

Volunteer News

Training • Events • Activities • Tips

girl scouts
of the colonial coast



Girl Scout Volunteer News & Updates for February 2024

First of all, thank you. Thank you for giving of your time and talent during this busy time of the Girl Scout year: cookie season! We hope you are taking advantage of these [online cookie resources and assets](#). National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend is coming up February 16-18, and cookie booths open the following Sunday, February 25. More than just a chance to boost sales, this face-time with cookie customers gives you and your Girl Scouts a chance to educate the public: there's so much more to us than cookies!

February Special Observances:

- **Youth Leadership Month**
- **Black History Month:** Earn the [Black History Month Patch](#), part of the Multicultural Community Celebration Patch Program.
- **Women Inventors Month**
- **Bird Feeding Month**
- **February 2: Groundhog Day**
- **February 10: Chinese New Year, The Year of the Dragon**
- **February 14: Valentine's Day**
- **February 14-20: Random Acts of Kindness Week** – Try activities from the [Spread Kindness Patch Program](#) this week!
- **February 22: World Thinking Day** (*see below!*)
- **February 26: Letter to an Elder Day**
- **February 29: Leap Day**

MyGS System Downtime

Access to myGS (including the Volunteer Toolkit and gsLearn) will be unavailable **2/4-2/5** due to routine system maintenance. Prepare now; learn more at [girlscouts.org](https://www.girlscouts.org).



World Thinking Day, Feb. 22

Every year, Girl Scouts around the globe celebrate World Thinking Day. It's a day of international friendship and a time to stand up for causes that could improve the lives of girls around the globe. The 2024 World Thinking Day theme is "Our World, Our Thriving Future: The Environment and Global Poverty." Use these resources to explore this topic and earn this patch!

- [Download the Facilitator Guide for Grades K - 5](#)
- [Download the Facilitator Guide for Grades 6 - 12](#)



Activities and Events

Winter Fun: Snow Globe Habitat

Equipment: Small jar with lid, waterproof glue, hole punch, wax paper, animal figurine that will fit in the jar.

Procedure: Take a clean jar (such as a baby food jar) and remove the lid. Using waterproof glue, glue a small plastic or ceramic figure of an animal that is active in winter to the center of the inside of the lid. Talk about that animal and its habitat while you use a hole punch to make "snowflakes" out of waxed paper. Place the punched holes (and/or glitter, if you like), in the jar and fill the jar with water. When the glue has dried thoroughly, put the lid on the jar and tighten it. (Science Tip: Here's a chance to talk about water displacement! How much room should you leave so that your animal figure won't cause an overflow?) Invert the jar and watch it snow on your animal!

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

Essential Oils – Saturday, March 16

Harmful chemicals are out, and essential oils are in! Learn how to make your own hand sanitizer and other cleansers using green ingredients that are good

for the environment and easy on your skin. We'll experiment with different essential oils and other non-toxic substances to make great-smelling items you can take home and use every day.

Levels: C/S/A

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

(Registration deadline: March 1)

STEM CONNECT: Engineering and Women's History Month – Saturday, March 16

Come meet amazing people in STEM careers as we celebrate Women's History Month with a fun day of engaging, hands-on STEM activities for the whole family. You will encounter robotics, space science and medical fields, local universities, and more!

Location: Virginia Air and Space Center, Hampton

Levels: All

(Registration deadline: March 2)

Teen Soirée – Saturday, February 10

Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors: it's time to party! We'll split up into groups to prepare special courses to share, then change into fancy dress (bring your own outfit) to enjoy our luncheon soire together. Plus, you'll complete some badge or patch requirements along the way!

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake

Levels: C/S/A

(Registration deadline: March 1)

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

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 gsgccc.org/military.



Upcoming Adult Trainings

Axe Throwing Instructor Training – February 18

Join us for axe-throwing training at Camp Darden, where you will learn to empower participants to do their best while sticking the axe in a bullseye. Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to instruct their troop or group on axe throwing.

Event Location: Camp Darden, Courtland

Registration Deadline: February 15

Climbing Wall Instructor Training – February 18

Learn how to set up and take down the climbing wall at Camp Darden, as well as some knot-tying and belaying skills. Once you have completed this training, you and one other instructor will be able to host your troop or groups at the climbing wall.

Event Location: Camp Darden, Courtland

Registration Deadline: February 15



We're hiring for summer camp!

Want to spend the summer getting paid to have fun? We offer career skills to build up your resume, leadership experience, training/certifications, and a chance to work with a diverse team including international staff. [Learn more and apply online today!](#)

Early-bird registration for summer camp opens on February 12. We can't wait to get back to camp with you! [Download the 2024 Summer Camp Guide \(PDF\)](#) or [read it as a flipbook online.](#)

NEW! Grow Your Troop

Girl Scouts is all about making new friends—and keeping the old! [Check out the tips and resources on this page](#) for ways you can engage new families, welcome new girls, and expand your network of volunteers!



Our Stories: In the Spotlight

Donor Spotlight: JoAn Berry—A star amongst our volunteers, JoAn strongly believes in the Girl Scout mission. [Read the full article](#)

JGLS Induction Ceremony—GSCCC welcomed four new members to the Juliette Gordon Low Society. [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](#)

Browse these and other inspiring stories featuring local Girl Scouts, volunteers, alum, and more at gsc.org/blog.



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!](#)

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 gsgccc.org](https://gsgccc.org).



GSGCCC 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!](#)