



girl scouts
of central maryland



**GUIDE
TO COUNCIL
PROPERTIES**

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland | 4806 Seton Drive, Baltimore, MD 21215
T 410.358.9711 | F 410.358.9918 | gscm.org

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland

GUIDE TO COUNCIL PROPERTIES

Outdoor education and environmental awareness are key components of learning for girls. While camping girls gain independence, build new skills, get a sense of community and develop a deep appreciation for nature. Whether for a day, a week or longer, camping gives girls an opportunity to grow, explore and have fun- and because its Girl Scout camp, girls are always under the guidance of caring, trained adults. Every girl should have a chance to camp!

Girl Scouts have enjoyed the experience and adventure of camping in the great outdoors since 1912 when Juliette Gordon Low, founder of the Girl Scouts, began her first troop. Camping is a unique part of the Girl Scout experience, and a hallmark that sets us apart from many other youth programs. In addition to learning camping skills, girls have the opportunity to develop leadership skills, make new friends, learn a sense of responsibility and develop competencies and life skills which will last into their adulthood. Camping fosters very special memories for girls and adults which last a lifetime!

As campers, we are guests in the natural environment. We come to make observations and discoveries and learn about the world around us. As stewards of natural resources, it is our responsibility to preserve the beauty of our camps and leave them better than we found them. After all, Girl Scouts always leave a place better than they found it!

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland owns four camp properties:

[Camp Conowingo](#), located in Cecil County, is 600 acres of forests and meadow fields adjacent to the Susquehanna River and, is also the site of our summer resident camp program. Throughout the year girls enjoy day camp and troop camping options along with swimming and adventure options including our high and low ropes challenge course.

[Camp Ilchester](#), the home of the Clementine Peterson Activity Center and the Caitlin Dunbar Nature Center, is located in Howard County and offers a large activity field, pavilion, amphitheater and a natural trail.

[Camp Whippoorwill](#), our oldest facility is located on the Magothy River in Anne Arundel County. This facility offers a boathouse and pier for waterfront program opportunities along with a variety of sleeping accommodations for troop camping.

[Camp Woodlands](#) is also located in Anne Arundel County on Broad Creek and is home to historic Lamb Lodge.

Enjoy your camping adventure!

As a leader/advisor, we rely on you to help your girls decide on activities and assist them with the planning to carry out the activities they select. Deciding to go camping or spending the day in the out-of-doors is one of many unique Girl Scout experiences.

Each of these camp sites can be utilized for troop camping, outdoor programs, hiking, cook-outs, and any other outdoor adventure girls can dream of. Information on each of these camps can be found in this publication, including details about their facilities, maps of each camp unit and how to register and reserve a campsite. Specific information on contracts and procedures for the camp you choose will be sent to you with your registration confirmation.

Our properties are primarily utilized on weekends for camping and are available to rent for use by Girl Scouts during the week for events. We invite you to explore the outdoors, new habitats and build skills at day or resident camp during the summer or on the weekends. In addition to troop camping, resident and day camping options, our sites are utilized for various outdoor program education opportunities. We also offer our facilities to individuals and businesses for parties, weddings, business or family retreats, seminars, birthday parties and much more! For more information, contact the Director of Facilities and Property services at Facilities@gscm.org or membercare@gscm.org. You may also

visit our web site, www.gscm.org, for the options available all year long, or contact the program registrar at 410.358.9711 extension 238 for more information.

