



# **SERVICE UNIT TALKING POINTS**

**Monthly Updates for Service Units - January 2026 Edition**

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## **Welcome to 2026, Girl Scout Volunteers!**

**This is a year full of possibilities, growth, and unforgettable experiences – and we are thrilled that you are part of it! Your time, talents, and dedication keep the Girl Scout traditions of courage, confidence, and character alive, while empowering girls to thrive, lead, and shine.**

**Through exciting events and activities rooted in the four pillars of Girl Scouts – STEM, Outdoors, Life Skills, and Entrepreneurship – you are helping girls discover their strengths, embrace new challenges, and step boldly into leadership.**

**Thank you for being the heart of our Girl Scouts of Central Maryland community. Together, let's make 2026 a year of inspiration, achievement, and unforgettable memories!**

## Girl Scout Mission

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

## Girl Scout Program

Grounded in the Girl Scout Promise and Law, Girl Scouting is an experiential, cooperative education program that promotes girls' personal growth and leadership development. Partnering with caring adults, girls design fun and challenging activities that empower them and raise their voices within a local, national, and global sisterhood.

## Girl Scout Promise

*On my honor, I will try:* to serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law.

## Girl Scout Law

*I will do my best to be* honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, *and to* respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

## GSCM's Commitment

Bridging gaps in central Maryland where every girl finds relevance and thrives in a safe & welcoming space.

## In This Issue...

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Share your stories with us—we want to know what's happening in your Service Unit!

Whether it's service projects, environmental efforts, fun events, or milestones, send your stories, photos, or videos to [gscm.info/stories](https://gscm.info/stories).

We'd love a "GSCM Reporter" in every SU to help share stories for social media and the GSCM Family Newsletter. Submit by the 5th of each month for newsletter inclusion!

## Contact Us!

**Phone:** 410.358.9711

**Email:** [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org)

**Mail:** 4806 Seton Dr. | Baltimore, MD 21215



[facebook.com/gsccentralmd](https://facebook.com/gsccentralmd)



[@girlscoutscmd](https://www.instagram.com/girlscoutscmd)



[@GScentralMD](https://twitter.com/GScentralMD)



[gscm.info/linkedin](https://gscm.info/linkedin)

### Facebook Groups

GSCM Anne Arundel County

GSCM Baltimore

GSCM Carroll County

GSCM Harford County

GSCM Howard County

### Store will be closed:

**January 1 – January 5, 2026**

**Monday, January 19** – MLK Day store and offices closed

**Wednesday, January 21** – Store closes at 1:30 pm

**Monday, February 16** – President's Day store and offices closed

## GSCM Store

## Shop Store

Shop Juliette's Closet for uniforms, camping supplies, Girl Scout jewelry, Girl Scout Bronze, Gold and Silver Award memorabilia and more!

## ANNOUNCING STORE HOURS

Monday 9 AM to 4 PM

Tuesday 9 AM to 4 PM

Wednesday 9 AM to 6 PM

Thursday 9 AM to 4 PM

Friday 9 AM to 4 PM

Saturday 10 AM to 1 PM

In case of inclement weather, store closures will be on the GSCM store voicemail (410) 358-9713.

**Join the Store and Program Department staff at Shop and Share January 7th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.**

Girls, parents/guardians or Volunteers are welcome to drop in to ask questions or get more information. The January topic will be Camp and the Outdoors.

**Hosting an event with 75-100 people?** Invite the GSCM Pop-Up Store! Leaders and parents can place orders by email, pay by phone, and we'll deliver them to your event—plus set up a table with Girl Scout merchandise. Contact the store to learn more.

**The GSCM store lends Girl Scout, WAGGGS, U.S., and Maryland flags.** Pick up at the Seton store (Thurs/Fri) and return on Monday. Reserve at [gscmstore@gscm.org](mailto:gscmstore@gscm.org).

**Cookie Costumes** can be reserved for your booth sale. Each troop can reserve 2 free adorable cookie costumes that can be worn by girls or adults. Pick up from the Seton store Thursday/Friday and return on Monday. Email [gscmstore@gscm.org](mailto:gscmstore@gscm.org) to get your reservation in soon.



# Shop & Share

## Evenings

Join us once a month for a Shop & Share Event hosted by the GSCM Store and Program Team!

- ✦ Learn about Girl Scouts programs, resources, badges, patches, and trainings.
- ✦ Talk with program experts and get your questions answered.
- ✦ Shop for all your Girl Scout needs!

📍 GSCM Store | 4806 Seton Drive, Baltimore, MD

🕒 6:30–8:30 p.m. (Drop in anytime!)

\$ FREE – no registration required (open to girls, families, and volunteers)

2026

JAN.

7

### ALL THINGS CAMP & OUTDOORS

Summer 2026 camp info & outdoor gear showcase.

FEB.

