

Troop Camping

At Girl Scout camp, girls go on adventures every day! They discover amazing things about themselves and the world around them. They sing songs by the campfire, laugh with friends, and make memories they'll never forget. Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia (GSCV) camp properties offer opportunities girls may not find elsewhere.

Troop camping provides troops opportunities to spend time together outdoors and design their own camp experience. Spending time outdoors lets girls try new things, strengthen outdoor skills, build confidence, and ignite their interest in environmental stewardship. Whether earning badges, working on a Journey, or just having fun, Girl Scout troops are in for a good time when they go to one of our camps.

Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia (GSCV) offers a variety of sites for your troop camping outing. We offer a progression of facilities ranging from cabins with electricity, platform tents and primitive camping. Troops can reserve our camp facilities for a day, overnight or weekend experience. Each site offers a unique opportunity for exploration, education, and an exciting camp experience.



Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp – Hanover, VA

Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp is located on 240 acres in King William and Caroline Counties. The camp offers two villages with cabins which sleep a total of 245 campers, restrooms with flush toilets, indoor showers, a 15-acre lake for boating, hiking trails, and fire circles. There is a bluff overlooking the Pamunkey River that provides a beautiful view of the river and the surrounding counties.

Camp Kittamaqund – Heathsville, VA

Camp Kittamaqund is located on 387 wooded acres in Northumberland County with much of it fronting on the Great Wicomico River. The camp offers one unit with ten platform tents which sleep four people each, has a small lake, a cove that is suitable for canoeing, campfire rings, arts and crafts building, large playing field area, and miles of hiking trails.



Ways for you and your girls to get the most out of camp:

- Program Activities and Events — Council-sponsored day, evening, and overnight events provide an exceptional opportunity for troops and individuals to experience camp with someone else leading the way. Check out the 2018-2019 Program Events and Activities Book for a complete listing of upcoming camp events and activities.
- Service Unit and Troop Camping — Each of GSCV's sites provide unique opportunities for exploration and adventure. Plan to take your troop to each site as the girl's progress in their camping skills. Safety Activity Checkpoints require that any troop going camping must have an adult present that has current First Aid/CPR certification and an adult present who has completed GSCV outdoor training.
- Summer Camping — Resident camp or Girl Scout Troop overnight camping continues the Girl Scout experience through the summer. Information about our summer camp program is mailed to each GSCV family in the winter and can be found at www.comgirlscouts.org.



Service Projects at Camp

Camp projects can be performed by Girl Scouts of all ages as a Take Action or Service Project in addition to earning the Bronze Award, Silver Award and Gold Award. Looking for ideas? Let us know! Please remember to get approval before commencing your projects. Thank you for all you do to keep our camps beautiful!

Activities Available at GSCV Properties

Activity	Pamunkey Ridge	Camp Kittamaqund
Archery	✓	✓
Canoes	✓	✓
Kayaks	✓	✓
Stand Up Paddle Boards	✓	
Fishing	✓	✓
Hiking Trails	✓	✓
Volleyball	✓	
Bicycles	✓	
GAGA Pit	✓	
Sports Equipment	✓	✓
Swimming (pool only)	✓	

Activities at Camp

Use the chart above to see what activities are available at each location. Girls should decide what they want to do when planning an overnight. Common activities at camp include:

Archery: Equipment is available. Troops must provide documentation of an adult with archery certification.

Canoe/Kayak/Stand Up Paddle Board: Equipment is available. Troops must provide an adult with canoe/kayak/stand up paddle board certification and proof of lifeguard certification.

Events/Activities: See website for information on the events held at council program properties.

Fishing: Fishing is offered from the shore. Bring your own equipment and bait.

Marked Hiking Trails: A variety of scenic hiking trails are located at each program property.

GAGA Pit: Available for use

Sports Equipment: A variety of items are available at each program property.

Swimming (Pamunkey Ridge Only): Troops may ask in advance to swim during their stay. Troops must provide a certified lifeguard and watchers and follow posted waterfront procedures.

