campfire
- Register for the Full Day Experience

Registration closes on November 1st, 2025.

**Only Juniors and up may participate in the Adventure Tower.*



SKIN YOU'RE IN

Empowering Girl Scouts with Dermatology Education



All Levels

Families

Life Skills

Community

Patch

About the Event

A series of interactive sessions designed to teach Girl Scouts about **skin health, skin care, sun protection, and self confidence!** Delivered by medical students passionate about skin science and teaching young girls how to love the Skin You're In.

When

For Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors:

Session 1: Nov. 9, 2025 from 10 AM-12 PM

- Intro to Skin, Truth about Skin

Session 2: Nov. 16, 2025 from 10 AM - 12 PM

- Sun Safety, Bugs and Plants

Session 3: Nov. 23, 2025 from 10 AM - 12 PM

- Love Your Skin

For Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors:

Session 1: Nov. 9, 2025 from 1-3 PM

- Intro to Skin, Daily Skin Care

Session 2: Nov. 16, 2025 from 1-3 PM

- Acne, Hair and Nails

Session 3 : Nov. 23, 2025 from 1-3 PM

- Love Your Skin

Where

Girl Scout Richmond Service Center
3214 Skipwith Road
Richmond, VA 23294

Program Goals

Promote healthy skin habits early
Build self confidence and body positivity
Understand what is normal in growing bodies
Social media awareness - what can you believe on TikTok?
Inspire interest in a healthcare career

Team Leads

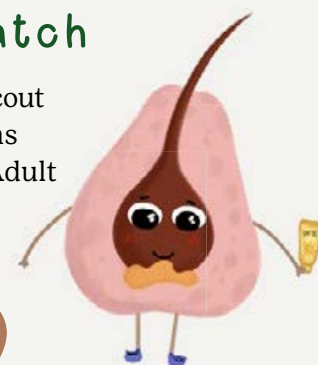
Fourth Year Medical Students from
Virginia Commonwealth University School
of Medicine



On Instagram @skinyoureinproject

Earn a Patch

Cost: \$15/Girl Scout
(all three sessions
included!) • \$0/Adult



All Levels and Families

Cookie Rally



Saturday, December 13th, 2025

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

GSCV Richmond Service Center

Cost: \$20/Girl Scout • \$0/Adult • \$5/Tagalong

Get ready for cookie-themed fun and adventure as we launch the 2026 Cookie Program at our NEW SERVICE CENTER!

This year's rally is bigger and better than ever, with plenty of space to explore, play, and get energized for cookie season. Girls will rotate through interactive stations throughout the Teaching Kitchen, Maker Space, and Podcast Studio, where they'll:

- Learn top cookie-selling tips
- Get creative with cookie crafts
- Practice their pitch and teamwork
- Work toward earning Entrepreneurship badges through hands-on activities

Let's get ready to rally!

Min/Max: All Welcome

Register by: November 29th, 2025

Legislative Day at Virginia State Capitol



Thursday, March 26th, 2026

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Virginia State Capitol, Richmond

Cost: \$5/Girl Scout • \$0/Adult • \$0/Tagalong

Step inside the iconic Capitol building, designed by Thomas Jefferson's vision, and experience history like never before. Explore the grand halls where decisions that shaped our nation were made, dive into the lawmaking process with hands-on activities, and take your turn casting a real (mock) vote in the House Chamber. This is your chance to walk in the footsteps of lawmakers, feel the power of democracy, and see government come alive right before your eyes!

All Girl Scouts will receive a **Legislative Day 2026** fun patch.

Hey, Older Girls!

Make it a full day by continuing the experience just down the road at VCU's Wilder School! [See more on page 33!](#)



All Levels and Families

Girl Scout Overnights at Great Wolf Lodge



Make a splash with your fellow Girl Scouts during a fun-filled getaway at **Great Wolf Lodge in Williamsburg, VA!** Choose the date that works best for you (or come to more than one!) and enjoy a memorable mini-vacation full of waterpark fun, sisterhood, and adventure.

Upcoming Girl Scout Weekends:

- November 22nd–24th, 2025
- February 6th–7th, 2026 - *Signature Event with Patch!*
- May 15th–17th, 2026
- August 14th–16th, 2026

*Join us for our Signature Girl Scout Night on February 6th, featuring on-site programming led by council staff and a Great Wolf Lodge fun patch for all registered Girl Scouts!

How to Book

Discounted rates and booking links will be available in **MyEvents**. Families must reserve directly with Great Wolf Lodge using the Girl Scout code provided for each date. Space is limited for each date, so don't wait to plan your splash-tastic getaway!

Super STEM Carnival



Saturday, May 16th, 2026

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$15/Girl Scout • \$0/Adult • \$15/Tagalong

Camp Pamunkey Ridge is transforming into a full-blown STEM carnival! Booths packed with hands-on activities in science, technology, engineering, and math... and a few just-for-fun surprises along the way. Some of our community partners will be there too, bringing cool gadgets, exciting experiments, and activities to help take the fun to the next level.

Think:

- Build-your-own catapults
- Slime labs & simple circuits
- Mini coding games
- Ring tosses, obstacle courses & bubble zones
- Earn tickets, win prizes, and see just how exciting STEM can be when it's wrapped in classic carnival fun.

Min/Max: All Welcome

Register by: May 1st, 2026

Bridging Bonus!

To wrap up the day, we'll host an epic **Girl Scout Bridging Ceremony** - carnival-style! Rising Girl Scouts will cross the bridge to their next level with music, cheers, and a sparkle-filled celebration they'll never forget.



All Levels and Families

Traveling Wellness Day



All Levels

Families

Community

Patch

Bringing the Mental Wellness Patch Program to YOU!

We're hitting the road! This year, we're taking our Mental Wellness Patch Program on tour to meet Girl Scouts where they are - making it easier than ever to participate in this meaningful and empowering experience.

Traveling Wellness Day is all about rest, relaxation, and learning how to take care of your whole self — mind, body, and spirit. At each stop, we'll partner with local organizations and wellness practitioners to bring girls a full morning of hands-on, feel-good activities designed to promote mental health and emotional well-being.

Whether you're learning new coping strategies, trying yoga for the first time, relaxing during a sound bath, or connecting with new friends in your community - you'll leave feeling refreshed, inspired, and just a little lighter.

We also hope to spotlight and support local businesses that are doing great work in the wellness space. Think: movement studios, therapy dogs, art therapy, mindfulness crafts, and more!

2025-2026 Traveling Wellness Day Schedule:

- Richmond/East End – November 22nd, 2025
- Fredericksburg/North – January 10th, 2026
- Farmville/West – February 28th, 2026
- Northern Neck/East – May 2nd, 2026

Events will vary slightly by location — each experience is built in collaboration with local partners and may include different activities, but every one of them will support progress toward the Mental Wellness Patch.

More details, including registration info, timing, and specific activities, will be announced in S'more News closer to each date.



Younger Girls

Daisy Day: Find Your Magic!

Daisy

Daisy Petal

Sunday, October 12th, 2025

11:00 AM - 2:00PM

GSCV Richmond Service Center

Cost: \$20/Girl Scout • \$0/Adult

Step into a world of magic and discovery at GSCV's very own Talent Choosing Ceremony! Inspired by Tinkerbell's journey to find her unique talent, this event invites girls to try various magical talents that connect to the Daisy Petals.

Do you like to build and work with your hands? You might be a tinker that Makes the World a Better Place! How about spending time outside in nature? I think you'd get along very well with fellow gardeners or animal lovers who know how to Use Resources Wisely! Whether you love to craft or sing your heart out, with just a hint of pixie dust, you'll be one step closer to finding where your magic sparkles the brightest!

Daisies will earn the petal that aligns with their chosen talent!

Min/Max: 15/150 participants

Register by: September 26th, 2025



Mad Science: Double Workshop Day!

Daisy

Brownie

Junior

Community

Saturday, November 15th, 2025

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

New Fredericksburg Service Center!

