



## Family Connection

# Girl Scouts

*Your go-to guide to getting  
the most out of  
Girl Scouts*



2025-2026

**girl scouts**   
of manitou

# All About My Troop

**Fill in the details of your girl's troop and keep this handy all year long!**

Troop number: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop co-leaderphone/email: \_\_\_\_\_

Troop co-leaderphone/email: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting place: \_\_\_\_\_

We meet at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, every \_\_\_\_\_ weeks.  
[TIME] [DAY] [NUMBER]

The girls in the troop are:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Important cookie dates:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My family is helping out by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Other important information:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



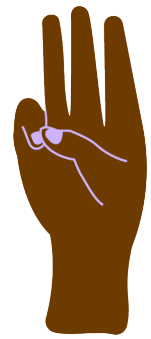
# What We Value

Being “good” at everything isn’t the goal here. It’s the willingness to put yourself out there and really make an effort that will give you your fullest, most fun, and successful life. That’s why both the Girl Scout Promise and Law—which members of all ages recite—start with the idea of trying to do your best.

## 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.

## Girl Scout Family Promise

*On my honor, I will try:*

To support my Girl Scout and her troop,  
To help girls lead at all times,  
And to always keep it fun!

\*Members may substitute for the word God in accordance with their spiritual beliefs.

# Get That Girl Scouts Glow Up

Girl Scouts have fun learning new skills, earning badges, and testing their abilities—but it’s our community that makes us a must for your family.

### FRIEND CIRCLE

**83% of Girl Scouts have a best friend in their troop**

We stick together, stand up for one another, and are sisters for life.

### DREAM CENTER

**92% say Girl Scouts helps them try new things**

If a girl can dream it, Girl Scouts can take her there.

### RELEASE VALVE

**94% say Girl Scouts is a safe space**

The amazing support of Girl Scouts is more important than ever.



# Wear It Where?

She's earning badges, patches, and awards—but where do they belong? Here's the rundown on what goes where on her tunic, sash, or vest.

**Flag patch, council name patches, and troop numbers** go on the front right, in that order, starting at the top.

**Badges and Journey awards** always go on the front, starting at the bottom. On a vest, badges go on the right and Journey awards on the left. On a sash, badges go below Journey awards.

**Fun patches from trips and experiences** always go on the back.



**Daisies**  
Grades K-1



**Brownies**  
Grades 2-3



**Juniors**  
Grades 4-5



**Cadettes**  
Grades 6-8

**Need more help?**  
Go to [girlscouts.org/placement](https://girlscouts.org/placement).



**Seniors**  
Grades 9-10



**Ambassadors**  
Grades 11-12

## Badges & Awards

Developing an app? Building a community garden? Advocating for a cause you care about? Yup, there's a badge for that. There are hundreds of ways for girls to try something new. And badges and awards show the world her accomplishments. Start exploring the badges and awards your daughter can earn at [girlscouts.org/badgeexplorer](https://girlscouts.org/badgeexplorer).

# And the Award Goes to...

From protecting our environment and supporting communities to changing laws, we know girls shine brightest when they're making the world a better place. That's why we have three separate awards—the **Girl Scout Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards**—to honor Girl Scouts who take their passions and turn them into actions in big ways.

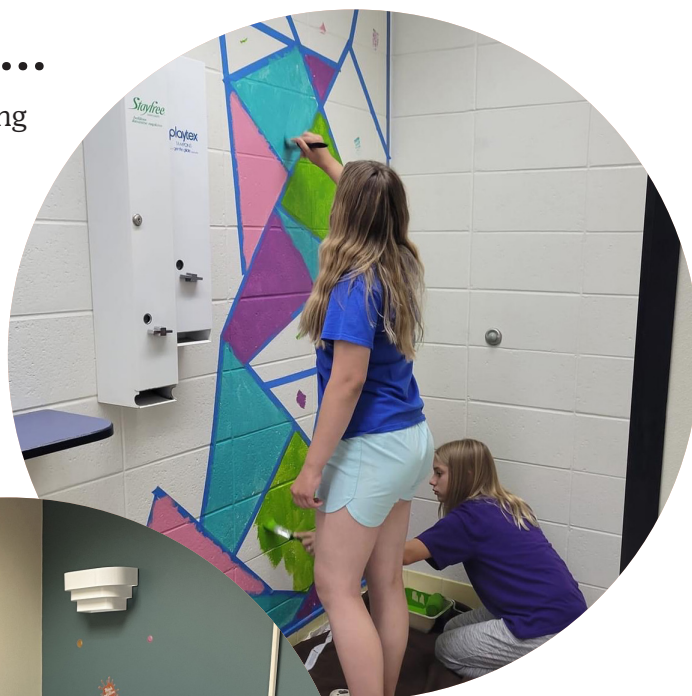
► **Daisies and Brownies** learn the basics of what it means to be a good neighbor and how they can be helpful.

