



Spread Kindness

Our popular patch program is back! This year's Council-wide community service effort is focused on making a difference in the lives of senior citizens. Let's show them our appreciation! Check out upcoming events, activities, and more to help you earn the patch at gscoc.org/kindness.

Keep the good feelings going as you practice emotional skills and social competence with a fun exercise from the GSUSA Activity Zone! Check out this video tutorial on how to create a bag of kindness.



This will be your LAST Family Connections enews!

We're moving to **ONE e-newsletter per month**, instead of separate ones for volunteers and families, **beginning in October**. Delivered on the **first Thursday of each month**, *The Colonial Coaster* will have sections for targeted reading so you can focus on what you need.

Plus, we're streamlining our event emails; the *GSCCC GO!* **weekly digest** of program opportunities will be **sent on Tuesdays**. *(There may sometimes be additional GSCCC emails for special promotions.)*

Make sure you are opted-in to emails from GSCCC! Visit gscgcc.org/email for more information.

BRAVE.
FIERCE. **FUN!**

It's almost time! **The Fall Product Program begins on September 12.** It combines fun and educational activities with money-earning opportunities. Girl Scouts can flex their entrepreneurial muscles with the easy digital platform as they earn patches and rewards! Learn more at gscgcc.org/fall.

Special Interest Clubs

Girl Scouts in 7th grade and up are invited to go stargazing, fly drones, cook healthy meals or hit a local trail with GSCCC's newest clubs! Most meet monthly but participation is flexible, with varied opportunities throughout the year. Learn more at gscgcc.org/clubs.

Upcoming Events

Browse online at gscgcc.org/events or [download a PDF](#) of events through May 2026. Watch the [Events Registration Tutorial](#) video guide to help you get registered!

Girl Scout Program Taste Test Day – September 20

Have you ever looked at a badge or patch and wondered, ‘Would I like this?’ Maybe you’ve done plenty of badges from one program area, but you want to try something new. Many of our staff, volunteers, and program partners offer badge and patch programs throughout the year, and they’ll be on-site with a short activity that you can try.

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake VA

Levels: All

Registration Deadline: September 10

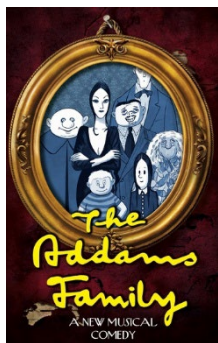
Discover the Green Spaces of W&M with the Kappa Deltas – September 27

Students at the College of William & Mary walk along red brick pathways through the Sunken Garden and hike through the woods around Lake Matoaka to go kayaking between classes. Join the Kappa Delta sisters as we explore trails and other green spaces on this beautiful, historic campus!

Location: College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA

Levels: J/C/S/A

Registration Deadline: September 10



The Addams Family Musical

Presented by the Hurrah Players, this popular musical is a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family. Everything will change on the fateful night that the Addams Family hosts a dinner for Wednesday’s “normal” boyfriend and his parents!

Shows on October 3 at 7:00 p.m., October 4 at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m., and October 5 at 2:00 p.m.

Learn more and get tickets at hurrahplayers.com.

Think Like a Citizen Scientist – October 4

Practice making scientific observations and collecting data to participate in a real, local citizen science project — Catch the King Tide with Wetlands Watch — who will inspire you to complete a Take Action project to address an issue in your community. Much of this program will take place outdoors so please dress for the weather and be prepared to move around!

Location: Norfolk, VA

Levels: All

Registration Deadline: September 17

Good Skin Knowledge – October 5

Learn how to care for the skin you're in! Students from Eastern Virginia Medical School will join us to present the Good Skin Knowledge program from the American Academy of Dermatology. We will cover several topics, including the importance of sun safety for all skin tones.

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake, VA

Levels: B/J/C

Registration Deadline: September 24

STEM Club: Solar Energy – October 11

Let's scope out the 'S' in STEM as we delve into the science of solar energy! We'll meet Daisy the SmartFlower and learn about innovative ways to protect the environment. We will do science experiments inside and out (weather dependent) so please dress for the weather!

Location: A Place for Girls, Chesapeake, VA

Levels: All

Registration Deadline: September 24



Girl Scout Fest 2025: Let's GROW! – October 18

Girl Scout Fest returns to Northwest River Park this fall for outdoor activities, fun experiences with our community partners, beloved Girl Scout traditions, and more! Get your troop and family together and get ready to GROW into a new membership year!

Location: Northwest River Park, Chesapeake, VA

Levels: All / Family-friendly

Registration Deadline: October 1

International Day of Peace

Let's celebrate the International Day of Peace on September 21; this day is dedicated to strengthening the ideals of peace among all nations and peoples. The United Nations has set the theme for this year as ["Act Now for a Peaceful World"](#) and as Girl Scouts, you can take action now! Start conversations about the urgent need for kindness and understanding. Find a way to volunteer that would build up your community. Report bullying (both online and offline). Try the [Pinwheels for Peace](#) activity, and plant a garden full of pinwheels on this year's International Day of Peace.