To plan your trip:

1. Read this Guide to Council Properties carefully, paying special attention to the application deadlines.
2. Ensure that an adult accompanying the troop has taken [Outdoor 101](#) and [Basic Troop Camping](#) and, that an adult accompanying the troop has current first aid and CPR certification (Adult in Charge/Leader and First Aider are two separate people).
3. Visit www.gscm.org to make your reservation
4. With your troop, identify activities for the weekend.
5. Review [Volunteer Essentials](#) with attention to the [Safety Check Points](#) for the activities your troop has planned and to ensure proper adult-to-girl ratios.
6. Plan meals, including budget, shopping and safe food storage. Not all sites have refrigeration.
7. Upon confirmation of your reservation, complete and submit the Trip Application Packet (04-828).
8. Develop driving directions to the campsite.
9. Provide information for parents: permission slip, pertinent information on camp, unit/building name, emergency contact person, arrival/departure dates and times and personal gear required.
10. Provide information for emergency contact person: same as in #7 with the addition of the Camp Ranger's name, phone number, number of camp pay phone (if applicable) and travel directions.
11. Plan for weather.
12. Identify any special skills needed for the event.
13. Identify needed equipment and who is responsible for bringing it. Individual camping equipment and valuables should be labeled with name and troop whenever possible. Camp Rangers do not have equipment for you to borrow. Camp

Guidelines for use of GSCM properties

sites should have a fire grate, buckets for fire and sanitation, brooms, rakes and a saw.

nearby units and wear a button or name tag identifier.

To prepare for camp:

- Review relevant materials from Basic Troop Camping.
- Identify appropriate clothing and equipment.
- Review the following information with your campers (both girls and adults):
 1. Emergency plans (information is provided in your confirmation packet). Practice these plans when you arrive at camp.
 2. Pertinent information about prevention of Lyme disease go to: www.cchd.maryland.gov/lyme-disease/
 3. Campsite rules and etiquette

Before leaving for the camp review with drivers:

1. Parking rules and camp etiquette.
2. Driver's packet which should contain sealed envelope containing girls' health histories and permission slips (to be opened only if needed) plus directions to the campsite.

Men in Camp: Men are welcome at Girl Scouts of Central Maryland campsites; however, these guidelines must be followed:

- Men do not sleep in the same tent or room with girls. During family or "He and Me" events (in which girls share sleeping accommodations with males), ensure the details are clearly explained in parent/guardian permission slip.
- Separate latrine/restroom arrangements must be made.
- Men should be introduced to the Camp Ranger and to people in

Program Activities: GSCM provides many outdoor programs at our camps. Refer to the GS411 and our events calendar on our website for program information.

Weather: Leaders/Advisors should pay attention to the weather forecasts so that they can be better prepared for their camp stay. Be aware that the temperature at night in the woods or near the water may be cooler than "back home." Weather is often unpredictable. It is recommended that a battery operated radio or weather radio be taken so the leaders can keep abreast of changing weather conditions. Cell phone coverage is limited at our properties. The Camp Ranger will also monitor weather conditions and will contact you in the unlikely event that a camp has to be closed.

Arrival and Departure: Sites are available starting at 4:00pm on the first day of your reservation. On the last day, the site may be occupied until 12:00 pm, unless other arrangements are made in advance.

Site amenities: Consult the grid for each camp to determine site amenities. The word "electricity" means that lights and at least one electrical outlet are available. Camp electricity usually cannot stand up to the demands of all the electrical equipment we have at home. Please conserve electricity.

Cellular Phones: Cellular service at our camps depends upon individual carriers and should not be counted upon.

Reserving a site

Smoking: Smoking, both cigarettes and e-cigarettes, is only permitted in designated areas. Adults may not smoke in the presence of girls. All cigarettes must be extinguished completely and butts are to be disposed of in a designated area. No smoking is permitted while walking around the camp or in any buildings, cabins or tents.

Drugs, Alcoholic Beverages and Firearms: The use or possession of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia and firearms is prohibited on all Girl Scout properties.

Pets: Pets are not permitted on camp properties, with the exception of service animals.

Cars and Traffic: There is limited parking space at our camps. Please limit the number of vehicles you bring with you. **Only one car may be parked at the campsite.** The remaining cars must be parked in the parking lot and should be parked facing out. Speed limit is 10 mph! Please drive safely as children are likely to be present and road conditions vary.