- OR -

Saturday, February 22nd, 2026

10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Richmond Service Center, New Maker Studio!

Cost: \$25/participant *Snack included

Join Mad Science for a hands-on science adventure! In this double workshop day, girls will earn two STEM-themed badges through engaging activities and experiments.

Home Scientist – Play with real science equipment, explore static electricity, and make your own slime! This workshop covers all badge requirements except “Be a kitchen chemist.” To complete the badge at home, each participant will receive a take-home experiment sheet with instructions for making instant ice cream - a fun, easy kitchen activity using salt, ice, and a resealable bag.

Bugs – Dive into the fascinating world of insects! Girls will explore bug defense mechanisms, build a bug home, and go on a bug hunt. Girls will use microscope slides and preserved specimens to explore bug anatomy and habitats.

Min/Max: 10/25 participants

Badges Earned: Home Scientist, Bugs

Registration Deadlines:

- Fredericksburg: Saturday, November 1st, 2025
- Richmond: Sunday, February 8th, 2026

Younger Girls

Groove, Glow, and Grow Overnight

Daiy

Brownie

Junior

Patch

Saturday, January 31st - Sunday, February 1st, 2026

7:30 PM - 12:00 PM

GSCV Richmond Service Center

Get ready for the FIRST OVERNIGHT in the new Service Center! We're turning up the blacklights and the excitement with a two-part experience designed just for younger girls.

Saturday Night: Groove-n-Glow

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Dance the night away at our fan-favorite glow party! With black lights, glow sticks, music, and movement, it's the perfect way to connect with friends and let your energy shine.

Slumber Party!

Want to keep the fun going? Stay overnight for a cozy indoor camp-in with sister Girl Scouts from across the council.

Sunday Morning: Discovery Day

8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Wake up and explore the coolest parts of our Service Center! Try hands-on fun in the Maker's Space, Test Kitchen, Podcast Studio, and more as you discover what inspires you.

Whether you come for the dance, the discovery, or the full overnight experience, this is your time to shine!

Choose Your Adventure:

- Groove-n-Glow Only (Saturday night) - \$10/Girl Scout
- Discovery Day Only (Sunday morning) - \$50/Girl Scout
- Full Overnight Experience (Dance + Overnight + Discovery Day) - \$75/Girl Scout

Min/Max: 15/100 participants

Register by: January 16th, 2026



Cinematic Magic

Daisy

Brownie

Junior

Patch

Friday, April 10th, 2026

6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

GSCV Richmond Service Center (Indoors or outdoors, weather permitting)

Cost: \$10/Girl Scout (includes a friend's admission!)

\$5/Tagalong

Grab your popcorn — Cinematic Magic is back! Join us for an evening of movie magic, snacks, and fun. When you register, you'll vote on which movie we'll watch from the following fan-favorite options:

- **Wish** – Enjoy Wishing Wands (pretzel rods dipped in white chocolate), Moon Pies, and shimmering Star Popcorn.
- **The Super Mario Bros. Movie** – Munch on Power-Up Popcorn, Gold Coin Cookies, and sip on Princess Peach Punch.
- **Elemental** – Snack on Fire & Ice Jell-O cups, Cloud Puff Popcorn, and an elemental trail mix inspired by earth, water, fire, and air.
- **Soul** – Enjoy Soulful Sweet Treats, Cosmic Cupcakes, and a themed snack mix inspired by The Great Before.

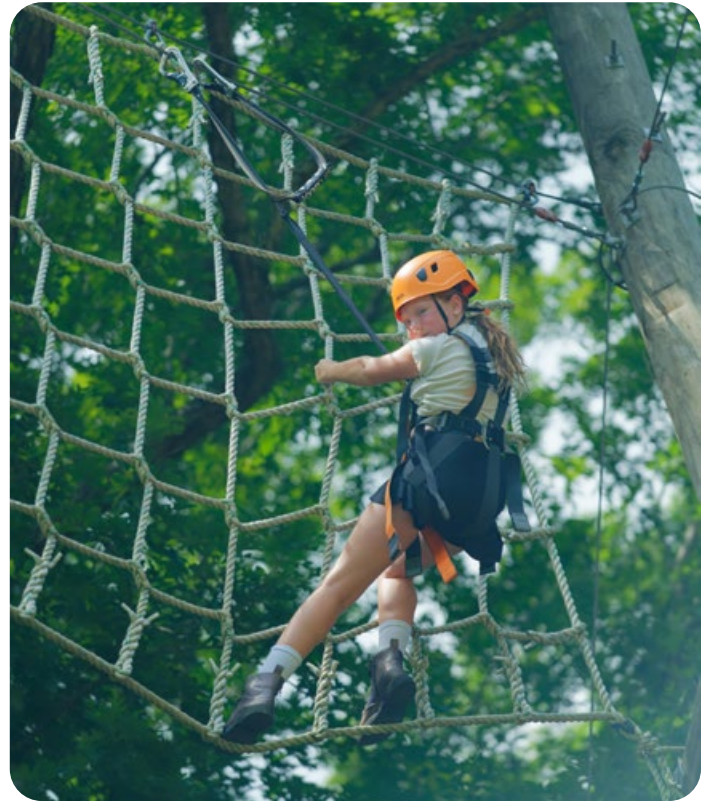
Bring your blanket or camp chair, wear your coziest PJs, and settle in for a night of relaxing fun with your Girl Scout community!

BRING A FRIEND EVENT – “Have a friend in your class that isn’t a Girl Scout? Invite her to this and show her how cool it is!”

All registrants will take home a Cinematic Magic Patch!

Min/Max: 15/150

Register by: April 3rd, 2026



VCU Science Day

Women in Science @ VCU - Girl Scout Science Day

Junior

Cadette

Senior

Community

Patch

Saturday, October 18th, 2025

9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Sanger Hall, Medical College of Virginia (MCV)

Campus, Richmond, VA

Cost: \$30/registrant

- Whip up your own *fizzy volcano slime*
- Examine real human heart and lung specimens
- Solve a mock crime scene using forensic science
- Explore DNA and extract it straight from a strawberry

Whether you're curious about the human body, fascinated by forensic science, or just love getting messy in the name of discovery - this day is made for YOU.

Girl Scouts will take home a VCU Science Day fun patch!

Min/Max: 80/150 participants

Register by: September 27th, 2025



Older Girls

Democracy Day: Girl Scouts & the Civic Leadership Challenge!

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Community

Life Skills

Badge

Monday, November 3rd, 2025

4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

GSCV Richmond Service Center

Cost: \$10/Girl Scout • \$0/Adult

Girl Scouts: Embrace the Civic Leadership Challenge! Just ahead of Election Day, take part in an inspiring evening of creativity, conversation, and civic empowerment. Together, we'll:

- Dive into how government works (legislative, executive, and judicial branches)
- Explore democracy as a value rooted in justice, freedom, and inclusion
- Learn how to speak with policymakers so they'll listen in an advocacy workshop
- Hear from former Page Program students and learn how you can get involved
- Participate in reflective artmaking and group discussions
- Connect with artists, scholars, and civic organizations making real change

Whether you're passionate about policy or just getting started, this night is all about finding your voice and using it for good.

Min/Max: 15/50 youth | 2/20 adults

Register by: October 20th, 2025

Go for Gold!

Senior

Ambassador

Community

Highest Awards

Monday, November 10th, 2025

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

GSCV Richmond Service Center

No Cost!

Inspired by the work of a Gold Award Girl Scout, this exciting evening event is your one-stop launchpad for all things Gold Award.

You'll kick off the evening with official **Gold Award training**, then jump into a fun, interactive experience where you'll meet **local organizations and community partners** doing amazing work. Move from table to table to hear what they're all about, explore causes that spark your interest, and maybe even find your future project advisor!

No matter where you are in your journey, this event is here to spark ideas, build connections, and help you feel ready to take on the Gold Award.