5

### SPECIAL GIRL SCOUT DAYS

Celebrate Thinking Day, Girl Scout Week & 114th Birthday.

MAR.

19

### BRIDGING BASICS

Awards, process & store kits.

APR.

14

### MENTAL WELLNESS RESOURCES

Learn about patch programs & wellness guides.

MAY

6

### NEXT PROGRAM LEVEL

Guidance for girls & volunteers moving up.

More information at [gscm.info/events/](https://gscm.info/events/)



## Daisy Launch: A Kindergarten Recruitment Effort

The months of **January, February, and March** are an ideal time to connect with girls and families who are currently in **Kindergarten**, as they are well into their transition to school and may be ready to explore new activities. This is also a prime opportunity to reach out to first-grade girls who may be interested in becoming Girl Scouts.

Through our **Daisy Launch recruitment effort**, girls enrolled in **Kindergarten and first grade** are invited to join Girl Scouts and participate in an experience that works best for their family—whether that be a troop, group, program, or event.

Beginning **April 1, rising Kindergarten girls** (currently in Pre-K and entering Kindergarten in fall 2026) will be able to join Girl Scouts as part of our **Extended Year campaign**. We are committed to ensuring that every Kindergarten and first-grade girl—along with her rising Kindergarten peers—has the opportunity to experience Girl Scouts in a way that is accessible, engaging, and family-friendly.



From **January through March**, Membership Experience Recruitment Specialists will connect with **Service Unit Managers, Service Unit volunteers, and Daisy Troop Leaders** to share details and collaborate on local outreach efforts. Together, we can extend a warm and timely invitation to every eligible girl in our communities.

## Confidentiality and Privacy Statement

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland is dedicated to maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of all member information. Certain volunteer roles may require individuals to access confidential or sensitive information in order to perform the duties associated with their positions.

Volunteers entrusted with such information are strictly prohibited from disclosing, sharing, or distributing any confidential data to unauthorized individuals or entities without the **express consent** of the information's owner (or their parent or legal guardian, in the case of a minor). Confidential information includes, but is not limited to, **photographs, videos, demographic data, and personal identifying information**.

For additional details regarding our privacy practices, please [click here](#) to review the **Girl Scouts of Central Maryland Privacy Policy**, which is also available on our official website.

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# BRING A FRIEND!

**Join us for an exciting opportunity  
to connect, share, and grow!**

We're hosting special Bring-a-Friend Events, and we'd love for you and your family to be part of it. You're already part of our community, this is the perfect chance to bring a friend to meet new people, explore what we do, and see how many adventures they can have with Girl Scouts!

## JANUARY'S BRING-A-FRIEND EVENTS:



**KPOP HUNT & HARMONY**



**S'MORES & MORE WITH  
GIRL SCOUTS**

### **WHAT TO EXPECT:**

- Fun, interactive activities
- Insight into who we are and what we do
- A relaxed, welcoming atmosphere
- Learn something new and have fun

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:**

Go to [gscm.info/fun](https://gscm.info/fun) and don't forget to bring a friend (or two) who might be interested in learning more about Girl Scouts and wants to join the fun! **Questions? Call (410) 358-9711 or email [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org)**



# Girl Events & Activities

New Program Events: January-Spring 2026: On January 1, we will be posting new girl and volunteer events on our GSCM Event Calendar [HERE](#). Additionally, registration for events that are on the calendar already for January-Spring 2026 will open on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

## ALL THINGS PROGRAM GATHERINGS—FOR GIRL SCOUTS, PARENTS/CAREGIVERS, AND VOLUNTEERS!

A New Initiative! You've asked. We heard! Join us for an All Things Program Gathering: a monthly opportunity for troop leaders, volunteers, families and Girl Scouts to learn, share and discuss programs and other engagement experiences. Each month you'll find the entire GSCM Program Team out and about in GSCM—dates, times, and county/city locations are posted on our GSCM Event Calendar [HERE](#). Can't make an in-person session, register for one (or all) of our virtual sessions happening each month. In-person and virtual sessions are held from 7:00-8:30 PM.

In January, we'll be in Carroll County on Monday, January 12th and our virtual gathering will be on Wednesday, January 28th. Register [HERE](#).

## SHOP AND SHARE: ALL THINGS OUTDOOR

**Date:** Wednesday, January 7, 2026

**Time:** 6:30-8:30 PM



Girl Scouts of all ages, parents/caregivers, and volunteers are invited to join the shop and program team for our "All Things Outdoors" themed Shop and Share event on January 7, 2026. Come and meet our new Outdoor Experience Director, Aisling Green. We'll talk about outdoor experiences, sleepaway camp, outdoor badges, and explore outdoor gear available at the shop. Additionally, make and take home a few outdoor themed SWAPS! No need to register; feel free to attend the entire time or drop-in anytime between 6:30-8:30 PM.

