

Volunteer 411



With each new cookie season, Girl Scout entrepreneurs know it's about more than just the cookies—it's about being **BRAVE** enough to make their pitch, **FIERCE** enough to smash their biggest goals, and having loads of cookie **FUN** while doing it!

Before the cookie sale...

Here are a few steps you can take now that will assure your troop has a super successful cookie sale:

1. Recruit your troop's cookie sale manager and register them as a member. Troops must have a registered troop cookie manager before they can receive their troop cookie sale materials, have access to eBudde (the cookie sale management site) and for girls/parents to be able to access Digital Cookie. If you are going to act as the troop cookie sale manager yourself, please let us know.
2. Set up your troop's bank account. Troops must have an active bank account to participate in the cookie sale. Check out the section on troop finances in [Volunteer Essentials](#) to open your bank account. Troops are required to open a troop bank account at one of the following banks: Bank First, Port Washington State Bank, Marine Credit Union, State Bank of Chilton and Westbury Bank.
3. Communicate regularly with your Girl Scout parents about the cookie sale. First, download and customize the [Cookie Sale 101 letter](#) that is in the *Resources* section of your Volunteer Toolkit under "Cookie Program." It includes the link to the online [2026 Cookie Sale Parent Permission Form](#). Parents **MUST** add your email address or your Troop Cookie Sale Manager's email to this form so a copy is received by a troop volunteer. Parents of your girls must complete the 2026 Cookie Sale Parent Permission Form and submit it before their daughter receives a cookie order card. Your Troop Cookie Manager will need the information on this form when entering girl reward choices in eBudde. She should retain copies of the parent permission forms until she has distributed the final rewards to girls and all girls' monies are received.

Cookie Sale Basics

Each community has a community cookie sale manager and each troop has a troop cookie sale manager. Community cookie sale managers meet with local troop cookie sale managers to distribute troop cookie materials and answer questions. Usually these meetings occur in November/December. Troop cookie managers should contact us if they have not been contacted with a meeting date or have any unanswered cookie sale questions.



**Nine varieties will be offered for sale including the
NEW Exploremores!**

All cookies will sell for \$6 except for gluten free Toffee Tastic that will sell for \$7.

Troops will earn \$1.10 in troop proceeds for all cookies sold.

Important dates for the 2026 Cookie Sale



- **January 1 – January 25** Digital Cookie and door-to-door sales begin. Girls will have four weekends to sell cookies using Digital Cookie and/or traditional sales methods.
- **January 25** Girl orders due to troop cookie manager.
- **January 26 11:59 pm** Troop orders submitted via the troop cookie sale online ordering system eBudde.
- **January 25-March 22** Digital cookie sales will be open for shipped and donated orders only.
- **February 5** Cookies may be picked up from a local cookie cupboard during scheduled cupboard hours. Volunteers must place their cupboard order via eBudde.
- **February 6** Troops can begin holding booth sales.
- **February 12-23** Cookie delivery. Community Cookie Sale volunteers will know their delivery date by November 2025.
- **March 6** Girls' Monies due to Troop Cookie Sales Manager.
- **March 9** Troop Cookie Managers deposit all cookie monies into the TROOP ACCOUNT. Troop Cookie Sale Managers should avoid taking large checks from parents as they may result in non-sufficient fund check fees to the troop account. Troop leaders should set up a phone app payment system such as Venmo, PayPal or Apple Pay with their troop account. Contact Marina Ritter marina@gsmanitou.org for help with this. Parents can obtain payment from traditional sales customers using these phone payment Apps and pay the troop for their daughter's cookie order via an App.
- **March 10** Council will debit troop accounts 65% of the total amount owed to the council.
- **March 24** Troop Cookie Sale Managers will submit their FINAL troop reward order in E-budde.
- **March 24** council will begin to debit troop accounts for the balance owed to the council.
- **April 22 (approximately)** Troop Cookie Sale Managers will receive girl rewards.



Digital Cookie



Troop Cookie Sale Managers should encourage all parents to use Digital Cookie. Customers pay for all digital orders with a valid credit card at the time of ordering. There are no transaction or credit card fees to customers, but customers pay to have cookies shipped. Digital Cookie precludes Troop Cookie Managers dealing with checks or large amounts of cash from parents of girls and girls collecting money from customers. Girls who use Digital Cookie and traditional sales methods sell more cookies than girls who just use traditional selling methods.

Digital Cookie will open for all customer orders on January 1, 2025. Girls/parents will receive a registration email in December so they can [set up the girl's digital webpage](#). The email will come from email@email.girlscouts.org. Parents must have a current, valid email on file with us to access Digital Cookie. Volunteers will receive a registration email two days prior to parents receiving their email.