Max: 15/50 youth | 2/10 adults

Register by: October 27th, 2025



Older Girls

The Girl Scout Difference: Girl-Led Conference

Senior

Ambassador

Alums

A Leadership Conference for Seniors, Ambassadors, and Alums

Friday, January 16th – Sunday,
January 18th, 2026

GSCV Richmond Service Center

Cost: \$250/Girl Scout

\$200 Early Bird Pricing

Register by: December 16th, 2025

At the heart of Girl Scouting is the Girl Scout Leadership Experience — a program that empowers girls of all ages to discover their potential, build valuable skills, and make a lasting impact in their communities and beyond.

Join the Older Girl Advisory Group and other passionate girl leaders from across the Council for a dynamic, three-day professional development conference hosted at our newly renovated GSCV Service Center in Richmond, VA.

This exciting weekend will include engaging workshops, keynote sessions, panel discussions, and networking opportunities designed specifically for older Girl Scouts exploring their leadership journey.

Participants will walk away feeling inspired, confident, and ready to lead — within Girl Scouts and beyond.

Fee includes breakfast and lunch for all three days and all required materials.

Min/Max: All Welcome

Register by: January 9th, 2026

Interested in presenting?

Gain free admission for yourself or your troop by hosting a workshop, panel, or Q&A session. Reach out to our Program team for more information on how to get involved.

Tentative Schedule:

Day 1 – Friday, January 16

◆ 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM

- Theme Introduction
- Opening Remarks

Day 2 – Saturday, January 17

◆ 8:30 AM – 7:30 PM

- Thematic Sessions
- Workshops and Panels
- Networking and Group Activities

Day 3 – Sunday, January 18

◆ 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

- Closing Sessions
- Reflective Activities
- Final Remarks



Virginia War Memorial

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Community

Life Skills

Patch

Saturday, February 21st, 2026

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Cost: \$5/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Learn about women's roles in the military during World War II. Girl Scouts will 'enlist' in the Women's Army Corps (WAC), Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES), and Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). To earn the patch, participants will engage in various activities such as a scavenger hunt, team building exercises, and a victory garden activity.

Girl Scouts will take home a Virginia War Memorial fun patch!

Min/Max: 10/80 participants

Register by: February 2nd, 2026



College, Civics & Campus Afternoon at VCU Wilder School!

Senior

Ambassador

Community

Life Skills

Patch

Thursday, March 26th, 2026

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

VCU Wilder School

Cost: \$15/Girl Scout (Event Only)

\$20/Girl Scout (with Lunch Add-on)

\$0 Adults

Already headed to the Capitol for Legislative Day? Make it a full day of leadership and learning!

This exclusive afternoon session is designed just for older Girl Scouts to go beyond the halls of government and explore life as a future changemaker. Attend a mock college class on policy-making and advocacy, get real about college applications and financial aid, chat with faculty and students, and tour the VCU campus.

Bonus: Make it a day to remember by joining your GSCV Program Team for lunch before walking over to campus! Select the lunch add-on at registration to reserve your spot.

Note: You do not need to attend Legislative Day to register for this event—but if you do want to make it a full experience, [see page 24](#) to sign up for the Capitol visit. Girls attending both sessions are encouraged to add lunch! More details provided following registration.

Min/Max: 15/150 participants

Register by: March 12th, 2026

Older Girls



Spotlight Series with Firehouse Theatre

Community

Life Skills

Watch It. Write It. Workshop It.

Take a creative journey from the audience to the page in this immersive behind-the-scenes series with Firehouse Theatre! Girl Scouts will experience live theater from multiple perspectives - first as observers, then as creators.

Two Exclusive Rehearsals

Dates: Two rehearsals in February 2026 (Dates shared with registrants)

Get a behind-the-scenes look at how *Out the Mud* comes to life! Watch the growth in production from first run-throughs to final polish.

Girl Scouts Night at the Theatre

Friday, March 20th, 2026 | 7:30 P.M.

Enjoy a live performance of *Out the Mud* at Firehouse Theater, followed by a private talkback session with the cast and crew. *Two tickets to the show are included with registration.*

Additional discounted tickets will be available for purchase for Girl Scouts and Families who would just like to attend the show.

Theater Workshop Series at GSCV Richmond Service Center!

Mondays – April 13th, 20th, 27th, 2026 • 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Explore the fundamentals of playwriting in this three-part creative writing series. You'll craft your own short scene and receive feedback from professional theater artists.

Earlybird: \$150/Girl Scout
Register by: November 1st, 2025

Cost: \$170/Girl Scout (includes rehearsals, show ticket, all workshops, materials, professional feedback, and a patch)
Adults attend free as observers.

Max Participants: 12 Girl Scouts

Register by: January 8th, 2026

Ready, Set, Budget!

Senior

Ambassador

Community

Entrepreneurship

Badge

GSCV Richmond Service Center

Tuesday, April 14th, 2026

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

GSCV Fredericksburg Service Center

Wednesday, April 15th, 2026

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Virtual (Program in a Box!)

Thursday, April 16th, 2026

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Celebrate Financial Literacy Month with a hands-on money skills workshop built just for teens.

Girl Scouts will team up with a Certified Financial Planner™ pro to learn how to handle their first paycheck, budget for real-life expenses (like moving out!), and make smart money moves for the future. You'll build your own budget, compare job salaries to living costs, and see why saving early really matters.

Caregivers are encouraged to join in too—this workshop is all about starting real conversations between teens and adults about money, planning, and building a confident future.

Seniors will earn the Savvy Saver Badge. Ambassadors will earn the My Financial Independence Badge.

Cost: \$15/person - Dinner included!

Min/Max Participants: 12min/30 maximum

Register By: One week prior to each session

Girl Scouts Make Great Leaders! Join the Older Girl Advisory Group!

Are you ready to speak your mind and share your voice to make Girl Scouting the best experience ever? The GSCV Older Girl Advisory Group is a diverse, teen-led group representing the creators, advocates, and leaders from all over our Council. Be the voice of Girl Scouts throughout the Commonwealth! The Older Girl Advisory Group (OGAG) allows Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors the opportunity to serve as an advisory team to create a vision for programming at GSCV. By lending a voice to the movement that wants, needs, and values girl-led contributions, OGAG will play a significant role in shaping the ongoing work of your Council!

OGAG meets once every other week (on alternating Wednesdays or Thursdays) from 5:00 - 6:30 PM. We are responsible for planning events, collaborating with community partners, and utilizing leadership skills to get! Things! Done!

To be a member of OGAG, you must be:

- Enrolled in 6th-12th grade for Fall 2025
- Able to attend at least one meeting per month
- Interested in taking on a leadership role within the Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia
- Able to communicate with your peers and adult leaders
- Able to work well independently and in a team!

To be considered for the Older Girl Advisory Group, girls must complete an application form.

Application deadline: **MUST be submitted by September 21st, 2025.** Older Girl Advisory Group Members who are selected will be notified by email on September 28th, 2025.

Applications can be found on our website's Older Girl Advisory Group page!



Outdoor

Camp Sampler

 All Levels  Outdoor

Friday, October 10th, 2025, 6:30 PM –

Saturday, October 11th, 4:30 PM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Perfect for Girl Scouts and families new to overnight camping! Enjoy a campfire with s'mores and songs before spending the night in the cabins at Pamunkey Ridge. Wake up the next day and explore some of Pamunkey Ridge's offerings like canoeing, archery and slingshots, arts and crafts and more! You will also get to cook a simple campfire meal and sweet treat for lunch on Saturday!

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: October 1st, 2025

Explore Pamunkey Ridge

 All Levels  Outdoor

Sunday, October 12th, 2025, 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$15/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult • \$15/Tagalong

Dive into the Pamunkey Ridge experience with this fun-filled day! Join us for canoeing, classic camp crafts, slingshots, and learn to cook a simple meal over the campfire. This event is perfect for those new to exploring the outdoors. Tagalongs welcome! This event is open to families and non-member siblings as well. All adults must be registered, and background checked.