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

**Date:** Monday, January 19, 2026

**Time:** 8:30 AM- 4:30 PM

Girl Scout of all ages and adult members of Girl Scouts of Central Maryland are invited to join us as we honor Dr. King Jr.'s legacy through a day of meaningful service. This community service event, in partnership with Glen Mar Church, gives girls the chance to take action and give back. Girls and families are encouraged to rotate through a variety of service stations and create a "Why We Serve" poster to reflect on the impact of their contributions. Register [HERE](#).



## GODDARD SPACE CENTER TOUR (SEE FLYER)

**Date:** Tuesday, January 20, 2026

**Time:** 8:00 AM- 3:15 PM

To Infinity and Beyond! No, not quite, it's just to the Goddard Space Center and Back. Senior Girl Scouts will take a full unrestricted access tour of the Goddard Space Center. The tour, led by a NASA employee, will feature everything from the constructs of space to rocket design, missile engineering and launch. We will spend time in the NASA Museum as well before heading to lunch at the Silver Diner in Greenbelt with special guests from Goddard.



Price is set a minimum to self-fund the experience and includes bus transportation costs and tickets for the museum (provided to us at a discounted rate for Girl Scouts). Note that for this trip to occur, we must fill one bus. If we do not reach our minimum number of participants and would need to cancel/reschedule, notice will be sent to registrants 2 weeks prior to the trip. Lunch is on your own.

**Special Note:** *Although this trip is planned for our Senior Girl Scouts, if you are an Ambassador interested in this trip, be sure to check the calendar on or after December 10<sup>th</sup> because we may be opening registration to Ambassadors if we do not fill all spots which are reserved for Seniors. Then on December 17, we will be opening to Cadettes if we still have available spots. Note the deadline for [registration](#) is January 6, 2026.*

## LEGISLATIVE DAY

**Date:** Friday, February 13, 2026

**Time:** 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Hey, Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts, want to visit Annapolis, Maryland for the day?



It is in this city that the Maryland State Legislature meets to decide our laws. Let's tour the State House and look in on a session of Congress. Learn about the history of the oldest working legislative building in the United States which means that it has been in use for almost 250 years! Next, we head to the Court of Appeals where we will meet with a Justice/Judge and a Law Clerk after our Q&A session we will take a tour of the building. Lastly, we will head to lunch.

Registration opens [HERE](#) on January 1, 2026

## OUR FRIENDSHIP: WORLD THINKING DAY 100



A Girl Scout tradition for 100 years! Girl Scouts of all ages and adult members are invited to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Thinking Day with GSCM at Bell Manor, Camp Conowingo.

The goal of Thinking Day this year is to connect us to the WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) Centers and highlight our friendships with other Girl Guides and Girl Scouts across the globe. Girls will earn the WAGGGS Be a Partner with the World patch. We will explore each World Center and the world around it. Enjoy favorite campfire meals from each World Center; sing songs and even make up your own; craft your vision of your journey through Girl Scouts; make S.W.A.P.S. (Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere); and play games and run through our Scavenger Hunt to learn about the language and geography of the countries of our world centers. Service Project will benefit Bell Manor. World Thinking Day Patch and GSCM Partner with the World Patch included.

Registration opens [HERE](#) on January 1, 2026

In addition to our council-level event, Girl Scouts, Families, and Troops can download the FREE Girl Scouts World Thinking Day activity guides. Find the Daisy, Brownie, and Junior (K-5 grades) Guide [HERE](#) and the Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador (6-12 grades) [HERE](#).

## GIRL SCOUT WEEK 2026

**Dates:** Sunday, March 8  
through March 14, 2026

Girl Scout Week is Back! We are bringing more fun and adventure to the party. On Monday, come explore Bubble Science in Baltimore County. Tuesday at GSCM Headquarters we are all about engineering our futures. Girl Scouts will be doing a classic egg drop, engineering sound building to withstand an earthquake and creating their own balloon cars. We are really excited to go to the “drive-in” movie on Thursday. Join us at Friendship Circle at Camp Conowingo for the movie showing of The Golden Eaglet starring JGL herself! Girls will be working on parts of badges and skills from the 1910s as well! On Friday, join us at Camp Woodlands for our 3rd annual Firefly Camp Fire and Girl Scouts’ 114th Birthday Party! It is going to be amazing!

Register opens [HERE](#) on January 1, 2026

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*to infinity and  
beyond...*

Okay...maybe not quite infinity—but definitely to **NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center** and back!