Troop Gift of Caring

Prior to the cookie sale, Troop leaders should work with girls to choose a local organization to whom to donate cookies. Girls ask customers to purchase 1-2 packages to donate to this local organization. Troop Gift of Caring cookies are part of the troop order and are received with the troop order at cookie delivery. This featured patch and other theme patches will be available to purchase at our council [Petals to Patches](#) store.



Cookie Booths



Troop leaders should work with girls and Troop Cookie Sale Managers to decide if they want to have a booth sale. Sales of 132 packages troops earn one night of a free Manitou camp building rental for a troop Getaway or a troop pool party at camp in the summer, sales of 252 packages troops earn two nights. Sales of 252 packages in booth sales is required to earn a free night of a Manitou camp building rental for a troop Getaway during the peak months of June, July and August. This is a very popular reward and is earned by most troops holding booth sales.

Ordering Booth Cookies Troop Cookie Sale Managers and/or Troop Leaders can preorder booth cookies from a local cupboard via eBudde for pick up on or after **February 5**. Each cupboard will have set days and times for pick up and returns. The benefit of preordering from a cupboard is that troops may return full, unopened cases of unsold cookies within **14 days** of pick up. **No returns are accepted for cookie booth cookies ordered via eBudde with a troop's initial order. Depending upon availability, troops can swap full case varieties of cookies ordered via eBudde at a local cupboard when the cupboard is open.**

Pick 'N Save and Festival Food Stores Beginning 9 am Saturday, January 3 through January 10, using eBudde, troops will be able to select three open time slots at each store to hold a booth sale. January 11-February 2 troops can select any amount of open time slots. After February 2 send requests to cancel or request additional available dates to paula@gsmanitou.org

Allocation of Cookies sold at booths While Troop Cookie Managers can allocate cookies sold at booths to girls in their troop, if they want to earn the troop cookie booth reward, they cannot allocate all booth cookies to girls. At least 132 or 252 packages must be left unallocated to girls for the troop to receive the troop booth reward. Troop Cookie Managers will receive instructions and email reminders on following this procedure.

Unsold Booth Cookies Troop members should try to sell all booth cookies they order. If a troop has 100 unsold packages it reduces the troop proceeds by \$600. It is easy to schedule another available booth time slot at Pick 'N Save or Festival Foods or with a local place of business.

Cookie Sale Activities for Troop Meetings

Cookie Badges

A great way to assure that girls learn important skills from the cookie sale is to earn Cookie Badges found in the Volunteer Tool Kit.

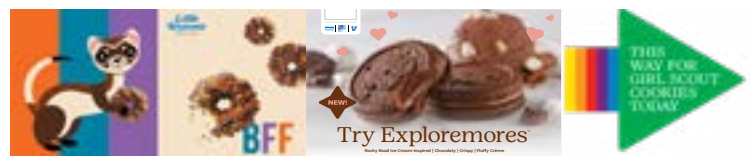


Family Resources for Download

Requirements for the Entrepreneur Family Pin, door hangers, checklists, thank you ideas, giphys and more!

Graphics

Cookie Photos, gifs, social media posts, virtual backgrounds, booth signs and table tools, recipes, clip art, and theme graphics.



Winter Break Camp

It's time for Girl Scout Camp - winter style! Join us this December for a series of day camps at Camp Evelyn. Each session will include classic camp activities & outdoor winter fun. Please pack winter gear for outdoor adventures. Snacks will be provided at each session, but please pack a cold lunch. All sessions will have time for hot chocolate and s'mores!

Check-in for all sessions is from 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. and check-out is from 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.

All sessions cost \$55 per person

[Register for the Winter Break Camp sessions here!](#)

Experimenting with Fun: A Lilo & Stitch Winter | December 27 | Daisy, Brownie, Junior



Get ready for a winter camp that's out of this world! Girls in grades K-5 will embark on a Lilo & Stitch-themed adventure, where they'll discover new skills, make new friends, and earn exciting Girl Scout badges. From creative projects inspired by Lilo's love for art to team activities that celebrate the meaning of 'ohana,' this camp blends the warmth of friendship with the fun of a Hawaiian winter. Join us as we "stitch" together unforgettable memories and badge achievements!

