



girl scouts of the chesapeake bay

Welcome to Girl Scouting

501 S. College Ave.
Newark, DE 19713
302-456-7150
800-341-4007

911 Snow Hill Rd
Salisbury, MD 21804
410-742-5107
800-374-9811

100 West 10th St.
Suite 610
Wilmington, DE
302-778-0293

www.gscb.org



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

When Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low assembled 18 girls from Savannah, Georgia for a local Girl Scout meeting on March 12, 1912, her goal was to bring all girls out of isolated home environments and into community service and the open air. Girl Scouts hiked, played basketball, went on camping trips, learned how to tell time by the stars and studied first-aid.

Today, Girl Scouts has a membership of more than 3.3 million girls and adults and over 50 million women in the United States are Girl Scout alumnae.

We are pleased to welcome you and your daughter into the Girl Scout Family. We are excited about all the opportunities that will open up for your daughter through her participation in Girl Scouting.

Whether you and your daughter are new to Girl Scouting or have a history with us, you’ll see that we strive to maintain our traditions, while keeping up with our ever-changing society and needs of girls.

Girl Scouts is the world’s preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls, where, in an accepting and nurturing environment girls build character and skills for success in the real world. We provide a safe environment for girls to discover the fun, friendship and power of girls together. Girls can do anything and the possibilities are endless when they join together.

It is our commitment to continue to help girls build the firm foundations needed to help them reach their goals.

If you have any questions while reviewing this booklet, please contact us. Phone numbers can be found in the back of this booklet.

Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay serves the entire state of Delaware, the nine eastern shore counties of Maryland and the two eastern shores of Virginia. We have two locations to meet your needs.

Newark Resource Center (NRC)

501 South College Avenue
Newark, DE 19713
302-456-7150 / 800-341-4007
Fax: 302-456-7188

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m.*
Bay Shop Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.*
Wednesday 9:30 a.m.—7:30 p.m.*
Saturday 9 a.m.—1 p.m.*

Peninsula Resource Center (PRC)

911 Snow Hill Road
Salisbury, MD 21804
410-742-5107 / 800-374-9811
Fax: 410-742-9506

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.*
Bay Shop Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
10 a.m.—4:30 p.m.*
Wednesday 10 a.m.—7 p.m.*
Saturday 9 a.m.—1 p.m.*

The Bay Shop is where handbooks, uniforms and other items such as official insignia, camp gear and sportswear are available for purchase. The Bay Shop is located at both the Newark Resource Center and the Peninsula Resource Center.

* Office Hours and Bay Shop hours may vary during the summer months and holidays.

Girl Scout Fundamentals

There are three important guiding principles in Girl Scouts: the Mission, the Promise and the Law.

Mission

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

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 Scouting is a unique girl-only place where a girl finds:

1. **Courage** by exploring new adventures
2. **Confidence** by discovering her abilities
3. **Character** by shaping her values

*...and where a girl returns those gifts
by making the world a better place.*

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.

Membership In Girl Scouting

Girl Scouts is open to all girls in grades K-12, regardless of race, religion, national origin, physical ability, or socioeconomic factors, who:

- Accept the Girl Scout Promise and Law (girls may substitute their own faith's word in the Promise)
- Accept the principles and beliefs of Girl Scouting
- Pay yearly membership dues

The current yearly membership dues are \$12 per person. The membership dues are collected by the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay and sent to the Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) which:

- Develops program activities for girls and adults
- Publishes books on Girl Scouting
- Promotes public support of Girl Scouting
- Maintains the Girl Scout headquarters and other National Centers



Registered members of the Girl Scouts of the USA:

- May join in Girl Scouting activities and events
- May wear the appropriate uniform and insignia
- Are covered by the Girl Scout accident insurance

There are six program levels in the Girl Scout Program.

Each grade level has different Leader guide's, Journey books, Girls Guide to Girl Scouting, uniform and insignia (pins, petals, patches, badges, etc.).

Levels	Grades
Daisy	K-1
Brownie	2-3
Junior	4-5
Cadette	6-8
Senior	9-10
Ambassador	11-12

Pathways

Girl Scout pathways are how we deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to all girls —it is our delivery system and our internal way of organizing our offerings.

Girl Scout pathways are nationally consistent yet flexible ways that girls and adults can participate in Girl Scouting.

Girls can participate in as many pathways that meet their needs and interests.

Definition of Girl Pathways:

Camp: The camp pathway features day, weekend and resident experiences that introduce and explore the out-of-doors.

Events: Events are stand alone offerings. The primary difference between events and all other pathways is that different girls participate in each event, as opposed to one group of girls coming together regularly.

Series: Series offerings are a sequence of linked program sessions that relate to a specific theme or purpose. The intent is to engage the same group of girls throughout the entire series of program opportunities.

Travel: The Travel pathway offers girls leadership opportunities and cross-cultural understanding through local, regional, national and international travel.

Troop: The Troop pathway offers the same group of girls the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities, usually over a span of nine to twelve months. Girls may join at any time during the Troop year.

Virtual: The virtual pathway is an online Girl Scout community that provides girls with the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouting without regard to geographic location.