**Senior Girl Scouts** are invited to a behind-the-scenes tour of NASA Goddard. Enjoy an unrestricted-access experience led by a NASA expert and explore:

- ✓ The science and engineering behind space exploration
- ✓ Rocket design and missile engineering
- ✓ Real spacecraft and mission technology
- ✓ Interactive exhibits inside the NASA Museum
- ✓ Lunch at Silver Diner prior to return to GSCM Headquarters

**TUESDAY**  
**JANUARY 20, 2026**  
8 AM DEPART - 1:30 PM  
RETURN TO SETON

Price Includes:  
Bus Transportation  
Discount NASA Tour &  
Museum Access

Lunch is on your own

Register at  
[gscm.info/spacetrip](https://gscm.info/spacetrip)  
or scan QR Code



**PLEASE NOTE:** To run this trip, one full bus must be filled. If minimum participation is not met, the trip may be canceled or rescheduled. Registered participants will receive notice two weeks prior if changes are necessary.



# EXPLORING HERSHEY, PA

**Hey Brownies! Ready for the SWEETEST adventure ever? Join Girl Scouts of Central Maryland for The Sweetest Trip on Earth as we explore Hershey, Pennsylvania!**

**APRIL 18, 2026 • 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**



## **STOP 1: Hershey Gardens**

Wander through beautiful flowers and step inside the Butterfly Atrium to see hundreds of butterflies up close.

## **STOP 2: Hershey's Chocolate World**

Discover how chocolate is made and grab lunch on your own while exploring this sweet experience.

## **STOP 3: The Hershey Story Museum**

Learn about Milton Hershey and how his chocolate empire began.

### **✓ WHAT'S INCLUDED**

- Roundtrip bus transportation
- Admission to Hershey Gardens, Butterfly Atrium, and The Hershey Story Museum
- Exclusive Girl Scout-only activity
- Discounted pricing just for Girl Scouts

### **✓ IMPORTANT DETAILS**

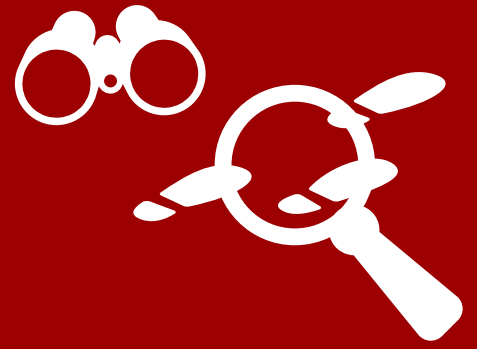
- Lunch is on your own at Chocolate World
- Trip requires a full bus to run
- If minimum registration isn't met, participants will be notified 2 weeks prior



**REGISTER AT [GSCM.INFO/HERSHEY](https://gscm.info/hershey)**



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## TRIP TO D.C.

**YOUR MISSION...FIND CLUES, SOLVE THE CASE, HAVE FUN!**

**Cadettes**—your assignment, should you choose to accept it, is to dive into the shadowy world of secret agents during this interactive experience at the **International Spy Museum**. Become a CIA recruit!

Learn code-cracking techniques, explore spycraft skills, and discover the history of spies—both famous and infamous.

