

Family Connections

events • girl-powered stories • council news



*Girl Scout
Updates for
Parents &
Caregivers*

girl scouts 
of the colonial coast

Cookie Booths are Coming...

We kicked off the season with door-to-door sales on January 13 and now we're gearing up for booth sales which begin on February 25.

Information, downloadable resources and more for all our cookie sellers and their families can be found at gscoc.org.

The Lessons Cookies Teach

Selling Girl Scout Cookies is about so much more than having fun and earning rewards; since all proceeds stay local, each Girl Scout is contributing to their troop's funds and learning essential skills that fall under the larger umbrella of Entrepreneurship, one of the four main pillars of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Learn why this matters in [Today's Girls, Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs](#), a report from the Girl Scout Research Institute.

MyGS System Downtime

Access to myGS will be unavailable **2/4–2/5** due to routine system maintenance. We know that it's a busy time of year for Girl Scouts, which is why we want to make sure our system is in tip-top shape! Routine system maintenance is necessary for keeping things running smoothly. [Learn more at girlscouts.org](https://www.girlscouts.org).

Summer Camp Registration Opens February 12



Get the Guide

It may be cold outside right now, but we promise, warmer days and nights are ahead, and we can't wait to spend some of them with you at camp! Early-bird registration opens on February 12. Start making your plans now: [Download the 2024 Summer Camp Guide](#) (PDF) or [read it as a flipbook online](#).

Seeking Camp Counselors

Want to spend the summer getting paid to have fun? [Check out this video](#) from one of our 2023 summer camp counselors on why she loves teaching at Girl Scout camp, then make plans to [join us yourself for the summer of 2024](#).

Camp Open House

Every Saturday from March 2 through April 6 we'll be hosting an [open house](#) at one of our camp properties. Discover the fun that awaits you at summer camp before the season begins!

Care Packages for the Military ends on March 1

GSCCC has been collecting health care items to be included in USO care packages for our military members. There is still time to participate! Learn how and get more information on suggested items at gsgcc.org/military.



Bronze Award:
Friendship Rock Garden



Cookie Kickoff



Meet Volunteer Marsha
Riibner-Cady

In The Spotlight: Stories from the GSCCC Blog

Bronze Award Spotlight: Friendship Rock Garden—Troop 1468 created a space for kindness to grow at Grafton Middle School. [Read the full article](#)

Cookie Kickoff Recap—Nearly 700 Girl Scouts came together to celebrate the start of cookie season! [Read the full article](#)

Volunteer Spotlight: Marsha Riibner-Cady—This Girl Scout alum and service unit delegate has a passion for teaching first aid. [Read the full article](#)

Want to see your news featured on our blog? [Share your story with GSCCC!](#)



Celebrate World Thinking Day: Start Thinking, Start Changing!

Join your fellow Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from over 150 countries around the world on **February 22**, and earn this special patch. Think about this

year's focus of "Our World, Our Thriving Future: The Environment and Global Poverty" and explore how these issues are even more challenging for girls and women in your communities and around the world. Think about the issues that contribute to the problems and about the little things you can do to make a big difference! Learn more and get started today!

First Day Patch Contest

We want YOU to design our First Day Patch! Your design could be produced as the official patch given to everyone who renews their membership on April 1, 2024. Follow the theme: "Your Year of Adventure" and submit your original design by March 15. Get all the details at gscoc.org/renew. Good luck!



Girl Scouts Magazine (Winter/Spring 2024)

The latest edition of good news and program information from Girl Scouts of Colonial Coast is out now. Has it hit your mailbox yet? If not, be on the lookout. In the meantime, [you can read it online!](#)

Upcoming Events

Download a printable version of the entire calendar of events through September 2024: [Program Events Calendar](#) (PDF)

It's Your Story, Tell It! Journey – Saturday, March 2

Girl Scout Journeys are multi-session experiences in which girls dig deeper into their interests and use the skills they gain along the way to make a difference in their community. While badges show the world you've learned a new skill, Journey awards say, I found a way to make a difference.

Location: Virginia Wesleyan University, Virginia Beach

Levels: All

Registration Deadline: February 14

AIM – Saturday, March 2

Aim for your archery patch: line up your bow and arrow, stand straight and shoot! With some practice and instructors coaching, you may become the next archery champion.

Location: Camp Darden, Courtland

Levels: J/C/S/A

Registration deadline: February 22

Axe Throwing – Saturday, March 2

Join us on the axe-throwing range and learn the skills to hit the bullseye!

Location: Camp Darden, Courtland

Levels: C/S/A

Registration deadline: February 22

Rock Wall – Saturday, March 9

Challenge yourself to see how high and how fast you can climb our indoor rock wall! Explore your limits and reach new heights.

Location: Camp Skimino, Williamsburg

Levels: J/C

Registration deadline: February 29

Year in the Life of a Girl Scout: Spirituality and Faith – Saturday, March 9

Everything in Girl Scouting is based on the Girl Scout Promise and Law, which include many principles and values that are common across religions. Girl Scouts is welcoming and inclusive to members of all faiths. Every March, during the week of Girl Scouts birthday, girls also celebrate Faith Week.

Celebration days include Girl Scout Sunday, Girl Scout Jummah, Girl Scout Sabbath and Girl Scout Shabbat. See how you can connect your faith with Girl Scouting activities and come learn about other faiths!

Location: Bethany UMC, Hampton

Levels: All

Registration deadline: February 21



GSCCC Shop Specials

February 7, 14, 21 and 28: Discount Wednesdays!

Pick a lucky heart at checkout and receive a 10% or 15% discount off the entire purchase. *May not be combined with any other offer.*

Special Hours:

- The Shop will be at all three Cookie Count-n-Go locations on Saturday, February 24 (7:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.)

Anywhere Belt Bag: Strap on this useful accessory and hit the ground running! Adjustable strap ensures a perfect fit. Available in assorted colors, see shop for details. \$10 each.

Magic Cookie Lounge Shorts: Super soft, colorful shorts for girls designed in a tie dye motif with side seam pockets. \$25 each.

Magic Cookie Lounge Pants: Super soft fleece makes these pants extra comfy. Side seam pockets, jogger style with fuller cut at hip and thigh and relaxed fit that tapers to the ankles. Girls' \$29 each, Women's \$34 each.

Sherpa Fleece Blankets: Ultra-soft, warm blankets perfect for bundling up at the cookie booth or the big game. Available in Oatmeal (shown above), Navy Heather, Black, or Grey Heather, they measure 50" x 60". \$40 each.

Your one-stop-shop for all the cookie merch your budding entrepreneur needs and fun, personal items, too—[let's go shopping!](#)

Two Celebrations for Bricks and Benches in 2024

When you dedicate a commemorative brick or bench in 2024, you will have your choice of attending two celebrations to unveil the new bricks and benches at A Place for Girls. If you are purchasing as a gift or tribute, you can invite your honoree(s) to these upcoming ceremonies, too! [Learn more at gsgcc.org](https://gsgcc.org).