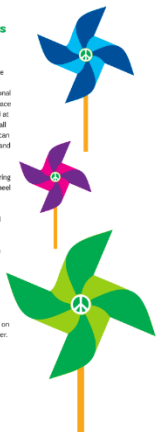
Explore Peacebuilding in Girl Scouts

Choice 1: Make a pinwheel for peace.

The Pinwheels for Peace project is a global movement of people who plant pinwheels in the ground outside public places, like libraries and schools, every year on September 21, the International Day of Peace. When the Girl Scouts joined the Pinwheels for Peace movement in 2011, more than 4 million pinwheels were planted at thousands of locations around the world. One group arranged all their pinwheels to create the shape of a giant peace sign. You can even organize a Pinwheels for Peace event in your community and create an entire garden full of pinwheels.

To make your pinwheel, you will need scissors, crayons or coloring supplies, a pin, a pencil with an eraser, and a copy of the pinwheel template on the next page.

- 1 Cut out the pinwheel square on the black solid line and the peace circle on the white solid line.
- 2 On one side, write down what peace means to you. On the other side, draw, color, or decorate your pinwheel.
- 3 Following the lines on the template, cut from all four corners on the black solid lines, leaving about two inches of center uncut.
- 4 Gently bend (don't fold) the paper and line up the dots on the outer edge of the pinwheel with the dot in the center.
- 5 Stick the pin through all dots into the pencil eraser.



Kickoff your year as a new volunteer!

If you've ever thought about taking the journey with your Girl Scout and getting involved, you are invited to the Volunteer Kickoff on September 13. It's a fun day of workshops, trainings, creativity stations, and more — plus, we are excited to announce that GSUSA National Board President, Noorain Khan, will be joining us as our special guest speaker! Come ready to learn, be inspired, and make some new friends. **Register by September 5.**



Bronze Award: Helping Shelter Pets



Community Troops in Newport News



Silver Award: Bridging to Middle School

In The Spotlight: Our Stories

Community Troops in Newport News—GSCCC partnered with multiple youth-serving organizations this summer. [Read the full article](#)

Bronze Award Spotlight: Helping Shelter Pets—Girl Scout Juniors Evelyn and Lucy worked to benefit animals at Suffolk Humane and raise awareness about the benefits of spaying and neutering. [Read the full article](#)

Silver Award Spotlight: Bridging to Middle School—Girl Scouts replaced a worn, unsafe footbridge used by middle school students. [Read the full article](#)

NEW Podcast: Season 2, Episode 9—Say hello to 2025 GSUSA Gold Award Scholarship recipient Maureen. She's a rising sophomore at the University of Alabama with a long-standing history of service. [Listen on Spotify or YouTube](#)

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

Last Call for Teen Applications for the Board of Directors

Are you interested in serving on the Board of Directors? GSCCC is seeking Girl Scouts ages 14-17 (or who will be at least 14 as of October 1, 2025) to serve on the Council's Board of Directors for a two-year term. This is an exciting way to take an active role in the critical decisions that impact our members. You'll meet and work with interesting and influential people, and have an opportunity to make sure that those people hear from you, too. **Apply online now!**

Girl Scouts: Where Leaders Grow

Share this page of [inspiring stories and all the benefits of Girl Scouting](#) with other families you know, and invite them to come along on the journey with you and your Girl Scout this year!



GSCCC Shop Specials

SPECIAL SHOP HOURS:

- The GSCCC office and shop are closed today, September 1, in observance of Labor Day.

Discount Wednesdays!

Spin the lucky wheel at checkout and receive a 5%, 10% or 15% discount off the entire purchase, or score a special surprise! *May not be combined with any other offer.*

Say Yes to the Vest!

Get ready for the new Girl Scout membership year with your uniform essentials! Our

Start-up Kits include everything you need in one convenient bundle: uniform vest, American flag patch, council identification strip set, troop numbers, insignia tab, WAGGGS official pin and official Girl Scout membership pin. Flat rate shipping or in-store pickup is available, and you can [order directly online through this secure form](#).

Plus, check out our other essentials to complete the look and launch your year!

SHOP ONLINE



What's better than an adventure? Sharing it with friends! Another year of Girl Scouts brings amazing new experiences, best friends, and outdoor exploration. From fun science experiments to discovering new skills, her friends are waiting to create memories. Renew today for another year with your Girl Scout squad.

**Girl Scout memberships must be renewed annually. The membership year is October 1–September 30.*

RENEW NOW