



Girl Scout Council of Colonial Coast

# OUR OWN COUNCIL'S LOU HENRY HOVER BROWNIE PATCH



**GUIDELINES:** Complete all of the activities that are listed.

Lou Henry Hoover Memorial Patch  
Adapted for Girl Scout Brownies by Troop 5455 SU 717

Read and discuss the following upon entering the memorial: Lou Henry Hoover was the wife of an American president. She helped Girl Scouts learn about the out-of-doors. This Lou Henry Hoover Memorial Sanctuary is dedicated to her memory and all her efforts to help Girl Scouts.

1. At Croushore Observation Station look for the tall thin rods with green leaves that look like grass with large furry tops filled with seeds. These are called Phragmites and do not belong here. How do you think they got here? Hint: think about seeds and how they travel on wind and water. Sometimes plants that do not belong in a place crowd out plants that should be there. Do you think that has happened here?
2. Find the weather station at the Jackite Observation Platform. Look at the poster that has pictures of clouds. Do you see any of those clouds in the sky above you today? What is the weather like? Is the wind blowing hard or is it hardly blowing at all? Can you feel it on your face?
3. On the creek side of the boardwalk near Happy Birding Point, you should see a wild cherry tree with shiny green leaves. In the spring there are red or brown berries in its branches. Do you think animals could eat the berries? What other parts of a tree do animals use? A dead standing tree is called a snag. Look around you to find a snag. What birds peck at trees that are living or dead? What are they looking for when they peck?
4. Before crossing the bridge, look at the water below. When looking at the water from this side (before going further into the Outback), if the water is moving from left to right, we say the tide is going out. If the water is moving from right to left, we say the tide is coming in. This means this area is a tidal basin and the water level rises or falls. Does this movement of the water explain one way plant seeds move to other areas around them? What are some other ways seeds travel to other areas? Before you leave this area, look at the color of the water. Can you see the bottom? You probably cannot because this is one of the most polluted areas of Chesapeake. What does the word polluted mean? What are some of the causes of this pollution?
5. On the Warfield Creek Walk, you can sometimes see the Trumpet Vine. These vines have red-orange tube shaped flowers that can grow up to three inches long. This flower has a special juice called nectar. Do you think a bird can drink from the flowers? If so, what really small bird has a long beak that can fit in the trumpet flower? How does the Hummingbird feeding on the flower show that nature shares with one another? What are some other ways nature shares with one another?
6. Watch a bird, mammal, or insect for as long as you can OR find evidence that they have been there, such as tracks, or partially eaten plants. Make this a quiet activity as girls explore the natural world around them. How do people fit into the world around us? What animals can you imitate?
7. Take a hike on the Great Bridge Lions Club Nature and Visibility Trail to the Gathering place. Look up at the trees. Is this area what you think of as a forest? What natural things make up a forest? How many of them have you seen around you? What else could you find in another forest area? Make a game of naming things you find in the forest area.

Now that you have followed some trails and found lots of natural things to enjoy, continue to explore The Outback at *A Place for Girls* with your troop. There are many more things to do here. Your group may decide to have a cookout or do the Fitness Trail patch program. Enjoy the world outdoors and come back soon. Share the fun with someone else today.