► **Juniors** can earn the Bronze Award by teaming up with other girls to make a difference in their towns.

► **Cadettes** can earn the Silver Award by researching an issue, making a plan, and taking action to improve their communities.

► **Seniors and Ambassadors** can earn the Gold Award by developing and carrying out lasting solutions to issues in their neighborhoods and beyond. Gold Award Girl Scouts are eligible for many college scholarships, including a \$5,000 scholarship to one Gold Award Girl Scout each year in our council. Learn more at [girlscouts.org/scholarships](https://girlscouts.org/scholarships).

Learn more about each of these Highest Awards on Manitou Council's website or by scanning the QR code.



*Scan to learn more about the Highest Awards!*





# Building Future Entrepreneurs

As a Girl Scout, your daughter will participate in the world's largest girl-led entrepreneurial program: the Girl Scout Cookie Program! When she sells cookies, she'll develop real-world skills in five essential areas that will stick with her for life:

## GOAL SETTING

Girl Scouts learn how to set goals and create a plan to reach them.

## DECISION MAKING

Girl Scouts learn to make decisions on their own and as a team.

## MONEY MANAGEMENT

Girl Scouts learn to create a budget and handle money.

## PEOPLE SKILLS

Girl Scouts find their voices and build confidence through customer interactions.

## BUSINESS ETHICS

Girl Scouts learn to act ethically, both in business and life.

Beyond learning these important skills, the Girl Scout Cookie Program supports her troop's ambitions. All Girl Scout Cookie proceeds stay local and fund nearly 90% of troop activities. As a troop, they decide what to do with their proceeds. So whether they decide to visit a nature center to go tree climbing, buy materials to make pet toys and beds to donate to a local animal shelter, or save proceeds for multiple years to take an epic trip across the country, they can do so because of the Girl Scout Cookie Program.

Girls and troops can earn special Cookie Business and Financial Literacy badges each year they run their own cookie business to take their skill-building to the next level and get the most out of the Cookie Program.

The Cookie Program is the activity that Girl Scouts say they most enjoy doing with their family. Take her experience a step further by earning the Girl Scout Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin with your girl, and give her the business smarts of tomorrow today! Learn how at [girlscouts.org/entrepreneurfamily](https://girlscouts.org/entrepreneurfamily).

## Digital Cookie

Beyond selling cookies door-to-door, all Girl Scouts should utilize Digital Cookie! This online platform allows girls to supercharge their cookie business and learn new skills in digital marketing and e-commerce.

Girls who sell door-to-door and via Digital Cookie sell more cookies than girls who just use traditional sales methods. And there are special awards she can earn only by using Digital Cookie!

Girls easily personalize their cookie site, send their site to customers, and track their progress. Customers pay for their cookie orders with a credit card. Digital Cookie orders can be delivered by your daughter, shipped directly to the customer, or donated to a local organization of their troop's choosing.



# Every Girl Deserves the Chance to Camp!

As a Girl Scouts of Manitou Council member, you and your daughter have access to two incredible Girl Scout camps: Camp Evelyn in Plymouth and Camp Manitou near Two Rivers.

At Girl Scout summer camp, girls will laugh, make new friends, try things they never thought they could do, gain independence and valuable leadership skills, and most importantly, HAVE FUN! Summer camp is open to all girls ages 5-17. She can come for the day, for three, five, or even 12 nights. Girls might even come to camp with their whole troop, or parent or favorite adult at our family camp sessions!

