

Volunteer News

Training • Events • Activities • Tips

girl scouts
of the colonial coast



Girl Scout Volunteer News & Updates for July 2024

As we celebrate our nation's independence this month, we recognize the role that you play in building strong, independent Girl Scouts who will lead us in the future. This is also National Make a Difference to Children Month, and Girl Scout volunteers make a HUGE difference, so thank you! Read on for some fun activities to try with your girls, and lots of upcoming training opportunities to expand or update your skillsets—plus some exciting announcements!

July Special Observances:

- **National Ice Cream Month**
- **National Lost Pet Prevention Month:** Fireworks or other loud celebrations on July 4 are a leading cause of runaway pets.
- **National Make a Difference to Children Month:** As a Girl Scout volunteer, you live this EVERY month. Thank you!
- **Wild About Wildlife Month**
- **Social Wellness Month**
- **July 4: Independence Day** (*GSCCC office and shop will be closed*)
- **July 14:** Celebrate the 250th anniversary of the [1774 Gloucester County Resolves](#) at an interactive performance. Will you dress the liberty pole or remain loyal to the crown?
- **July 15: World Youth Skills Day**
- **July 30: Share a Hug Day**



Activities and Events

This or That? (Or, Would You Rather?)

Equipment: String, washi tape, or something you can use to divide the meeting space in half

Procedure: Mark the space with string or tape and as you ask each question, have girls stand to one side or the other. You can have each person go one at a time or the whole group answer together. (For fun, you could tell them to hop, skip, jump, or do some other movement to get to their side of the line!)

Question Examples: A “This or That” question would be “Salty or Sweet?” while a “Would You Rather” question could be “Would you rather be able to control the weather or have the ability to talk to animals?” This teaches two concepts: first, decision-making, as each girl must think about her choice and maybe explain it to the group; second, it demonstrates our differences and similarities while the Girl Scouts learn about each other in a fun way, and can act as an icebreaker for welcoming new members or starting a new troop year.

[Download the activity sheet](#) for instructions and full list of question examples.

Year in the Life of a Girl Scout: Outdoor Fun – Saturday, August 10

Meet us at Camp Skimino for a fun morning (D/B/J) or afternoon (C/S/A) outdoors! Go on a canoeing adventure, complete exciting physical challenges and create new memories as you spend some quality time enjoying nature.

Location: Camp Skimino, Williamsburg VA

Levels: All

(Registration Deadline: July 12)

Girl Scout Donut Adventure Packages

Get ready for a fun-filled, donut-themed adventure that combines learning, creativity, and badge activities. Customize and decorate your own donut while you work on a badge; this class can be tailored to your troop or group. Plus, you will receive a 20% discount on any additional purchases during your event, a future visit coupon, and a keepsake rubber duck! (Multiple dates/times available in July and August.)

Location: Duck Donuts, N Battlefield Blvd, Chesapeake VA

Levels: All



Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend, Sept. 14-15

Join us on Saturday at York River State Park in Williamsburg, Virginia or Sunday on the dunes at Jockey's Ridge State Park in Nags Head, North Carolina. A full day of fun and adventure awaits you at either location. [Learn more and sign up today!](#)

All Adult Camp Weekend – September 21-22

Just for adults! Enjoy classic camp activities like canoeing, archery, hiking, and more in a friendly environment. We've got a full agenda, including a wine and Girl Scout cookie pairing!

Location: Camp Darden, Courtland VA

Level: Adults



Canoe/SUP Instructor Trainings

Get ready to take your troop or group out on the water on GSCCC properties! In this course you will learn the basic responsibilities of a canoe/stand-up paddleboard instructor. Choose your date and location:

Sunday, July 28

Location: Camp Darden, Courtland

Time: 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Registration deadline: July 18

Saturday, August 24

Location: Camp Burke's Mill Pond, Gloucester

Time: 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Registration deadline: August 15

Basic Troop Camping – Saturday, September 7

Join us for this all-day training in outdoor skills at Camp Darden. We will cover basic outdoor camping and gear, outdoor cooking and environmental stewardship, plus plenty of tips to help Girl Scouts take the lead in planning their next outdoor overnight. All food and supplies will be provided for this training. The optional overnight will include night activities to do with your girls, additional fire skills and Girl Scout ceremonies/traditions.

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. (plus optional overnight)

Location: Camp Darden, Courtland, Virginia

Registration Deadline: August 22

Climbing Wall Facilitator Training – Sunday, September 8

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.