**APRIL 25, 2026 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

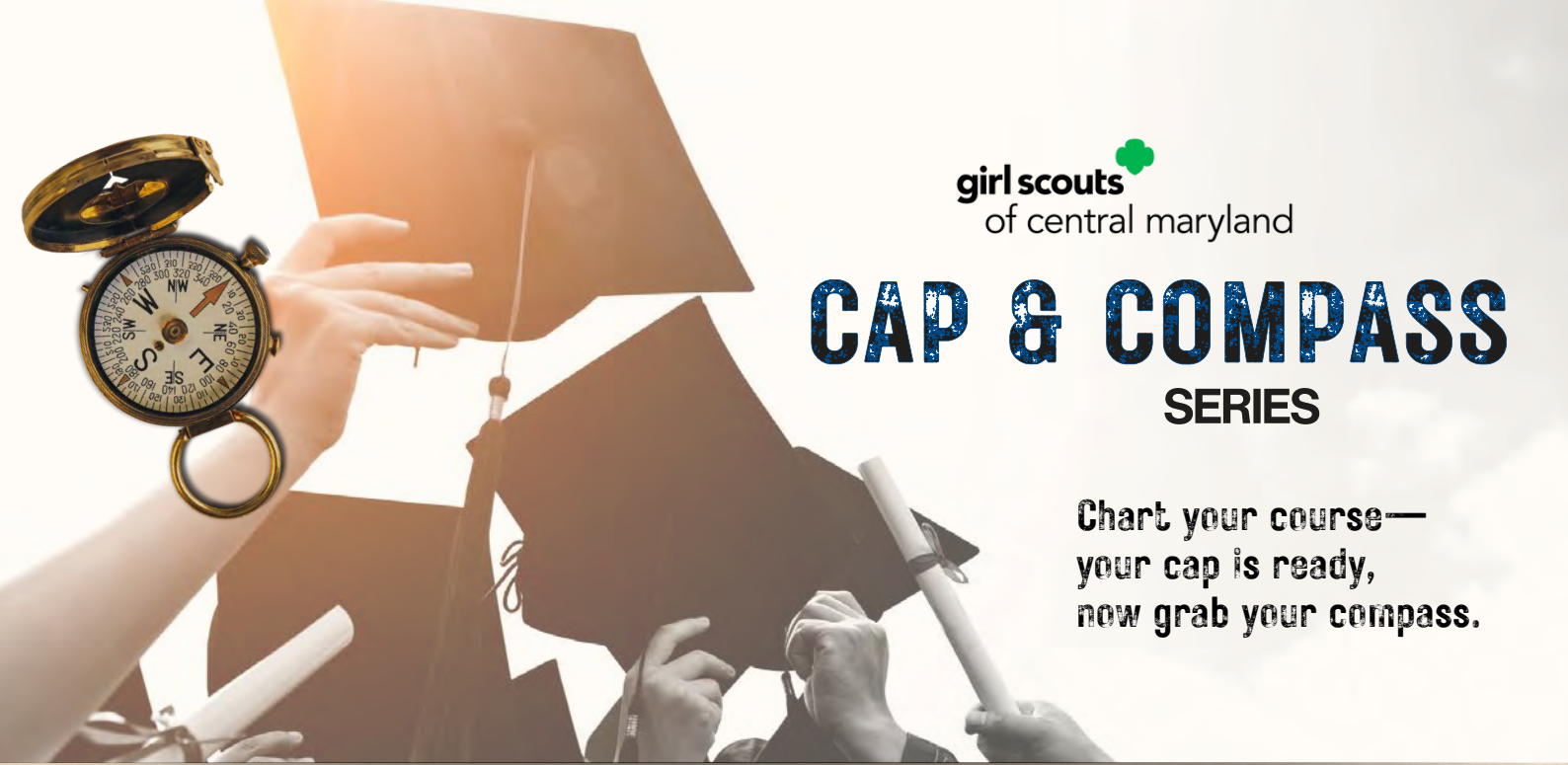
After the museum, Girl Scouts will explore The Wharf, including the iconic Fish Market, restaurants, and unique shops. Our mission concludes with a visit to the Tidal Basin and Monuments Row—the perfect ending to a day of discovery.

### **CLASSIFIED MISSION DETAILS:**

- Roundtrip bus transportation, discounted Spy Museum admission, and an exclusive Girl Scout scavenger hunt.
- Trip requires a full bus to run. If minimum registration isn't met, participants will be notified two weeks prior.
- Lunch is on your own at The Wharf.

**GSCM.ORG/SPYTRIP**





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# CAP & COMPASS SERIES

Chart your course—  
your cap is ready,  
now grab your compass.

Girl Scouts of Central Maryland invites high school girls to join our **Cap & Compass** series—a three-part journey designed to help you confidently take the next steps toward your future.

Whether you're college-bound, career curious, or still exploring your options, this program will give you the *compass* to navigate life after graduation. Connect with like-minded peers, join interactive workshops, and hear from inspiring women leaders who've been where **YOU** are now.

## Session Dates:

OCT  
24

Personal Branding  
& Logo Creation

JAN  
9

Resume Building,  
Mock Interviews  
& Free Headshots

APR  
17

End-of-Year  
Wrap Party

Open to Girl Scouts and Non-Members in grades 9–12!

All three sessions are 6:00-7:00 PM in Baltimore City

REGISTER ONCE FOR ALL  
THREE SESSIONS  
[GSCM.INFO/COMPASS](https://gscm.info/compass)





# EMPOWER HOUR

*Find your strength.  
Share your voice.  
Own your power.*

FOR GIRL SCOUTS & NON-MEMBERS IN GRADES 6-8



## MIDDLE SCHOOL IS TOUGH—EMPOWER HOUR MAKES IT EASIER!

This hands-on, confidence-building series is designed just for middle schoolers.

With workshops led by local organizations, girls will explore what it means to feel strong in mind, body, and voice.

### TWO-PART SERIES:

- **Session 1:** Self-Defense Class (November 14, 2025)
- **Session 2:** Improv Class (April 24, 2026)

ONE NOVEMBER SIGN-UP COVERS BOTH WORKSHOPS!  
[GSCM.INFO/EMPOWER](https://gscm.info/empower)



**HIGHWIRE  
IMPROV**

# Membership & Retention



## Changes to Troop and Service Unit Bank Accounts – Simplified & Fully Supported

As we move forward, **all new Girl Scouts of Central Maryland troop and service unit bank accounts will be established exclusively with Truist Bank.** This transition has been implemented to ensure consistency, efficiency, and enhanced support for our troops and service units.

To streamline this process, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland will manage all account setup and administrative requirements on behalf of volunteers. Volunteers will not be required to visit a physical bank branch, as all steps may be completed remotely, reducing administrative burden and minimizing scheduling challenges.