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: October 1st, 2025



Art “In-tents-ive”

Junior

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Outdoor

Friday, October 24th, 2025, 6:30 PM –

Sunday, October 26th, 11:00 AM

Camp Kittamaqund

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Unleash your creativity and take inspiration from the natural world during this art filled weekend at Camp Kittamaqund! Campers will earn their age level's Outdoor Art badge by exploring different mediums and methods to create all over camp. Take inspiration from waterfront views and beautiful trails as we make sculptures, abstract art made by slingshot, custom stamps to leave your mark, and more - participants are sure to find projects that spark their imagination!

Min/Max: 5/40 participants

(30 girls, 10 adults)

Register by: October 15th, 2025

Outdoor Journey Weekend

Junior

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Outdoor

Friday, November 14th, 2025, 6:30 PM –

Sunday, November 16th, 11:00 AM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Spend the weekend at Camp Pamunkey Ridge taking on new adventures while learning outdoor skills and ways to take care of our environment! Juniors through Ambassadors will spend Saturday earning the badges that make up their Outdoor Journey's while enjoying the waterfront, target sports, and so much more. The weekend will culminate in a Take-Action project on Sunday morning. Participants will go home having earned their Outdoor Journey—last chance!

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: November 5th, 2025

**Last chance
to earn your
Outdoor
Journey!**

Fireside Friends

All Levels

Badge

Outdoor

Friday, January 23rd, 2026, 6:30 PM –

Saturday, January 24th, 4:30 PM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult • \$15/Tagalong

The weather may be getting colder, but we're staying warm by the fire for a weekend of cozy self-care at Pamunkey Ridge. Earn the new mental wellness badge for your level and explore what self-care looks like for you. This is sure to be a weekend full of Girl Scout sisterhood and friendship, all while sipping on hot chocolate and making delicious fire-side treats. Perfect for those looking for a laid-back weekend with friends new and old!

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: Jan. 14th, 2026

Badges: Fun with Movement, Me Time, Uniquely Us, Outside the Mirror, Mind, Body, Me, Cheers of Every Body



Outdoor

Chef's Table

Brownie

Junior

Cadette

Badge

Outdoor

Friday, March 6th, 2026, 6:30 PM –

Saturday, March 7th, 4:30 PM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Pack your appetite, this delicious overnight is perfect for all the aspiring chefs and foodies out there!

We'll make yummy snacks, cook on a campfire, and practice perfecting a recipe! In between bites, enjoy arts and crafts and target sport games with a tasty twist. Head home with a cooking badge, a full belly, and recipes to wow your friends and family with!

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: Feb 25th, 2026

Badges: Snacks, Simple Meals, New Cuisines

Paint and Play

Daiy

Brownie

Junior

Badge

Outdoor

Friday, March 20th, 2026, 6:30 PM –

Saturday, March 21st, 4:30 PM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Let's head outside and get creative! Prepare to get messy as we take on paint projects, sculpture, and classic crafts on this art-filled overnight. In addition, participants will enjoy target sports and games together – prepare to go home with a gallery's worth of art, new friends, and an outdoor art badge to boot!

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: March 11th, 2026

Badges: Outdoor Art Maker, Outdoor Art Creator, Outdoor Art Explorer

Palling Around

Junior

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Badge

Outdoor

Friday, April 10th, 2026, 6:30 PM –

Sunday, April 12th, 11:00 AM

Camp Kittamaqund, Junior-Ambassador

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Looking for a weekend to take it slow? Bring your Girl Scout sisters and let's hang! (And we mean that literally – there will be hammocks galore!). Enjoy the best of Camp Kitty – paddling on the cove, beautiful hikes, crafts, and a cookout dinner – but in between, relax with friends! Pick a scenic spot for a hammock hang, play board games and cards together, weave a friendship bracelet or two, and learn classic camp songs around the campfire. The best part of camp is the people, let's embrace that and spend quality time with friends new and old!

Min/Max: 5/40 participants

(30 girls, 10 adults)

Register by: April 1st, 2026

Badges: Outdoor Art Maker, Outdoor Art Creator, Outdoor Art Explorer



Outdoor Journey Weekend

Junior

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Outdoor

**Friday, April 17th, 2026, 6:30 PM –
Sunday, April 19th, 2026, 11 AM**

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

*Last chance
to earn your
Outdoor
Journey!*

Spend the weekend at Camp Pamunkey Ridge taking on new adventures while learning outdoor skills and ways to take care of our environment! Juniors through Ambassadors will spend Saturday earning the badges that make up their Outdoor Journey's while enjoying the waterfront, target sports, and so much more. The weekend will culminate in a Take-Action project on Sunday morning. Participants will go home having earned their Outdoor Journey!

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: April 8th, 2026

Camp Sampler

All Levels

Outdoor

**Friday, May 15th, 2026, 6:30 PM –
Saturday, May 16th, 4:30 PM**

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$35/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Perfect for Girl Scouts and families new to overnight camping! Enjoy a campfire with s'mores and songs before spending the night in the cabins at Pamunkey Ridge. Wake up the next day and explore some of Pamunkey Ridge's offerings like canoeing, archery and slingshots, arts and crafts and more! You will also get to cook a simple campfire meal and sweet treat for lunch on Saturday!

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: May 6th, 2026

Explore Pamunkey Ridge

All Levels

Outdoor

Sunday, May 17th, 2026, 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Cost: \$15/Girl Scout • \$5/Adult

Dive into the Pamunkey Ridge experience with this fun-filled day! Join us for canoeing, classic camp crafts, slingshots, and learn to cook a simple meal over the campfire. This event is perfect for those new to exploring the outdoors. Tagalongs welcome! This event is open to families and non-member siblings as well. All adults must be registered, and background checked.

Min/Max: 5/50 participants

Register by: May 6th, 2026



Archery and Adventure Tower Days at Camp Pamunkey Ridge

Ready for adventure?

Take on the Adventure Tower, take on Archery, or for the extra bold – **do it all on one day!** On the dates listed below, there will be both Adventure Tower and Archery events – if your group is registered for both, feel free to pack a picnic and enjoy camp in between your sessions. Or make a weekend of it! Troop camping is available to reserve these weekends while space lasts.

Archery

Come out to have some fun at the Pamunkey Ridge Archery Range! Perfect for beginners or folks just looking to spend some extra time with a bow in hand.

Cost: \$10/Girl Scout • \$0/Adult

Brownie

Junior

Brownie/Junior Archery

- Sunday, October 19th, 2025,
9:00 AM-10:30 AM or 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Saturday, November 1st, 2025,
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM or 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
- Sunday, March 29th, 2026,
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM or 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Saturday, May 9th, 2026,
11:15 AM – 12:45 PM

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Cadette/Senior/Ambassador Archery

- Saturday, October 20th, 2025,
9 AM-10:30 AM or 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Sunday, November 2nd, 2025,
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM or 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
- Saturday March 28th, 2026,
9:00 AM-10:30 AM or 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
- Saturday, May 9th, 2026,
1:00 PM – 2:45 PM

Min/Max: 5/20 Girl Scouts

Registration closes one week prior to scheduled sessions

Adventure Tower

Gear up and take on Camp Pamunkey Ridge's adventure tower! Learn how to participate safely and hone your skills in these fun-filled sessions. Juniors and older can enjoy the climbing tower's six different climbing routes and zipline. All while earning your Climbing Adventure Badge!