Registration for summer camp 2026 will open in early December 2025. We like to open registration early because camp makes a great holiday gift! Payment plans are also available, allowing for additional time to pay camp fees. All girls will receive a camp catalog mailed directly to them in January or February 2026 with all the exciting themes, sessions, dates, prices, and more. We offer multiple events throughout the spring for your family or your daughter's troop to see camp and get your questions answered ahead of the camping season. We can't wait to see your daughter at Camp Evelyn or Camp Manitou!

## Why Send Your Daughter to Camp?

Sending your daughter off to overnight camp is one of the best gifts you can give her. Summer is when some of the most fun childhood memories are made, but it's also an awesome opportunity for your daughter to grow, learn, and become her best self. Here are seven amazing benefits your daughter will get from her overnight summer camp experience:

### **She'll make new friends**

Having a diverse group of friends will broaden her horizons and help her see her own worth.

### **She'll see all she can be**

In an all-girl environment, girls are more comfortable trying new activities and they get to take the lead.

### **She'll turn off her phone**

Unplugging for a while will keep her more present and truly enjoying every moment.

### **She'll grow her grit**

When she learns to get back up after minor setbacks, she's building resilience and learning she's tougher than she thinks.

### **She'll meet new mentors**

Having a variety of role models will help her see the many ways to be successful and happy in life.

### **She'll gain independence**

Having time away to explore and try activities on her own will make her more self-reliant.

### **She'll have tons of time for play**

Studies show that play allows neurons in the brain to form new connections – and that this rewiring helps boost emotional intelligence, decision-making skills, creativity, and problem-solving abilities.



*Scan to learn more about Girl Scouts of Manitou Council summer camp!*

# Take Your Family to the Next Level

Girl Scouting is the most fun and rewarding (for everyone!) when the whole family gets involved. Your whole family will soar with the friendship, adventure, and discovery of Girl Scouts.

## WELCOMING

91% of caregivers say Girl Scouts is welcoming to all families.

## CONNECTION

83% of families say Girl Scouts connects them to something bigger.

## COMMUNITY

8 in 10 families say they value being part of the larger troop community.

It doesn't take a lot to be involved and make Girl Scouts a family affair – and the benefits are huge. Here are just a few ways you can make this year the best yet.

- After each meeting, have your Girl Scout share with you what they did and learned. They'll love being the expert, and you'll probably learn a thing or two! Plus, talking about their experience will help all that new info stick even more.
- Team up to tackle some fun Girl Scout activities together at home. The Girl Scout Activity Zone makes getting started a snap. Explore at [girlscouts.org/activityzone](https://girlscouts.org/activityzone).
- Work together to help your Girl Scout earn the special Cookie Entrepreneur Family Pin.
- Check out family camping at Camp Evelyn or offer to join your troop's camping trip as a volunteer.

# Make the Experience Memorable

Want to play a meaningful role in your Girl Scout's experience but not sure where to start? No matter how much time you have, you will make an impact. And remember, when you help with the troop, you support your troop leader while modeling leadership for your Girl Scout.



### If you have 15 minutes a week, offer to...

Organize and manage the calendar for troop snacks or carpools.



### If you have 30 minutes a week, offer to...

Manage troop communications for your troop leader.



### If you have 45 minutes a week, offer to...

Take photos or videos at troop meetings/activities. Maintain the troop's social presence.



### If you have 1-2 hours a week, offer to...

Lead part of a troop meeting or guide the troop on earning a specific badge.



### If you have 2-3 hours a week, offer to...

Become a cookie volunteer for your troop. You'll play a key part in the cookie program!



### If you have 2-3 hours a week, offer to...

Become a co-leader for the troop and make a difference in the lives of girls all year long.



# Financial Assistance for Girl Scouts in Need

Girl Scouts of Manitou Council is committed to making Girl Scouting available to all girls. Annually, funds are made available to help fund girls' participation. You can request financial assistance for your daughter's membership dues, a Girl Scout tunic or sash or vest, and/or for the payment of fees for a troop activity that your daughter has been asked to bring from home.