(For non-Girl Scout groups. Please contact the program registrar for fee and reservation information)

To reserve a site, visit the website <http://www.gscm-apps.org/camps/reserve-a-campsite/>.

Troop or group camping reservations can be made online up to 90 days before the reservation date. Girl Scout events including meetings use form (07-118) or for an encampment use form (07-290). Reservation information and current site fees can be obtained from council upon request. Forms are also available on the GSCM web site. For additional questions on availability, contact (410) 358-9711 or membercare@gscm.org.

NOTE: Campsite Reservations cannot be processed without the name of the adult who holds camping certification (Has taken "Basic Troop Camping" or its equivalent) and the name of the certified first aider.

Select a camp, unit and date(s). Consider the size of your group as well as the purpose and types of activities you are planning for. Listing a backup date and site will increase your chances of getting a reservation. If you are not familiar with a particular campsite, you are encouraged to visit the camp beforehand. Contact the Camp Ranger for the property and arrange a date and time for your visit. **For security reasons, no one is allowed on Girl Scouts of Maryland properties without permission.**

Girl Scout activities are based on progression. Normal progression in the out-of-doors is: (1) activities at a day site, (2) overnight in a lodge, (3) overnight in cabins, glen shelters or yurts, (4) overnight in platform tents, tipis, (5) primitive camping in pitched tents.

Reserving a site (continued)

Additional Information for Encampment Reservations only:

Approval and signature from your Service Unit Manager or is needed on the application.

Site Confirmation:

A confirmation packet will be emailed when your application has been accepted.

The packet includes:

1. Confirmation information
2. Specific information and instructions for the site you have reserved, including contact numbers, key locations and/or key access/security code system, directions to the camp, etc.
3. Emergency and Safety information.
4. Cleaning Checklist
5. Evaluation (After camp, you access the form at the site: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FacilitiesSurvey-POSTcamp>)

Fees, Deposits, Refunds/Cancellations

A deposit is required to reserve a campsite (\$100.00 for encampment). In keeping with the Girl Scout ethic of leaving a place cleaner than you found it, a cleaning checklist will be included with your confirmation packet. Please complete the checklist prior to your departure from camp. After your departure, the Camp Ranger will inspect the site using the same checklist. If there are any discrepancies, you will be notified. **You will be charged for the cost of cleaning and or repairs if the site is left dirty or if there is damage beyond normal wear and tear. The fees for cleaning and or repairs above \$100.00 which will be billed to your troop for payment within 30 days.**

Reservation fees are due at least four weeks prior to the camping date. If the reservation is made less than four weeks prior to the camping date, the entire fee is due at the time of the reservation. Failure to pay could result in cancellation of the reservation. Reservation fees will only be refunded if the troop/group cancels the reservation at least four weeks prior to the camping date or if the council must close the camp due to weather conditions.

Quick camping 72-hour notice-pay in full and with a certified Troop Camping and First Aider.

Maintenance Request Forms

The **Maintenance Report Form** is available at each site to report maintenance concerns. If you find that an item is in need of repair or that a potentially dangerous situation should be looked at, fill out the form and leave it in the designated Ranger mailbox.

Camp CONOWINGO

Shadowbrook & Chimney Trail | 46 Camp Shadowbrook Road | Conowingo, MD 21918

Camp Conowingo's 600 acres of forest and fields is adjacent to the Susquehanna River in Conowingo, Cecil County, Maryland. The property is composed of nine parcels acquired by Girl Scouts of Central Maryland between 1955 and 1973, including Bell Manor, a historic Victorian home from the 1860's which has been renovated to return it to its original 1867 charm. Camp Conowingo is the home of Girl Scouts of Central Maryland's summer resident camp program.