Cost: \$30/Girl Scout | \$0/Adult

Junior

Junior Adventure Tower

- Sunday, October 19th, 2025,
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM or 3:15 PM-5:15 PM
- Saturday, November 1st, 2025,
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM or 11:15 AM – 1:15 PM
- Sunday, March 29th, 2026,
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM or 3:15 PM-5:15 PM
- Saturday, May 9th, 2026,
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Cadette

Senior

Ambassador

Cadette/Senior/Ambassador Adventure Tower

- Saturday, October 20th, 2025,
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM or 3:15 PM – 5:15 PM
- Sunday, November 2nd, 2025,
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM or 11:15 AM – 1:15 PM
- Saturday March 28th, 2026,
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM or 3:15 PM-5:15 PM
- Saturday, May 9th, 2026,
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Min/Max: 5/20 Girl Scouts

Registration closes one week prior to scheduled sessions

Service Unit/Troop Camping

Camping is a highlight of many girls' experiences in Girl Scouting and creates memories that last a lifetime.

Troop and/or Service Unit Camping is an opportunity for adult volunteers who have the proper training to take a group of girls camping on one of the two GSCV properties. Troops and/or Service Units (multiple troops from the same geographic area) provide the programming activities and meals during these camping adventures.



Camping Reservations

Before camping dates are released to all troops, Service Units will have early access to reserve their preferred dates. Once Service Unit reservations are complete, remaining dates will be made available online for all troops to book.

Camping dates and the official open date for troop reservations will be announced in S'more News.

Troops can reserve their camping dates through the GSCV Camping Reservation System, where they'll be able to select their campsite, activity times, dining hall use, and more — all based on availability.

About our Camp Properties

Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp

Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp is located on 240 acres along the banks of the Pamunkey River, about 25 minutes north of Richmond. As a day and resident camp program facility, Pamunkey Ridge features fully enclosed cabins, modern restrooms, a dining hall equipped with a restaurant-quality kitchen, basketball courts, an adventure tower, a swimming pool, and a large sports field.



Camp Kittamaqund

Camp Kittamaqund Girl Scout Camp, often referred to as Camp Kitty, is located near Heathsville, Virginia, in Northumberland County. The camp spans approximately 387 acres, offering a diverse landscape for various outdoor activities and programs, including hiking, swimming, canoeing, archery, high end arts projects, and environmental education. The facilities include platform tents and common areas for group activities and dining.



Cookie Program!

Cookie Rally!

This year's cookie rally will be planned by a team of fantastic volunteers in our Council and will be hosted at our brand-new Richmond Service Center! You won't want to miss it this year. [More information can be found on page 12!](#)



BRAVE.
FIERCE.
FUN!



Booth Boss Pit Stop

(Drop-In Event!)

Saturday, March 14, 2026

11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Richmond Service Center &
Fredericksburg Service Center!

All levels and families

No Cost!

Halfway through cookie season? Time to fuel up, refresh your toolkit, and celebrate your success!

The Booth Boss Pit Stop is a laid-back, drop-in event designed to help Girl Scouts recharge and re-energize for the final few weeks of cookie season. Whether you need a few more booth supplies, a confidence boost, or just a reason to celebrate, this mid-season moment is for you.

Girls can:

- Stock up at our Bling Your Booth Bar
- Play cookie-themed mini games and challenges
- Practice their pitch and get a small prize

Troop Leader and Volunteers can:

- Visit the Cocoa & Connection Corner for conversation and warm drinks
- Get fresh resources to support their Girl Scout(s)
- Restock cookies while visiting the Cookie Cupboard

Open to: All Girl Scouts participating in the 2026 Cookie Program and their families
Register by: March 7, 2026

Girl Scouts Highest Awards

Ready, Set, Lead.

You've got what it takes to make a lasting impact—get started by earning your Highest Award in Girl Scouting. There are so many great badges to earn in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting!

Each one helps you learn something new. Sometimes, though, we want to go a little deeper. Girls who are ready to flex their leadership skills above and beyond traditional badges and patches might be up for the challenge of earning one of the highest awards: **Bronze. Silver. Gold.**

All three awards give girls the chance to do big things while supporting the issues THEY care about! Each award will challenge you and help you take action in a big way.

Interested in earning your Bronze, Silver, or Gold? Start here!

Highest Award Trainings

In Person

October 13th (Fredericksburg)
November 10th (Richmond)
January 12th (Richmond)
May 4th (Fredericksburg)

Virtual (via Zoom)

• September 8th

Unable to attend one of the training courses? We have options available for individuals and groups interested in alternative dates!

Please email highestawards@comgirlscouts.org to learn more.

Attended a training, but need a space to workshop ideas? Join us at a Brainstorming Session!

Big News!

We're saying "goodbye!" to Journeys as we expand the options for Highest Award pre-requisites. Members can earn Leadership Awards and use one to fulfill the Highest Award pre-requisites OR use Journeys for one last year!

Open House Brainstorming Sessions



All Levels

Highest Awards

Friday, December 12th, 2025

Friday, March 27th, 2026

6:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

GSCV Richmond Service Center

No cost

Min/Max: All Welcome

Register by: 14 days before the event

Changing the world is possible: all you need is an idea. Join us for a creative, dynamic workshop where Girl Scouts can fully immerse themselves in the brainstorming process. Using critical thinking, connection, and creativity, we will deepen our understanding of a Take Action project and how that framework will allow us to achieve our wildest dreams. This is open to all Highest Award levels and Council will provide all materials needed to begin your Highest Award paperwork.

	 Bronze Minimum 20 hours	 Silver Minimum 50 hours	 Gold Minimum 80 hours
Solo or team	Team or solo. Troop leader should submit a final report for each girl, with girl input. This can be mailed or sent via email.	Solo or small team (max of 4 girls per team).	Solo project
Prerequisites	Complete One (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Personal Leadership award •Junior Aide •Take Action Award •Global Action Award •Junior Journey 	Complete One (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •earn the Bronze Award •Personal Leadership award •Program Aide •Silver Torch •Take Action Award •Global Action Award •Cadette Girl Scout Journey 	Complete One (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •earn the Silver Award •Personal Leadership award •Counselor or Volunteer-in-Training •Gold Torch •Take Action Award •Global Action Award •Senior or Ambassador Journey
Proposal Approval	Leader must attend Highest Award training. Proposal is approved by the leader. Projects do not need to be pre-approved by Council unless the project is on Council property.	Girls and Leaders must attend Highest Award training. Project must be pre-approved by Council. Girls or teams working on their Silver Award will create a proposal to submit to their Troop Leader, who will submit to Council when ready for approval.	Girls must attend Highest Award training. Projects must be pre-approved by the Council Gold Award committee, during one of the scheduled Gold Award Review sessions (see dates listed).
Deadlines	Final reports must be submitted no later than the September 30th following 5th grade promotion or graduation. The Girl Scout Bronze Award Report Form is on our website. Final report must be submitted by March 1 to be invited to that year's Inspired by a Girl Ceremony.	Must be finished and final report submitted by the September 30th following 8th grade promotion or graduation. Cadettes are encouraged to submit their Silver Award proposal by January 15th of the year they graduate Middle School. Final report must be submitted by March 1 to be invited to that year's Inspired by a Girl Ceremony.	Girls have until the September 30th following their High School graduation to have their Gold Award final report approved by the Gold Award Committee. Ambassadors must submit their Gold Award proposal by January 15th of the year they graduate High School. Final report must be submitted by March 1 to be invited to that year's Inspired by a Girl Ceremony.
Recognitions	Girls who submit a final report will receive a congratulatory letter and certificate from GSCV at Inspired by a Girl. With approval, Bronze Award pins, patches, and certificates can be purchased during shop hours at the Girl Scout Council Shop.	Once the final report has been approved by Council, the girl(s) will receive a congratulatory letter and certificate from GSCV at Inspired by a Girl. With approval, Silver Award pins, patches, and certificates can be purchased during shop hours at the Girl Scout Council Shop.	Once the final report has been approved by Council, the girl will receive her Gold Award pin in the mail along with a congratulatory letter from Council. Girls will receive a special certificate from GSUSA at Inspired by a Girl.
Resources	GSCV's Bronze Award Guidelines for Girls, Guidelines for Adults, Final Report Form, Checklist, Self-study, Self-study quiz, GSUSA FAQs.	Silver Award Suite! Silver Award Cadette Workbook, Guidelines for Adults, Silver Award Proposal, Silver Award At A Glance, Final Report Form, Checklist, Self-study, Self-study quiz, GSUSA FAQs.	GoGold Portal, Gold Award Checklist, Gold Award Interview Tips, Gold Award Rubric, Gold Award Project Proposal, Your Guide to Going Gold, Gold Award Guidelines for Girls, Guidelines for Adults, Project Advisor Guidelines, Gold Award Partnership Opportunities, GSUSA FAQs.
Trainings	In-person Highest Award Trainings. Online training is also available. Please register online. Training for adults is required.	In-person Highest Award Trainings. Online training for girls and adults is also available. Please register online. Training is required.	In-person Highest Award Trainings. Online training for girls and adults is also available. Please register online. Training for girls is required.