Badges

Daisy: Eco Learner

Brownie: Making Friends

Junior: Animal Habitat Badge

Creative Kingdom: Enchanted Forest Edition | December 28 | Daisy, Brownie, Junior

Step into a world where anything is possible at our Fairy Tale Fun Camp! Girls in grades K-5 will become authors of their own magical adventures as they explore an indoor enchanted forest setting. Campers will unleash their creativity by crafting fairy wings and wands, designing enchanted amulets, and even writing and acting out their very own fairy tales. Through art projects, imaginative games, and collaborative storytelling, this day promises to be filled with laughter, friendship, and the joy of creating your own happily ever after in our whimsical woods.



Badges

Daisy: Outdoor Art Creator

Brownie: Outdoor Art Creator

Junior: Outdoor Art Explorer

Secret Agent Society | December 29 | Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette



Become a top-secret operative at our Secret Agent Society camp! Girls will embark on thrilling missions requiring teamwork, clever problem-solving, and spy-style creativity. Throughout the day, campers will learn to crack codes, navigate laser mazes (of yarn!), uncover hidden clues in exciting scavenger hunts, and even design their own super secret gadgets. Get ready to sharpen your observation skills, communicate with your fellow agents, and unlock the mysteries that await!

Badges/Patches: Daisy: Detective Day Patch Brownie: Senses Junior: Detective Cadette: Special Agent

Animal Adventures | December 30 | Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette

Calling all animal lovers! This session is for you! We will spend our morning creating animal beds to be donated to shelter pets in our area. In the afternoon, we will take a field trip where we will deliver the beds we made and spend some time making the shelter animals feel loved. The afternoon will include some badge-specific work based on your Girl Scout level and the opportunity to talk with a real-life expert in the animal field.



Badges: Daisy: Animal Observer Brownie: Pets Juniors: Animal Habitats Cadette: Animal Helpers

Ready, Set, Summer Camp!



Mark your calendars! **Summer 2026 camp registration will open on Monday, December 2, 2025!** This means you can use those 2025 program credits to register for 2026 camp before they expire on December 31st, 2025.

Don't worry! Your Girl Scouts will still get our physical camp catalog. Catalogs will arrive in mailboxes in January.

We can't wait for summer camp 2026!

Teen Corner



Advisory Board

Shout out to all Girl Scouts in 6th grade and up! We would love for you to be a part of our Teen Advisory Board. This opportunity will allow girls to help make informative decisions on programming and more. Most Teen Advisory Board meetings will be held virtually. Get ready for your voice to be heard and take your experience to the next level!

Apply at bit.ly/ManitouTeenAdvisoryBoard

Girl Scout Destinations



The ultimate adventure for girls 6th grade and up! Girls will have life-changing experiences and meet new friends from around the globe. Girls apply and submit reference forms online. Apply now for Destinations. The first deadline is November 15. The second deadline is November 16 through March 15, until trips are full or close. Girl Scouts of Manitou Council helps girls pay the cost and plan for money earning. Click: [Girl Scouts/travel](https://www.girlscouts.org/travel).

Questions? Contact Abby at abby@gsmanitou.org

Shop *Petals to Patches*!

Our council store, *Petals to Patches*, is fully-stocked. Order online. Shipping is free. Stop in 8 am to noon or 1 pm-4 pm, M-TH to shop. Need to advice on purchases? Contact the retail manager, Zoie, at Zoie@gsmanitou.org or 920-565-4575 ext. 310

New Badge Sash Service! We can now help parents create their daughter's sash at *Petals to Patches*. For \$12 we will attach the upper insignia (flag, council ID and troop numbers), and \$1.50 for each award or fun patch.

Girl Scout ornaments are perfect for your tree! The vests of various age levels and the cookie boxes ornaments are \$12. The set of 3 cookies is \$28.



Please remind the girls in your troop and their parents to use program credits earned in the 2025 cookie sale by December 31st at 11:59 p.m. Program credits are transferable from sister to sister.

Get a
**Girl Scout Juliette Low
Quarter Holder Keychain!**
\$10, and they come with a
quarter!



First Aid/CPR/AED

Attend our blended learning (in-person & online) First Aid/CPR/AED classes at the Girl Scout Center in Sheboygan to get your 2-year American Heart Association Certification. With step-by-step, hands-on training, participants learn to respond in emergency and life-threatening situations. The online portion is completed before attending one of the in-person skills trainings. Register and you will receive an email with the requirements. Want to find different times, or have questions, contact Program Specialist, Abby Weber, abby@gsmanitou.org.

Dates:

Saturday, November 15
Saturday, December 13
Saturday, January 17
Saturday, February 7
Saturday, March 14
Saturday, April 18
Saturday, May 9



Cost: \$60 per person. Can be a troop expense.

All classes are 8:00 a.m. to Noon

Register

The cost includes all materials needed, including an adult/child & infant CPR Mask in a soft case.