For all new troop and service unit bank accounts, [please click here to complete the GSCM New Bank Account Request Form.](#)

We have also updated our forms to accommodate requests to change or update authorized account signers and to request approval to connect third-party payment applications to troop and service unit bank accounts. For any account updates or changes, please click here to complete the [GSCM Bank Account Updates & 3rd Party Payment Apps Form.](#)

Please note that all troops and service units are required to maintain an established bank account, and personal bank accounts may not be used for any Girl Scouts–related business. We appreciate your cooperation and partnership as we continue to strengthen and standardize our banking processes in support of Girl Scouts of Central Maryland.



# Troop Administration



## Waiting Lists

Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers for all you do to ensure every girl has a place to participate in Girl Scouts with the other girls at her school and in her community! If your troop has a “waiting list” of girls hoping to join, we kindly ask that you share it with us at [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org).

### Here’s why it matters:

**Faster Starts** – Girls begin their Girl Scout journey sooner with GSCM staff supporting new troops.

**Less Stress** – We manage troop placements, so you don’t have to.

**Live the Law** – Welcome every girl into a troop, not a waitlist.

**Stronger Units** – More troops build a stronger, more connected Girl Scout community.

**Better Service** – Knowing who’s interested helps us meet member needs.

### Let’s help girls and families start their Girl Scout journey right away!

Every day, families are excited and ready to join Girl Scouts—and your quick action makes a difference. When you collect information at recruitment events or community activities, please send it right away to [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org). This helps the Membership Recruitment Specialist for your area see interest beyond what’s in the system and place girls into troops faster.

Families don’t want to wait on the sidelines while amazing Girl Scout experiences are happening! They’re eager to jump in, make friends, and start the fun—and together, we can make sure they don’t miss a moment. Let’s work together to say, “*Welcome Home, Friend! You are Loved.*” Your timely follow-up helps reduce wait times and gets more girls started on their Girl Scout adventure.

Please send the **name, email, phone number, and any additional details** for prospective members to [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org)—**don’t wait, send it TODAY!**

Thank you for your energy, partnership, and commitment to helping more girls experience the magic of Girl Scouts.



# LET'S TALK VOLUNTEER TRAINING

## Shine a Light on Volunteers

Our volunteers work hard to create a safe and fun environment for Girl Scouts to learn how to lead. They spend countless hours juggling their volunteer duties alongside their own busy lives so our girls can have an amazing Girl Scout experience. Whether a volunteer helped your Girl Scout earn her highest award, took her for her first overnight camping experience, led her first travel experience or ensured that she developed courage, confidence and character, saying thank you with an adult recognition is part of a great Girl Scout tradition! Anyone can nominate a volunteer to receive an award for their service. Click [HERE](#) to view all the recognitions available for volunteers, the lifeblood of the Girl Scout Movement.

***\*Please note, recognition paperwork is due by February 1, 2026, if you'd like your volunteer to receive their award at GSCM's Annual Meeting.***

## Have you Completed the GSUSA Girl Scouts Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Course?

Child abuse and neglect are difficult subjects to think about, yet the prevention of abuse is a topic Girl Scouts takes very seriously. This training prepares supervising adults of Girl Scout youth to recognize, respond to, and report concerns of child abuse and neglect. Additionally, supervising adults will be empowered to prevent abuse by learning Girl Scout recommended practices, policies and procedures. Girl Scout practices, policies and procedures are proactive measures designed to prevent abusers from interacting with Girl Scouts to foster a safe space for children to thrive.

All current GSCM Volunteers are required to complete this course whether they are new to their volunteer role or have been in volunteer roles for one year or more. **As this is a new course and requirement, GSCM volunteers have until January 31, 2026 to complete this course.** This course is found through gsLearn on the "Home" page and is searchable in the "Content Library."

If you are accessing your gsLearn account for the first time, keep in mind that it can take up to 90 minutes for all available courses to appear in your account. If you have issues accessing the course, please contact as [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org) for assistance.

## Girl Scout First-aider Certification

As a friendly reminder, anyone wishing to serve as a first aider for a Girl Scout troop, group, or event must be a currently registered adult member with a current criminal background clearance through GSCM, who holds current certification in BOTH First aid and CPR/AED for BOTH Infant/Child/Pediatric AND Adult.

Per GSUSA's requirements in [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#), training that does not include modules for both infant/child/pediatric and adult are not accepted. Additionally, ***training certification must be through one of the qualifying first aid/CPR providers listed below; training certifications from other providers (or courses completed totally online with no in-person skills segment) cannot be accepted:***

- American Red Cross
- National Safety Council
- EMP America
- American Trauma Management
- American Heart Association
- American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI)
- Medic First-aid





## Basic Troop Camping Training- Register Now!

This required training is for adults planning troop/group camping at GSCM or non-GSCM sites with established restrooms or latrines and sleeping facilities like cabins, shelters, platform tents, or yurts.