Need help? highestawards@comgirlscouts.org

Highest Awards

Go for Gold!

Kick off your journey with us at

Gold Day for Seniors and Ambassadors!

Monday, October 13th, 2025 at our Fredericksburg Service Center

Monday, November 10th, 2025 at our Richmond Service Center

6:30 P.M – 8:00 P.M

No Cost!

GoGold

Your Gold Award journey is tracked through **GoGold**, a mobile-friendly web platform provided by GSUSA. This is where you'll track your progress throughout the seven required steps to complete your Gold Award.

Get started by creating an account! You can access the GoGold website via the link gogold.girlscouts.org or on our website's Highest Awards page.

Important!

Submitting your proposal on GoGold is a huge step, but don't forget, before you start your Take Action project, you'll need to meet with the Gold Award Committee, our dedicated team of volunteers who are here to support and guide you throughout your Gold Award journey.

Once you've attended a training and submitted your Proposal through GoGold, a member from the Gold Award Committee will reach out to schedule you for one of our scheduled review dates. During the session, you'll have the chance to meet with Community Partners to make potential advisor connections and learn more about how to bring your project to life and grow your Gold Award team.

Know the Gold Award Committee Review Dates!

- Sunday, September 14th, 2025
- Sunday, October 12th, 2025
- Sunday, November 9th, 2025
- Sunday, January 11th, 2026
- Sunday, February 8th, 2026
- Sunday, March 8th, 2026
- Sunday, April 12th, 2026
- Sunday, June 14th, 2026

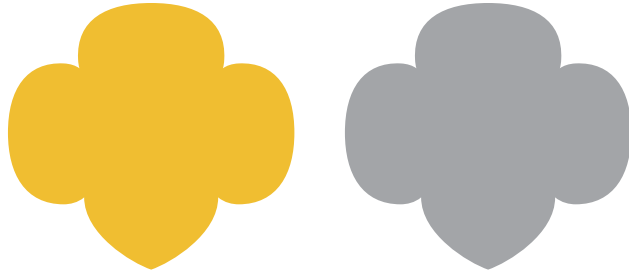


Graduating soon? Ambassadors **MUST** submit their Gold Award proposals on GoGold before January 15th of their graduating year of High School.

If you have any questions, please email highestawards@comgirlscouts.org!

Highest Awards

SAVE THE DATE



Inspired by a Girl Ceremony

We're celebrating our Highest Award girls on April 19th, 2026!

*If your Final Report is approved by March 1st, 2026,
you will be invited to our annual recognition ceremony.*



*GSUSA Scholarship Recipient
2025 Highlight*

Janiah Jones No “BS” Allowed! • Chesterfield

For my Gold Award, I launched the No “BS” Allowed! to raise awareness about body shaming and help middle and high schoolers understand how harmful it can be. Through fun, interactive workshops, and a mental health expert, I encouraged confidence, self-acceptance, and mental health awareness. I wanted participants to feel empowered to speak up when they see body shaming—because real change starts when we understand the impact of our words and actions.

Service Projects

GSUSA National Service Projects

- Promote the Vote
- Honoring Changemakers
- Fighting Hunger
- Citizen Science
- Letter Writing

All across our country and our world, Girl Scouts are leaping to the aid of others by engaging in wonderful acts of service and kindness. Whether by writing letters to senior citizens, honoring first responders, taking part in a citizen science project, or promoting voting and democracy, now your troop can get involved in these unique Girl Scout activities too.



Local Service Projects

Looking to make a difference right in your own backyard? Throughout the year, we'll post local service opportunities on our website that allow troops and families to take action in their communities! From neighborhood cleanups to collection drives and more, there's always a way to make the world a better place—starting right here at home.

Check our website regularly to see what's happening near you!

Troop Travel and Destinations

Troop Travel

Planning a trip with your troop? Troop Travel allows Girl Scout troops to explore new places together—whether it's a day trip, an overnight adventure, or a multi-day excursion. Before you hit the road, make sure your trip is approved by council and that at least one adult volunteer has completed the required Troop Travel Training on gsLearn (accessed via MyGS). Submit your travel application in advance to ensure your plans meet safety and planning guidelines.

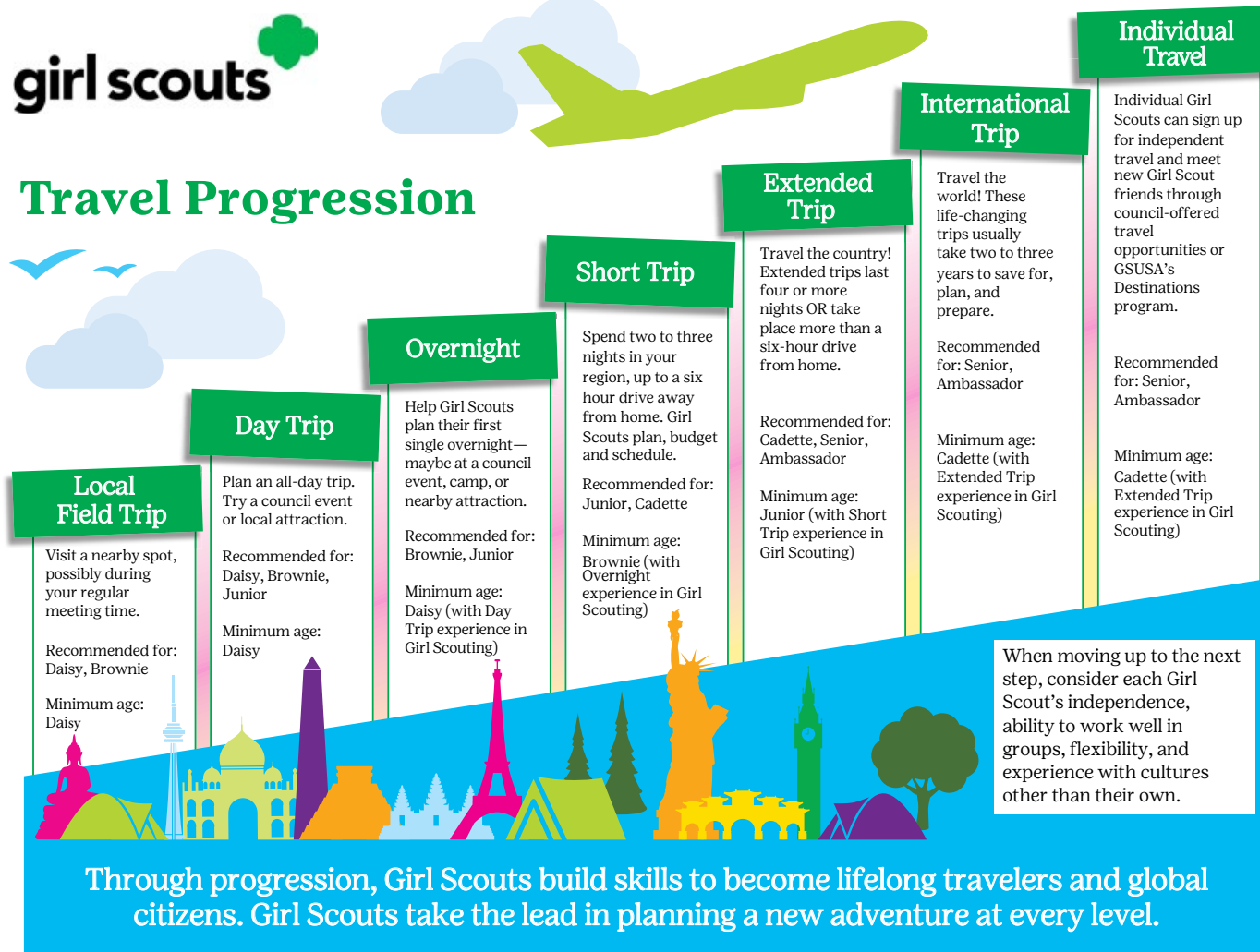
GSUSA Destinations

Girl Scout Destinations are the ultimate adventure for individual Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts. Push past your comfort zone by applying for a trip on your own and make friends from all over the country as you travel with new faces. There's a unique, life-changing experience for everyone. Additionally, we're currently collaborating with our members to create Council-led travel events tailored to your interests. More information will be shared soon, so be on the lookout in S'more News!