Facilities

- Five year round lodges and eight seasonal units
- Conowingo Creek and small pond for fishing and ecology study
- Tennis/all-purpose court
- Hiking and Nature Trails
- Swimming Pool (available during resident camp)
- High and Low Ropes Courses
- Two commercial kitchens (Dining Hall & Friendship Circles)
- Archery

Camp CONOWINGO Shadowbrook

Paxtu

Log Cabin Laughing Water (Teepees)

Kitchen shelter-Trailing Pines

Trailing Pines

The Cottage

Camp CONOWINGO Chimney Trail

Bald Eagle Lodge

Friendship Circles

Bell Manor

Glen Shelters

Platform tent

Camp Conowingo Chimney Trail

378 Bell Manor Road

Conowingo, MD 21918

Ranger Contact # 410.585.5217

*At Laughing Water there are: 2 Log Cabins w/ 8 cots in each and 4 Tipis with four bunkbeds each

SITES CAMP CONOWINGO	Capacity	Availability	Handicapped Access	Heat	Electricity	Water	Refrigeration	Stove/Oven	Fireplace	Fire Circle	Shower	Indoor Bathroom	Latrine	Glen Shelter	Platform Tent	Yurts	Building/Lodge	Day site	Kitchen Shelter	Primitive	Picnic Tables	
Chimney Trail	168 @																					
Bald Eagle Cabins	36	Spring/ Fall				X				X			X	9								X
Bald Eagle Lodge	36	Spring/ Fall/ Winter		X	X	X	X	X	X				X				X					
Lafayette	28	Spring/ Fall				X			X	X			X		7				X			X
Heritage	28	Spring/ Fall				X			X	X			X	4					X			X
Friendship Circles	36	Spring/ Fall/ Winter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X		X			X
Bell Manor	50	Year round; special meetings & events		X	X	X	X	X			X	X						X				
Hemlock Knoll	40	Spring/ Fall			X	X				X			X						X	X		X
Shadow Brook																						
Trailing Pine	36	Spring/ Fall Winter			X	X	X			X			X			3	X		X			X
The Bungalow	10	Spring/ Fall/ Winter		X	X	X	X	X			X	X					X					
PaxTu	28	Spring/ Fall/ Winter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X					X
The Cottage/ Staff House	15	Spring/ Fall/ Winter		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X					
Laughing Water *	48	Spring/ Fall				X				X			X						X			X

SITES	CAMP CONOWIN-GO	Capacity	Availability	Handicap access	Heat	Electricity	Water	Refrigeration	Stove/Oven	Fireplace	Fire Circle	Shower	Indoor Bathroom	Latrine	Glen Shelter	Platform Tent	Yurts	Building/Lodge	Day site	Kitchen Shelter	Primitive	Picnic Tables
Whispering Glen	30						X			X	X			X	5					X		X
Fallen Timber	28						X			X	X			X		7				X		X
Rocky Ridge	36						X			X	X			X	6					X		X

Camp ILCHESTER

5042 Ilchester Road, Ellicott City, Howard County, MD 21043

Camp Ilchester is located in Ellicott City, and provides multiple opportunities for program activities camping and meetings. This 19-acre site is home to the Clementine Peterson Activity Center, the perfect venue for meetings, seminars, training and indoor programs with its large meeting rooms and commercial kitchen. This camp is also the year round home of the Caitlin Dunbar Nature Center. Tours can be arranged by contacting member care. The flag field, pavilion and amphitheater fire circle are perfect for outdoor events. Camp Ilchester was acquired by the Girl Scouts in 1949. Only day use and tent camping are allowed at this facility.

Facilities

- Clementine Peterson Activity Center and the Caitlin Dunbar Nature
- Center
- Picnic Pavilion
- Primitive camping sites
- Two day sites
- Archery Range
- Middendorf Nature Trail

Clementine Peterson Activity Center

The Climbing Wall (upon request)

The portable rock climbing wall is housed at Camp Ilchester but is used at all four properties. Service Units may reserve the rock climbing wall beginning in the fall of each year. Contact member care for more information at 410.358.9711.