Participants will plan and shop for meals in patrols, practice outdoor skills, learn outdoor program activities, review safety guidelines, and explore how to deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience through outdoor education.

Before attending, participants must complete two gsLearn courses: GSUSA Foundations and 218-Basic Troop Camping (BAC) Online Pre-session, an in-person planning session, and an overnight campout. Attendance at both the pre-session and corresponding overnight is required for credit. The outdoor session must match the pre-session date—sessions cannot be mixed.

The course is cost-free; however, participants will share the meal costs, to be discussed at the in-person pre-session.

Upcoming BTC Dates (Click on the Course Title to register; one needs to only register one time. By registering for the pre-session, one is automatically enrolled in the overnight session)

### **BASIC TROOP CAMPING**

- Pre-session on 3/23/26 at New Hope Lutheran Church, 8575 Guilford Road, Columbia, MD 21046
- Overnight on 4/18/26–4/19/26 at Camp Whippoorwill

### **BASIC TROOP CAMPING**

- Pre-session on 4/28/26 at New Hope Lutheran Church, 8575 Guilford Road, Columbia, MD 21046
- Overnight on 5/16/26–5/17/26 at Camp Whippoorwill



## Tent Camping Training

This in-person adult training is required when a troop/group will be using tents while camping outdoors at GSCM or non-GSCM sites with established restrooms or latrines and fire circles. When a troop/group has progressed to camping in tents, this course will provide the information needed to plan for the camping trip, pitch a tent, set up a tent site, and how to strike and store a tent.

If the troop/group has a tent that they will be using for their camping trip, please bring it to the session. If they do not have a tent, there is no need to purchase one for the training as we will have tents available for practice.

Before participating in this training, one must have completed Basic Troop Camping training. Kindly note that while this course may be offered on the same weekend as Basic Troop Camping overnights for convenience, it is not required. Volunteers who would like to take both trainings may register for the Tent Camping training that takes place the same weekend as their Basic Troop Camping session (if available), or they may register for a Tent Camping Training that occurs at a later date.

### Spring Tent Camp Trainings (click on the course title below to register)

[Tent Camp Training at Camp Whippoorwill](#)

**Sunday, April 19, 2026**

**10:15 AM- 12:30 PM**

**Cost: N/A**

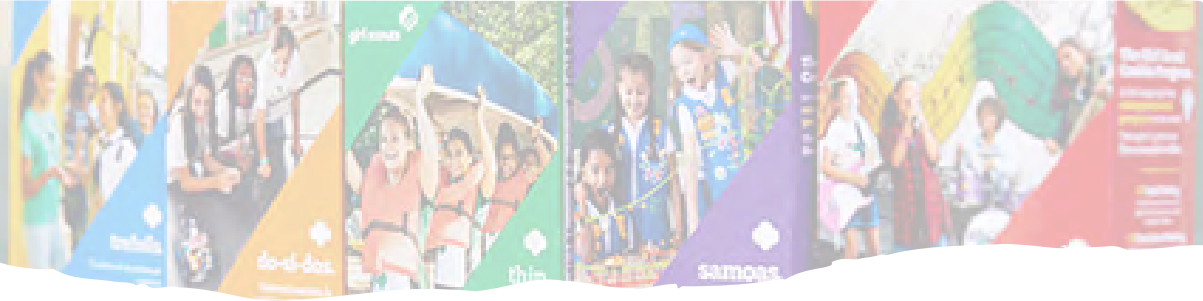
[Tent Camp Training at Camp Whippoorwill](#)

**Sunday, May 17, 2026**

**10:15 AM- 12:30 PM**

**Cost: N/A**

# PRODUCT SALES



December 22nd, 2025, kicked off this year's Cookie Program and GSCM. Over the next several months girls can set goals, have the confidence to make decisions, learn to manage money and build people skills to last a lifetime. The Product Program team would like to thank all our volunteers who have already contributed so much to this year's cookie season. We can't wait to see the girls build their entrepreneurship over the next few months.

## Not Too Late to Participate:

Jump into the cookie season at any time! From now until March we will continue to upload troops into the Smart Cookies system to join the program. For a troop to be uploaded they must have a registered and background checked volunteer who has completed the T-1 form and watch the recorded training on our website. The Troop will also need a completed T-3 form for their troop's bank account information. See links below.

## Initial Orders:

Troop Initial Orders are due **Wednesday, January 14th.**

Service Unit Initial Orders are due **Thursday, January 15th.**

**TCMS** – Please make sure to build your Troop's initial order before the due date. For more information on how to submit your initial order, please review the training linked below. Your SUCM may ask for you to submit before the January 14th date. Please follow your SUCM's request as they are welcome to create process that work best for their Service Unit

**SUCMs** – Please make sure to review your troop's initial orders checking to make sure everyone submitted, and no large errors occurred. To complete this, review each other and select save at the bottom of the screen! There is no submit button.