Troop Travel and Destinations (Continued)

**For more information and additional trips visit:
Girl Scouts Destinations at www.GirlScouts.org.**

Trip Name	Location	Trip Dates	Grades	Program Fee
New Mexico True – The Land of Enchantment	New Mexico	October 2025	9-12	\$900
Desert Dreams (*2 separate sessions)	Nevada, Arizona, & Utah	April 2026	7-12	\$2,200
Mountain Biking & More: High Adventure in the Ozarks	Ozark Mountains	June 2026	10-12	\$1,350
Dublin, London, and Paris: June 15-27, 2026	Dublin, London, & Paris	June 2026	9-12	\$6,094
European Quartet: June 21-July 3, 2026	Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, & London	June/July 2026	9-12	\$6,009
Adventures in the Land of Waterfalls	Western North Carolina	July 2026	9-12	TBD



Adult Training

Learning lasts a lifetime

Whether you are a new volunteer or a seasoned leader, there are training courses to help you learn and develop the skills you need in your Girl Scout role.

Training is available through online courses in gsLearn or as live virtual or in-person courses. Most training is free for adult volunteers, with the exception of certain in-person certification courses in the areas of archery, paddle sports, axe throwing, etc.

Training plays a pivotal role in preparing all adults who want to volunteer with Girl Scouts. As guided by our national organization, GSUSA, all adults who volunteer for Girl Scouts and in any role that involves working directly with Girl Scouts must be an approved volunteer.

Approved volunteers are registered Girl Scout members who have successfully cleared GSCV's background screening process and completed position-related training. Troop leaders and other adults that will be working directly with Girl Scouts must be an approved volunteer.

As defined in Volunteer Essentials, being an approved volunteer means:

- They are at least 18 years old
- Are a registered Girl Scout adult
- Have completed a background screening
- Have completed all required position-related training



gsLearn

gsLearn is Girl Scouts' official online and on-demand training tool. It empowers volunteers to complete trainings as they work best for them. Volunteers have access to Girl Scout-specific trainings that support consistency across the Girl Scout Movement.

gsLearn is ready for you to access anytime, 24/7. Stop in at your convenience and view your dashboard, which is populated with the latest Girl Scout knowledge and fun troop leader tips.

gsLearn is full of essential volunteer training and courses, like how to lead activities the Girl Scout way, safety procedures, and advice for guiding Girl Scouts at every grade level.

gsLearn is accessible through your MyGS portal and in your home page menu under the Volunteer Toolkit option. The courses available to you are located on your dashboard in gsLearn.

Courses available now include:

- 10 Tips to Keeping Girls Engaged
- Additional Money Earning
- Bank Account Basics
- Delivering Inclusive Program
- Girl Scout Travel 101
- The Mental Wellness Patch Program: Why It Matters and How to Implement It

Courses are added during the year, and they will automatically show on your home page dashboard! Try out gsLearn today and enjoy the convenience of on-demand courses.

Mandatory Volunteer Training for ALL Girl Scout Volunteers

Protecting the emotional and physical safety and well-being of Girl Scouts is our shared top priority. Your partnership as a volunteer for Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia (GSCV) helps to ensure that Girl Scouting here at GSCV is a safe place for all girls. The purpose of the training is to equip volunteers with the knowledge and skills to recognize signs of child abuse or neglect and understand our responsibilities as mandated reporters. Thank you for your continued volunteer service to our council, helping us build girls of courage, confidence, and character who will make the world a better place.

The mandatory training is titled “Girl Scouts Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Course” and is easily located in gsLearn.

Accessing this training:

1. Log into your MyGS account.
2. Select gsLearn from the left side of the menu on the My Account dashboard.
3. The mandatory course should be visible in your course listing. The search feature can also provide a quick option to isolate the course.

What if I can not access gsLearn?

All currently registered adult members with a current completed background check have access to gsLearn through their MyGS account (menu on left side).

Volunteers who are unable to access gsLearn should first check that their Girl Scout membership is current, and their background check is in current and complete status. If the membership and background check are current and complete but gsLearn access is being denied, please contact the GSCV Help Desk at gshelper@comgirlscouts.org. gsLearn is operated by GSUSA and resolving some access issues may be delayed if they require the national organization’s exclusive access.

New Leader Training - easy as 1,2,3!

It is such an exciting time when you become a Girl Scout troop leader. Girls are ready, and we want to help you get ready for this amazing adventure.

The training courses required are listed below and are available on-demand to fit your schedule through gsLearn. These courses are all conveniently located on your dashboard when you log in to gsLearn from your MyGS account.

Course #1 – GSCV Troop Basics

Course #2 (series) - New Leader Onboarding Series (topics in this course are separated in shorter segments):

- Family Engagement - The Key to Success
- Funding the Fun - Managing Girl Scout Troop Finances
- The Girl Scout Cookie Program
- The Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE)
- Troop Safety
- What Girl Scouts Do (separated by program level courses: Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior, Ambassador)
- Your First Troop Meeting

Course #3 - GSCV Bank Account Basics



Adult Training

Get Outdoors!

Beginning Camping Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp

**At the time of print training dates were not available. Opportunities for this training will be available in S'more News as well as the registration link.*

Time to get outdoors! The Beginning Camping course is designed for leaders and troops who want to take their troop camping but have little camping experience. 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 state park cabin, 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 on a single day.

Those who want to take their troop tent camping must attend the Intermediate Camping course.

Camp "Kitty" Kittamaqund

Time to get outdoors and camp! The Advanced Camping course is designed for leaders and troop volunteers seeking to take their troop tent camping. This course will give leaders and volunteers hands-on experiences so they can successfully lead girls on outdoor experiences for multiple nights. Girl Scouts has so much to offer through outdoor experiences, and you will gain knowledge, skills, and practical experience to prepare you to plan and manage overnight camping adventures. You will learn a variety of safety techniques for fires, cooking, and camps. You will also receive valuable tips & tools for fires, cooking, program planning, clean up, packing, and planning. This two-day course includes an overnight at camp and a required prep session, held approximately two weeks prior to the Intermediate Camping course weekend.

*The required prep session will take place in metro Richmond.

Intermediate Camping

**At the time of print training dates were not available. Opportunities for this training will be available in S'more News as well as the registration link.*

This course requires a prep session prior to the weekend course. The weekend course is normally a Friday night (optional), Saturday 9:00 AM – Sunday 1:00 PM



First Aid

First aid/CPR certification can be taken locally to support busy schedules and convenience. Following the GSUSA-approved vendor listing below, you can obtain first aid/CPR training from the following vendors, which offer options in all GSCV regions:

- American Red Cross
- National Safety Council
- EMP America
- American Heart Association
- American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI)
- Medic

All GSCV regions have first aid/CPR classes offered from the partners above, but your best source of support is your service unit, where you have a network of Girl Scout leaders ready to share their knowledge for resources in your local area!