Amphitheater

Ranger's Contact # 443.760.0639

20 ACRES

SITES CAMP ILCHESTER	Capacity	Availability	Handicapped Accessible	Heat	Electricity	Water	Refrigeration	Stove/Oven	Fireplace	Fire Circle	Indoor Bathroom	Latrine	Primitive	Picnic Tables	Day site
Camp Ilchester															
Pine Ridge	28	Spring/ Fall				X				X		X	X	X	X
Oak Grove		Spring/ Fall				X				X		X	X	X	X
Picnic Pavilion*		Spring/ Fall	X		X	X								X	X
Clementine Peterson Activity Center	200	Year Round	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				X

Camp WHIPPOORWILL

524 Lake Shore Drive

Pasadena, MD 21122

Camp Whippoorwill, the oldest of the GSCM properties, was acquired by Girl Scouts of Central Maryland in 1928. The property has been a favorite of Girl Scout troops for almost 90 years. Located on the Magothy River, which flows into the Chesapeake Bay, this 19 acre wooded site has much to offer:

Facilities

- Year round lodge
- 5 seasonal units
- Waterfront access
- Boat House (canoes & kayaks are available with rental agreement)
- Concrete volleyball court

The Big House A&B sides

Little House

The Lodge

Sleepy Hollow Cabin

Kitchen Shelter

Pinewoods Cabins

Holly Hills Cabins

*The door between Big House Sides A & B may be unlocked to accommodate a larger group. Sleeping capacities on each side stays the same. Tables and chairs are stored in the hallway of Side B.

Side B has a commercial kitchen

The small cabin has electric lights and one outlet. There is a sleeping space for two.

SITES	Capacity	Availability	Handicap Access	Heat	Electricity	Water	Refrigeration	Stove/Oven	Fireplace	Fire Circle	Indoor Bathroom	Shower	Latrine	Glen Shelters	Day site	Kitchen Shelter	Picnic Tables
Camp Whip-poor-will	220																
Big House Side A*	16	Year		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	2					X
Big House Side B@	20	Year	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X						X
The Lodge/ Peter Pan Pines	18				X	X	X		X	X						X	X
Sleepy Hollow	18				X	X				X			X	3		X	X
Pine-woods	22					X				X			X	5		X	X
Holly Hill	28				X	X				X				6		X	X
Little House	6				X	X	X		X	X	X						X
Boat House		Year			X	X											
Pavilions	24					X				X					X	X	X

Camp WOODLANDS

2744 Riva Road

Annapolis MD 21401

Camp Woodlands is a 34-acre site located on Broad Creek, which after joining the South River, flows into the Chesapeake Bay. This camp, located just outside Annapolis, was acquired by the Girl Scouts in 1944. The Teepee (Lamb's Lodge), a 12 sided polygon with a central fire-place, received an Award of Merit from the American Institute of Architects in 1954.

Facilities:

- Lamb's Lodge
- Program center
- Two year round lodges
- Three seasonal units
- Waterfront access
- Nature Trails

Primitive Site -

Davy Crockett

*Davy Crockett utilizes toilets, sinks and faucets in the Bath House.

TeePee/Lamb Lodge

Glen Shelters-

Merrimen Sites

Point of View

Starlet

Ranger Contact #: 410.585.5215

34 ACRES

SITES	Capacity	Availability	Handicap Access	Heat	Electricity	Water	Refrigeration	Stove/Oven	Fireplace	Fire Circle	Indoor Bathroom	Latrine	Glen Shelters	Platform Tents	Day site	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Table	Primitive	Showers
Camp WOOD- LANDS	196																		
Point of View	36			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	2						X		
Starlet	24			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X					X		
Davy Crockett*	20					X				X	X					X	X	X	X
Merrimen	36				X	X	X	X		X	X	X	6			X	X		
Bath House (next to Davy Crockett)					X	X					X								5
Teepee/ Lamb Lodge	20		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X		X		