## Links:

[T-1 Troop Cookie Manager Description](#)  
[T-3 Troop ACH/Bank Information Permissions](#)  
[Cookie Program Training Video](#)

## GSCM Cookie Program Dates 2025/2026

|                              |                                                                |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday, November 3, 2025     | T-1 & T-3 forms available to complete on website               |
| Thursday, November 20, 2025  | SU Cookie Manager and Booth Coordinator Training               |
| Saturday, November 22, 2025  | SU Cookie Manager and Booth Coordinator Training               |
| Tuesday, December 2, 2025    | Troop Cookie Manager Training (Zoom) 6:30pm-8:00pm             |
| Thursday, December 4, 2025   | Troop Cookie Manager Training (Zoom) 6:30pm-8:00pm             |
| Monday, December 22, 2025    | Cookie Sale Opens, Digital Cookie Opens                        |
| Wednesday, January 14, 2026  | Initial Order by Troops due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm        |
| Thursday, January 15, 2026   | Initial Order by Service Units due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm |
| Tuesday, February 3, 2026    | Depot Deliveries begin                                         |
| Friday, February 6, 2026     | Booth Sales Begin!                                             |
| Sunday, February 8, 2026     | Depot Deliveries end                                           |
| Wednesday, February 25, 2026 | ACH #1 50% Troop's Initial Order                               |
| Wednesday, March 18, 2026    | ACH #2 50% Troop's Balance Due as of 3/18/2026                 |
| Sunday, March 22, 2026       | FINAL Planned orders for upcoming week                         |
| Sunday, March 29, 2026       | Cookie Sale Ends!                                              |
|                              | Girl Rewards Due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm                   |
| Wednesday, April 8, 2026     | ACH All remaining Troop's Balance Due                          |



All planned orders due in Smart Cookies by 11:30pm on  
Sundays starting Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Juliettes and Product Sales

Calling all Juliettes—girls who blaze their own trail! Even as an individual Girl Scout, your girl can learn business skills, grow her confidence, and become a cookie-selling superstar. This cookie season is her chance to lead, innovate, and shine—all while having fun and making a difference!

Ready to jump in? Email [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org) and we'll connect her with the Juliette Coordinator in her area so she can start her entrepreneurial adventure today! Let's make this the sweetest and most successful cookie season ever

## GSCM Service Unit Boundary Organization & Cookie Booth Coordination

Service Unit boundaries within Girl Scouts of Central Maryland are determined by zip codes, with troops assigned based on the location of their meeting site. In some cases, multiple Service Units share the same zip code, making collaboration especially important during the Cookie Program.

To ensure all girls have equal access to cookie booth opportunities and can continue developing strong entrepreneurial skills, we kindly ask Service Units that share zip codes to work together in the spirit of the Girl Scout Law. By communicating openly and coordinating thoughtfully, you help create a fair, supportive experience for every Girl Scout. Thank you for prioritizing cooperation and putting girls first!



## New Volunteer Trainings

New volunteers are required to take "New Volunteer Orientation Training", this is a virtual session hosted by GSCM staff members, that is offered several times each month.

All new volunteers should go to [\*\*gscm.info/fun\*\*](https://gscm.info/fun) to sign up for training .

## Adult Learning Courses on Your Schedule

We want to ensure that our volunteers have access to learning opportunities in a variety of settings, and that cover a variety of topics. From the basics of Girl Scouting to understanding mental wellness, we want to help our volunteers be prepared for every situation.

Check out gsLearn for independent online learning courses. All volunteers with a My GS account have access to gsLearn, which include GSUSA Foundations, courses about badge offerings, the Volunteer Toolkit, the Cookie Program, and more! To access gsLearn, simply **sign in to My GS**, then click "gsLearn" in the menu on the left- hand side. You will see some courses on your homepage that are for all volunteers. To locate additional courses, click "Content Library" on the menu located on the left, then either scroll through the list, or use the search bar at the top to find the course you need. For each volunteer role and grade level, there are some courses which are required and some courses which are optional enrichment opportunities. Please be certain to complete all required courses for the roles that you hold. If you have any questions about any of the trainings, please email [membercare@gscm.org](mailto:membercare@gscm.org).



Celebrate the  
volunteer in your life.



## Recognize Adults that Serve Our Girls

**Volunteers appreciate special, enduring thanks for their efforts. Girl Scout volunteers are the lifeblood of the Girl Scout Movement. They give selflessly of their time and talents to help build girls of courage, confidence, and character.**

**Whether they serve directly or indirectly with girls, the efforts of Girl Scout volunteers leave lasting impression on both the girls and other adult volunteers.**

**[Click here](#) to learn mores about choosing the appropriate award for adult volunteers whom you wish to recognize.**