Financial assistance may be requested by a parent or guardian and may be requested multiple times, as needed, by using this form:

**[bit.ly/ManitouFinancialAssistance](https://bit.ly/ManitouFinancialAssistance)** or by scanning the QR code.



## Come Visit Us & Shop

Come see us at the Girl Scout Center in Sheboygan! We're here to answer your questions and provide any support you might need. It is also home to our physical council store, *Petals to Patches*! We are open **Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

We also have a council online store for you to shop easily from home! You can choose to pick-up your online order from the Girl Scout Center in Sheboygan or you can choose to have it shipped directly to you. All orders ship for free! Shop online at **[petalstopatches.company.site](https://petalstopatches.company.site)**.

## Girl Scouts of Manitou Council

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Sheboygan, WI 53083

[www.gsmanitou.org](https://www.gsmanitou.org)

✉ [growstrong@gsmanitou.org](mailto:growstrong@gsmanitou.org)

☎ 920-565-4575

📘 [facebook.com/gsmanitou](https://facebook.com/gsmanitou)

📷 @gsmanitou

## Beautiful Manitou Sites



Camp Evelyn near Plymouth, Camp Manitou near Two Rivers, and the Girl Scout Center in Sheboygan are great places for Girl Scout fun, and are available for family celebrations, weddings, meetings, and special events. We have both indoor and outdoor spaces available. They are also great places for projects for your service group. Learn more by scanning the QR code!





# Your Year in

Check out important dates, then add your own troop

## October 2025

- 10/1:** Official start of the Girl Scout year
- 10/11:** International Day of the Girl
- 10/11:** Ghostly Ghou Scout Trail Walk at Camp Evelyn
- 10/31:** Juliette Gordon Low's birthday

## November 2025

- 11/1:** Teen Advisory Board Applications due
- 11/11:** Veteran's Day
- 11/19:** Women's Entrepreneurship Day
- 11/27:** Thanksgiving – many troops participate in local parades during the holiday season

## February 2026

- 2/6:** Cookie booths begin on weekends
- Mid-February:** Cookie delivery
- 2/14:** Valentine's Day – many troops make cards to give to local nursing homes
- 2/22:** World Thinking Day

## March 2026

- Women's History Month
- 3/8 - 3/14:** Girl Scout Week and Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith
- 3/8:** International Women's Day
- 3/12:** Girl Scouts' 114th birthday
- 3/15:** Last call for cookies!

## June 2026

- Summer camp begins!
- National Outdoor Month & Camping Month
- 6/14:** Flag Day
- 6/19:** Juneteenth

## July 2026

- 7/4:** Independence Day



Our website's **Event Calendar** is full of additional family and troop opportunities, events, and activities. Scan the QR Code to stay up-to-date!



# Girl Scouts

meetings and activities you can do as a family.



## December 2025

**Early December:** Summer camp registration opens

**12/31 at 11:59 p.m.:** Program credits earned in the 2025 cookie sale expire

## January 2026

Keep an eye out for the camp catalog and pick your favorite sessions!

**1/1:** Digital Cookie opens for all orders & begin selling cookies door-to-door

**1/20:** Martin Luther King Jr. Day

## April 2026

National Volunteer Month & Financial Literacy Month

**4/1:** Membership renewal opens

**4/22:** Girl Scout Leaders Day

**4/22:** Earth Day – plant a tree with the Girl Scout Tree Promise

Don't forget to register for summer camp!

## May 2026

Mental Health Awareness Month

Visit camp this spring at an event or a troop getaway to get ready for summer camp!

**5/26:** Memorial Day – many troops participate in parades and service projects around this time

## August 2026

Troops re-register

**8/10:** National S'mores Day

**8/26:** Women's Equality Day

## September 2026

Troops hold investiture and rededication ceremonies

New girls begin to join Girl Scouts!

**Early or Mid-September:** Girl Scouts Love State Parks Weekend



Troop activities, council activities, and holidays are awesome, but why let the fun stop there? Head to [girlscouts.org/activityzone](https://girlscouts.org/activityzone) to check out free activities you can try at home with friends or family!





# girl scouts of manitou



[www.gsmanitou.org](http://www.gsmanitou.org)