Amenities Available at Each Camp Property

Activity	Pamunkey Ridge	Camp Kittamaqund
Cabins (cots and mattresses provided)	✓	
Platform Tents (cots and mattresses provided)		✓
Tent Camping Area	✓	✓
Enclosed Shelter with covered porch in Unit		✓
Arts & Crafts Pavilions	✓	
Nature Trails	✓	✓
Charcoal Grills	✓	✓
Dining Hall	✓	✓
Commercial Kitchen*	✓	✓
Fire Circles	✓	✓
Modern Restroom and Shower Facilities	✓	
Rustic Restroom and Modern Shower Facilities		✓
Outdoor Pavilions	✓	
Picnic Area	✓	✓
Indoor Program Area (Dance Studio)	✓	
Amphitheater	✓	
Golf Carts**	✓	✓
Treehouse (arts & crafts building)		✓
15 Acre Lake (boating)	✓	
Cove (boating)		✓
Refrigerator in unit	✓	✓

***Per Virginia Department of Health, beginning July 1, 2018, ServSafe® Manager Certification is required to cook in the commercial kitchen. If using precooked foods, Virginia Food Handlers Certificate is required.**

**Golf Carts are available seasonally (adults only on golf carts please)

Pamunkey Ridge Girl Scout Camp

Camp Kittamaqund

Pamunkey Village	Mattaponi Village
106 Beds	145 beds
11 cabins (3 ADA cabins)	14 cabins (1 ADA cabin)
Fire Circle	Fire Circle
1 Bath House	2 Bath Houses

Sleepy Hollow Unit
40 beds (10 platform tents)
Fire Circles
Showers
Bathroom (Environmentally Friendly)
Enclosed shelter with small porch



How to Reserve Your Camping Adventure

Camp facilities are available for rental seven days a week, pending availability. Girl Scout Troop camp reservations open twice a year (October and May). All reservations are secured upon payment unless you are notified otherwise by council staff.

Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia offers an online registration system called COMAR (Commonwealth Online Membership & Activity Registration). Please note that at times council events such as Archery Days may be occurring on the camp property the same dates as your camping adventure. If this occurs, a note will be in the description on COMAR.

To reserve your camping experience, visit www.comgirlscouts.org and follow these steps:

- Step 1:** Log into COMAR (located at the top right of the GSCV Website menu bar)
- Step 2:** Check camp availability by going to the activities tab. Use the filter on the left to identify the date you would like to camp and see the availability. You can also type in “reservation” and all current camp reservations will list.
- Step 3:** After selecting the date you would like to reserve, read the description, and then select Register now. You will reserve for the number of girls and adults you wish to secure a spot for camping. You do not identify specific campers at this point just camp spots.
- Step 4:** Follow through the registration process, and once payment is complete you will receive a confirmation email to identify the facilities at camp your group would like to use. Please make sure you complete and send as soon as possible by replying to the email.
- Step 5:** Once your facility preferences are received you will receive additional information to customize your camp out as well as how your group will complete their registration for the camp out.

Questions on reserving your space? Email gshelper@comgirlscouts.org.

Outdoor Training Options

Camping, a great Girl Scout tradition, is one of the very first activities that Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low encouraged for girls. The key to an enjoyable troop-camping experience is being prepared. This opportunity is completely girl and volunteer led...how exciting! Use the outdoor skills you've acquired in training (Overnight Basics/Troop Camping Essentials) and experience the wonderful world outdoors.

To meet Safety Activity Checkpoints (SAC) and Virginia Department of Health (VDH) guidelines, all groups camping on Girl Scouts of the Commonwealth of Virginia properties are required to have adults fulfilling the following roles:

- *Outdoor Essentials training* is required for troops staying overnight and/or planning to cook over an outdoor fire.
- Up-to-date first aid and CPR/AED certification for an adult accompanying your troop must be provided to the council no later than two weeks prior to the desired reservation date.
- A volunteer with ServSafe Manager Certification if planning to cook in the commercial kitchen. (VHD)
- A volunteer with Virginia Food Handlers Certificate If using precooked foods. (VHD)

Outdoor Essentials Training - *available in person and online!*

Outdoor Essentials Training is required before taking a group of girls on an overnight camping experience or instructing girls in outdoor cooking or fire building skills. Depending on your skill level and prior experience, this course can be completed in person or online. *Online* training is designed for those individuals who have extensive camping experience or have been trained by another organization or Girl Scout Council.

Overnight Basics Online - *Available online!*

This online experience is required for any troops wanting to take girls for any overnight experience, such as any community event, lock-ins, backyard campouts, or overnight events at GSCV camps.

