



Let the Cookie Season Begin!

For more than 100 years, Girl Scouts and their enthusiastic supporters have helped ensure the success of the iconic annual Girl Scout Cookie Program – and had fun, developed valuable life skills and made their communities a better place every step of the way. Girl Scouts of the Colonial Coast will kick off the season with door-to-door sales on **Saturday, January 13** with booth sales following in late February, and of course the online platform, Digital Cookie. (Read on for details about our [Digital Cookie Video Contest!](#))

This year's theme, Unbox the Future, aims to remove social barriers that often keep girls boxed in. When bold, goal-getting Girl Scouts sell a package of cookies, they're doing much more than what's seen at face value—they're entrepreneurial powerhouses creating a more equitable future for themselves and the world. Every box of cookies sold provides invaluable experiences for Girl Scouts such as service projects, troop travel and summer camp.

Thousands of GSCCC Girl Scouts participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program, which provides vital girl-led entrepreneurial and transferable life skills that build courage, confidence and character. Girl Scouts can also earn a variety of related badges and awards including Cookie Business badges,

Financial Literacy badges, Cookie Entrepreneur Family pins and Entrepreneur badges.

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



While the Cookie Season is at the top of every Girl Scout's list in January, there are other food-themed celebrations to observe this month. For example, National Shortbread Day; have you ever tried the original Girl Scout Cookie recipe from 1917?

- January 4: National Spaghetti Day
- January 6: National Shortbread Day
- January 19: National Popcorn Day
- January 24: National Peanut Butter Day
- January 31: National Hot Chocolate Day

Helpers Needed for Cookie Count-n-Go

Have fun and lend a hand at our annual Cookie Count-n-Go on February 24. We will distribute approximately 75,000 cases of cookies, which equates to 900,000 boxes of cookies to more than 680 troops! Three locations to choose from: Suffolk, Virginia Beach or Newport News. It's a fun day working alongside other volunteers — and you'll be thanked with a box of Girl Scout Cookies at checkout! Choose a shift or help all day. [Learn more and RSVP by February 5, 2024.](#)

Walking in a Winter Wonderland – Together!

Even though it might be chilly, take time to get outdoors! Time spent outdoors has been suggested to have restorative benefits and can help with stress reduction and prevention of depression. During these months of decreased daylight, seeing some sun can also help to chase away the blues. Take a winter nature walk with your family at a local park or at a GSCCC property! [The Outback](#) behind A Place for Girls in Chesapeake is a designated site on the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail, as well as being a [Lou Henry Hoover Memorial Sanctuary](#).

Did someone say Summer Camp?

Speaking of getting outdoors...The 2024 GSCCC Camp Guide will be posted to our [summer camp page](#) later this month. Early-bird registration opens on February 12. [Applications for Camp Staff](#) are being accepted now!



Silver Award: Community
Diaper Need



Fall Encampment at
Darden



Community Troop
Designs Board Games

In The Spotlight: Stories from the GSCCC Blog

Silver Award Spotlight: Diaper Need in my Community—Girl Scout Teagan made significant contributions to the greater Hampton Roads Diaper Bank. [Read the full article](#)

Fall Encampment at Darden—Troops enjoyed a fun fall weekend of outdoor activities, campfires, and s'mores! [Read the full article](#)

Community Troop Designs Board Games—Third grade girls at St. Helena Elementary completed a fun STEM badge together. [Read the full article](#)

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

Care Packages for the Military

Now through March 1, GSCCC is collecting health care items to be included in USO care packages for our military members. Learn how you can participate and get more information on suggested items at gscccc.org.

Drop Off Locations:

- A Place for Girls, 912 Cedar Road, Chesapeake
- Sunshine Quilt Corner, 896 J Clyde Morris Blvd, Newport News

Upcoming Events

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



Carnival of the Animals

Enjoy Symphoncity's 25th Annual Lollipop Concert for Children & Families at Sandler Center for the Performing Arts on **January 7**. Designed for children 5-12 years old, you'll have fun hearing musical depictions of a variety of animals!

GET TICKETS

Last call for the 10th Annual Cookie Classic Run! Meet us on the Dismal Swamp Trail on Saturday, January 13, 2024.

Hanging Out – Saturday, January 20

The Adventure Park at Virginia Aquarium Presents Girl Scouts of Colonial Coast Day. Bring a piece of your Girl Scout uniform and receive a special patch from The Adventure Park! Girl Scouts and their guests of 7 years or older enjoy a special rate of \$42 per climber. Your ticket includes 30 minutes for a Safety Briefing & Harnessing session along with 3 hours of climbing in the trees. Your reserved time slot is the start time of your safety briefing.

Location: The Adventure Park, Virginia Beach

Levels: B/J/C/S/A, Adults

Registration Deadline: January 11

College Knowledge – Saturday, January 27

If you've decided that college is the best choice for you and your family, you may be feeling both excited and overwhelmed. Simplify the college preparation process by tackling it step by step, and you'll be ready to start your next chapter in no time! Regent University educators and staff will help you explore everything from test prep to financial aid.

Location: Regent University, Virginia Beach

Levels: C/S/A, Adults

Registration deadline: January 16

Diversity Awareness – Saturday, February 13

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) are core values of Girl Scouts. Older girls are invited to join us to participate in fun, thoughtful activities to earn a special patch, where we will develop an appreciation of the uniqueness and commonalities of ourselves and others, and the rich diversity of various cultures in our community and in the world. Deepen your understanding of and respect for people who may be different from you, and learn how to better relate to others. This is how we live the Girl Scout Law!

Location: Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, Newport News

Levels: C/S/A

Registration deadline: January 17

Year in the Life of a Girl Scout: World Thinking Day – Saturday, February 17

Each February 22, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides across 150 countries 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. We will honor the global Girl Scout and Girl Guide community by doing activities around this year's special theme, "Our World, Our Thriving Future: The environment and global poverty."

Location: Thalia UMC, Virginia Beach

Levels: All

Registration deadline: February 1



GSCCC Shop Specials

January 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31: Discount Wednesdays!

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

Special Hours:

- Happy New Year! The GSCCC office and shop are closed today, January 1.
- The GSCCC office and shop will be closed January 15 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.

Booth in a Bag: Everything you need to kick-start your cookie booth for 2024, at a big savings! \$55 each.

Cookie Cart: Carrying cookie boxes can be a balancing act! This cart is a safer, easier solution to balancing stacks of boxes. Designed just for Girl Scout cookie boxes, it's great for cookie delivery, secure restocking, or transporting to your booth. \$37.50 each.

Cookie Tote Bag: This reusable bag is perfect for delivering cookies or other everyday errands, and features everyone's favorite phrase: "Get your Girl Scout Cookies here!" \$3.95 each.

Cookie Hoodies: Our cozy hoodies are Girl Scout green with a colorful design on the front that reads "My Girl Scout Cookie Game is Strong" and are available in multiple sizes, \$35 each.

We have everything you need to crush your cookie sales goals this season—[let's go shopping!](#)

Listen up!

Announcing the official GSCCC Podcast, "Make the World a Better Place" — we're launching a series of stories all about the highest award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award. [Check out our first episode](#), where we sit down to chat with long-time volunteer Linda Linke, and hear about the work she's done with the Highest Awards Committee.