Time: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Location: Camp Darden, Courtland, Virginia

Registration Deadline: August 22

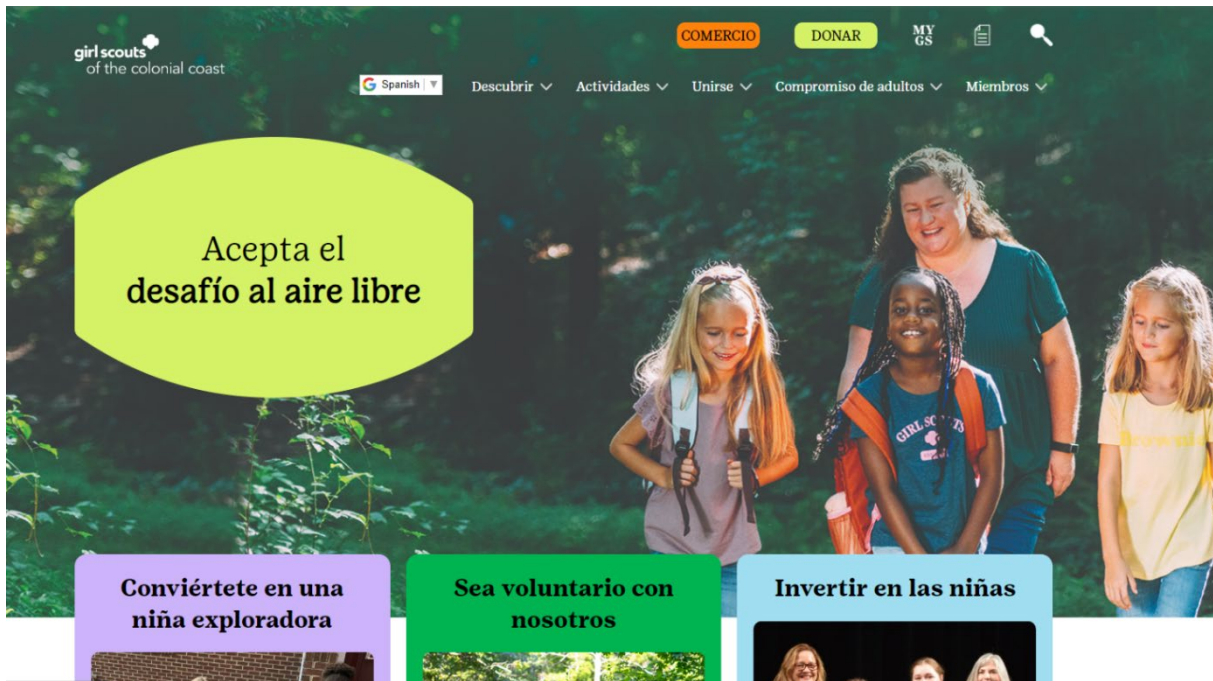
Archery/Axe Throwing Training – Sunday, September 8

Learn basic steps of shooting as well as the safety measures you must take while instructing participants on GSCCC's archery ranges. In addition, you will learn how to set up and take down the archery range itself. Once you have completed the Archery Instructor Training, you will be able to share your passion for archery with your troop or groups and conduct archery on GSCCC sites. Next, 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.

Time: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Location: Camp Darden, Courtland, Virginia

Registration Deadline: August 22



Bilingual and Spanish assets are here! You can now use the Google Translate feature to view any page of our website in Spanish, [download a bilingual "Welcome to Girl Scouts! / ¡Bienvenidos a las Girl Scouts!" brochure](#), check out the bilingual version of our [Family Connection](#) introductory publication, and find even more program resources in the VTK. Plus, bilingual [Troop Year Plans](#) for Daisies and Brownies are also coming soon! Stay tuned for more news as our Movement continues growing to support this important population.



Volunteer Spotlight: Brian Dow—This dad is proud of his Girl Scouts and proud to be an active GSCCC volunteer. [Read the full article](#)

Think Like an Engineer—Girl Scouts gathered at Camp Apasus for a fun day of STEM-focused badge work. [Read the full article](#)

Local Girl Scout to serve on National Girl Scout Advisory Board—Congratulations to Girl Scout Cadette Kaydence R. who was selected to serve on the National Girl Scout Advisory Board to the Girl Scouts of the USA! [Read the full article](#)

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

Have you heard the latest episode of the GSGCC Podcast? Hear how members like you “Make the World a Better Place” at gsgcc.org/podcast.



GSGCC Shop Specials

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

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

- The GSGCC office and shop will be closed on Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day.
- The shop will be closed July 29 and 30; there will be no Saturday hours in July.

NEW: We now carry **ChattySnaps®** buttons, tales, and mini backpacks! Check out this fun, new way to express yourself with these conversation starters, created to get people talking.

Bucket Hat: This gray cotton hat offers great protection for your outdoor adventures with a fun “Camp Hair Don't Care” design in bright spring green on the front. One size fits all; \$12.00 each.

Celebrate GSCCC Camps T-Shirt: Show your love for Colonial Coast camps this summer! All five of our camp properties are represented around a central outdoor landscape design. Comes in Adult (charcoal) and Youth (yellow) sizes, \$20 each.

More surprises are on the way so come in and let's [go shopping!](#)