Enrichment Learning

Outdoor Skill-Building Videos - There are six outdoor skill-building videos covering topics ranging from setting up a campsite to camp cookery to cleaning up—all to help you plan your outside adventures and get girls and adults excited about heading outdoors.

What's more, you can tap into Venture Out!

(<http://gsuniversity.girlscouts.org/resource/venture-out>), a unique resource that can help you make the outdoor experience more girl-led and gain new insights (or refresh what you already know) so you feel more confident leading more girls to engage with the outdoors.



Troop Camp FAQ's

When is check in/check out?

Weekend check-in begins on Friday at 4:30 pm. and check-out is Sunday at 4 pm. When possible, early check-ins will be accommodated.

What is the camp reservation fee? Effective October 1, 2018

Our all-inclusive fee includes access to all camp activities available on the dates of your reservation and overnight accommodations. Most groups reserve the facilities for two nights; however, one night and day options are available 60 days in advance. Fee includes access to activities, cabins/tents.

\$20 per person	Two Nights
\$10 per person	Two Nights December through February (Pamunkey Ridge)
\$12 per person	One Night March through November (Pamunkey Ridge)
\$10 per person	Day Use (Troops can reserve day use 60 Days in advance)
\$50 per pavilion	Tuesday – Thursday from 4pm – 8pm (Pavilion at Pamunkey Ridge)

Special pricing to reserve the entire camp is available. Email gshelper@comgirlscouts.org for details.

When are payments due? Effective October 1, 2018

A deposit of **\$3** per person is required at the time of reservation. Full payment is due **three weeks** prior to group camp date.

Requirements for Troop Camping

Overnight troop camping is open to troops at all grade levels. All participants staying overnight on our properties need to be current, registered members of Girl Scouts. Adults need a current background check.

- *Outdoor Essentials* training is required for troops staying overnight and/or planning to cook over an outdoor fire.
- Up-to-date first aid and CPR/AED certification for an adult accompanying your troop must be provided to the council no later than two weeks prior to the desired reservation date.
- Girl-to-adult ratios outlined in *Safety Activity Checkpoints* must be followed. For troop camping, ratios are two adults for every six Girl Scout Daisies, twelve Brownie Girl Scouts, sixteen Junior Girl Scouts, twenty Cadette Girl Scouts, or twenty-four Senior or Ambassador Girl Scouts.
- If using Archery, boats or pool, certification for adult(s) 18 years of age or older must be provided two weeks in advance.
- If planning to use Commercial Kitchen, see Serve Safe certification requirement on page 6.



Are Camp Properties Open Year Round?

Our camp properties are open for troop camping seven days a week.

- Camp Pamunkey Ridge is open year round; however, it is closed between Memorial Day and Labor Day for resident camp and volunteer day camp use.
- Camp Kittamaquund is open April – October.
- Camp properties are closed during council holiday breaks.

Tours of Program Properties

If you wish to visit a camp property before your reservation date, you can schedule an appointment with the property team by emailing gshelper@comgirlscouts.org.

Do groups share camp facilities and accommodations?

In classic Girl Scout tradition of sisterhood, please be prepared to share the facilities at camp such as the cabins, pavilions, activity areas, and kitchen/dining hall facilities. An opportunity to coordinate with any group camping simultaneously with you will be coordinated in the weeks before camping so everyone can Be Prepared.

Is there a staff member on site?

A member of our property team checks in groups and is available throughout your stay should you need facility support.

Male Volunteers or Chaperones

Men are welcome to camp at council program properties. However, necessary arrangements need to be made in advance that include separate sleeping quarters and separate bathrooms. Adult volunteers should inform parents that a male will be attending and the sleeping arrangements for men.

Cancellations/Transfers – Effective October 1, 2018

- Rescheduling or transferring a booking is allowed one time in the same membership (October 1 – September 30) year as long as it occurs **six weeks prior** to the reservation date. Service Units and Troops will incur a \$25 processing fee when they request to transfer dates or switch program properties, within six weeks of the reservation.
- All cancellations need to be received in writing **eight weeks** prior to the reservation date to receive a refund. Troops and Service Units need to email gshelper@comgirlscouts.org to cancel a rental date. Troops will incur a \$50 processing fee for cancellations. Service Units will incur a \$100 processing fee for cancellations of entire property.
- GSCV reserves the right to close a camp property if the weather is too severe or if there is major equipment failure. If the council closes a camp facility, a full refund will be issued.