Volunteers who provide a necessary skill to their troop in being the First Aider often have their training paid by troop funds. In the event the troop funds are not healthy enough to cover the cost, GSCV will help defray costs with up to a \$50 reimbursement each for up to two volunteers per troop every two years.

To request a reimbursement, submit your certification, receipt, and request for first aid/CPR training reimbursement form to gshelper@comgirlscouts.org.

Quick troop tip: A medical professional can also serve as your first aider. They will just need to complete a quick form acknowledging their willingness to serve in that role. Forms can be found on our website under Forms and Publications.



Archery Level I

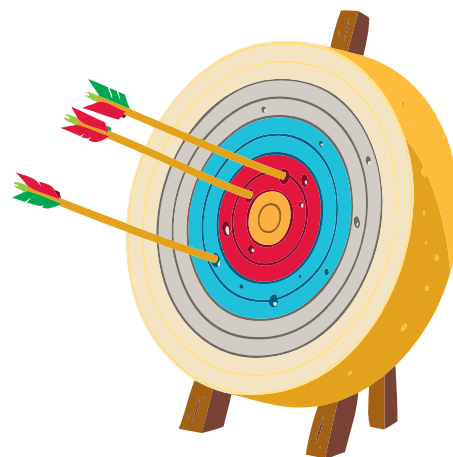
Archery training is held at Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp

**At the time of print training dates were not available. Opportunities for this training will be available in S'more News as well as the registration link.*

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, but girls 16 or older are invited to become certified instructors as well. 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 skills session at Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp.

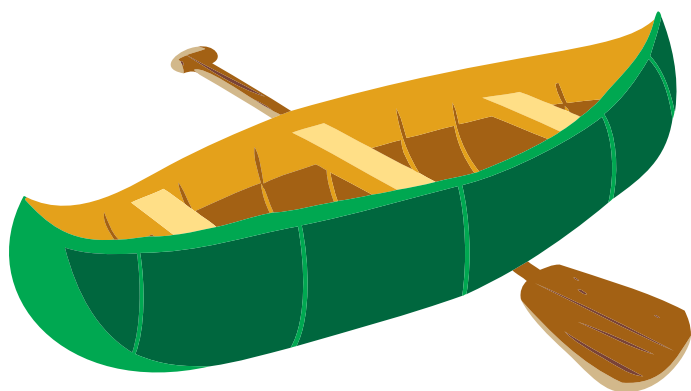
USA Archery Level I Instructor certification is a required course for volunteers who wish to teach beginning archery skills to Brownies through Ambassadors. In Level 1, participants learn about range safety, range setup, the steps of shooting, equipment, and equipment repair. Girls 16 years of age and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



Adult Training

Axe Throwing

Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp has an axe throwing range! Volunteers who want to lead this activity with Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, or Ambassadors must take the online course: World Axe Throwing League coach certification. (link: <https://worldaxethrowingleague.com/world-axe-throwing-league-official-coach-certification/>)



Paddle sports: Canoe, Kayak, Paddle boarding

Canoe/Kayak/Standup Paddle Boarding Training is held at Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp

**At the time of print training dates were not available. Opportunities for this training will be available in S'more News as well as the registration link.*

This is a 2-day training. Both days are required to be certified.

Watercraft sports are a Girl Scout pastime and a confidence-boosting experience for girls. 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 events! Certified adult instructors are required for Girl Scout canoeing, kayaking, and SUP.

Sync Your Knowledge

Virtual

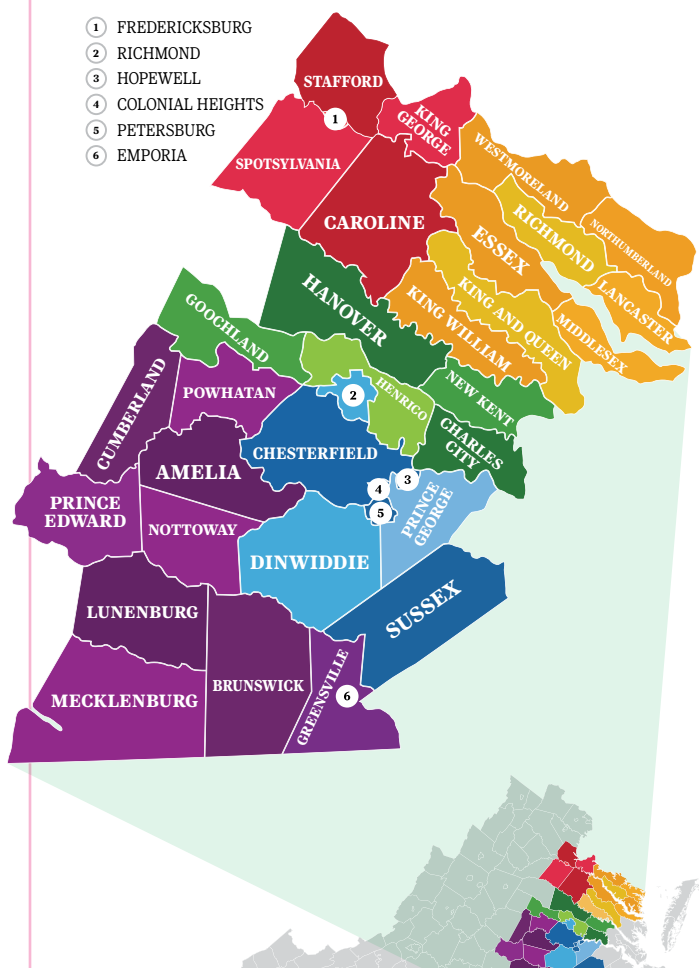
Join us for a short, special focus topic that addresses everything leaders want to know! These virtual sessions feature a question and answer opportunity. Sync Your Knowledge is for all volunteers seeking assistance with a specific Girl Scout topic, or those who simply want to know where to find a Girl Scout resource. We are excited to have you attend Sync Your Knowledge once or several times throughout the year. Let us know you are joining by using the link to register! Once registration is confirmed, you will receive the Zoom information.

<https://rb.gy/sklhf>

Service Units! If you would like a Sync Your Knowledge session at your service unit meeting, please contact the Help Desk, gshelper@comgirlscouts.org, to schedule.



Council Spotlight



About GSCV: On March 12th, 1912, Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low brought 18 girls from Savannah out of isolated home environments and into the open air. Girl Scouts hiked, played basketball, organized community service, went on camping trips and studied first aid.

A year later, Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia began with Troop #1 in Highland Springs. In 1932, the first African-American Girl Scout troop in the South was formed in Richmond, meeting at Virginia Union University. Today, there is a historical marker commemorating history-making Girl Scout Troop 34 on Virginia Union’s campus.

Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia believes in the power of every girl. Our leadership Program is designed to help a girl discover who she is and what she can do and connects her with a powerful community of girls and mentors to make it happen. Girl Scouts explore, learn, succeed, and take action to make a difference in their community.

With support from dedicated adult volunteers, parents and staff, we deliver the best Girl Scout experience to girls and adults in a 30 county and 6 city area within Central, Northern, Southern, Western and Eastern Virginia. Our council’s headquarters is located in the City of Richmond.

As your local council, we’re your partner in all things Girl Scout and we can’t wait for you to get started. If you are a girl looking for a place to fit in and have fun, an adult who wants to volunteer to make a real difference in girls’ lives, or a corporation, foundation, or organization that wants to support the good work of Girl Scouts, you’ve come to the right place!

Our Girl Scout Shop is also located at our headquarters. We maintain two camp properties: Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp in Hanover County and Camp Kittamaqund in Northumberland County.

Contact Us!

www.comgirlscouts.org

(804)746-0590

gshelper@comgirlscouts.org

GSCV Headquarters

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Fredericksburg Service Center

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Fredericksburg, VA 22407

girl scouts
of the commonwealth
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