Juliette Girl Scouts

Girls wishing to participate in the Girl Scout program but not attend regular Troop meetings can register as a Juliette Girl Scout. As a Juliette you do the same grade-level activities as girls in Troops. Juliettes also participate in Fall Product Sales, the Cookie Program, Service Unit and Council activities and summer camp.



A Tradition of Honoring Girls

From the beginning of Girl Scouts, one prestigious award has recognized the girls who make a difference in their communities and in their own lives. The first, in 1916, was the Golden Eagle of Merit. In 1919, the name changed to The Golden Eaglet and in 1920, the requirements for The Golden Eaglet were updated. The First Class Award existed for only two years, from 1938–1940 and was replaced in 1940 with The Curved Bar Award, the requirements for which were updated in 1947. In 1963, GSUSA re-introduced the First Class Award, for a girl who was an “all-around” person, with skills in many fields and a proficiency in one. Today’s highest award, the Girl Scout Gold Award, was introduced in 1980 and remains today.

Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards

The Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards are Girl Scouting's highest awards. As a parent of a Girl Scout, encourage girls to "go for it" by earning these awards at the Junior through Ambassador levels.

The steps toward achieving Girl Scouting's most prestigious leadership awards offer girls wonderful learning and growth opportunities. Check out some of the award projects girls are doing at your Council. Better yet, talk to a few past recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award. You'll quickly be inspired when you see and hear what girls can accomplish right now as leaders—and by the confidence, values, and team-building expertise that girls gain as a result of going after Girl Scouting's top awards. And imagine the impact girls have on their communities, country and even the world as they identify problems they care about, team with others and act to make change happen!

Like everything girls do in Girl Scouting, the steps to earning the awards are rooted in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience and its three keys to leadership: girls discover themselves and their values and explore the world, connect with others locally and globally and take action to make the world a better place.

After completing journeys, girls apply their insights and skills to plan and carry out action projects based on their unique visions. The Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards offer girls relevant, grade-level-appropriate challenges related to teamwork, goal setting and opportunities to build community networks.

Did you know that a Girl Scout who has earned her Gold Award immediately rises one rank in all four branches of the U.S. Military? A number of college-scholarship opportunities also await Gold Award designees. A girl does not, however, have to earn a Girl Scout Bronze or Silver Award before earning the Girl Scout Gold Award. She is eligible to earn any recognition at the grade level in which she is registered.

Badges, Try-Its, Pins and More!

Emblems, awards and patches refer to items that girls wear on their vests or sashes, each of which records a girl's adventures and accomplishments as a Girl Scout. The following list describes the differences among them:

Emblems show membership in Girl Scouts, a particular council, a particular Troop or in some other Girl Scout group.

Awards /Badges are earned by completing requirements or by demonstrating understanding of a concept. The Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold awards, as well as the Journey awards, are two prestigious ways girls can earn awards. But girls also earn Daisy Petals, Brownie Try-Its, Junior badges and Interest Project awards (as Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors). Additional awards are earned through Girl Scouts requirements or are determined by partner organizations. Examples include religious awards and the President's Award for Community Service.

Participation patches are developed at the national or Council level with a focus on participation. Some come with companion activity booklets, while others are given out at events. Some examples include Uniquely ME! and World Thinking Day patches.

The Dollars and Cents of Girl Scouting

Because each individual Troop/Group is organized differently, the cost of being a Girl Scout may vary. Parents are urged to contact the Leader for specific questions about financial obligations. Here is a basic overview of what you should expect to spend.

National Membership Registration

A membership registration of \$12 is collected yearly. This fee goes directly to our national organization, Girl Scouts of the USA.

Early Bird Registration

This option is available for Leaders and families to register Troops/Groups at the end of each school year so that they can immediately resume activities at the beginning of the next school year. This takes place during the months of April through June.

Troop/Group Dues

Troop/Group Leaders determine the amount of their dues based on their budgeted expenses. Dues may be collected weekly, monthly or quarterly depending on the structure of the Troop/Group. Troops/Groups are required to have an established bank account, maintain a Detail Cash Record (DCR) and to submit the DCR annually to Council. This record can be reviewed at anytime by a parent registered with the Troop/Group.

Uniforms

The requirement of and components of a uniform is determined by the individual family. Full uniforms are optional, although sashes or vests are helpful in order to display insignia, pins and patches earned as a Girl Scout. Parents are responsible to purchase of Troop/Group numbers, Council Patch and American Flag Patch for the sash or vest.

Journey Books, Girls Guide to Girl Scouting, Badge Books

These books are basic resources for all grade levels and contain descriptions of activities and recognitions that may be earned. All resources can be purchased at the Council Bay Shops located in Newark and Salisbury or online at www.girlscoutbayshop.com

Special Activity Costs

Special activities are classified as special events or field trips your daughter's Troop/Group would like to attend. Often a portion of this cost will be paid through money earning activities by the Troop/Group but parents should consult their daughter's Leader to discuss specifics of how this will be handled.

Family Partnership Campaign

Family Partnership is an organized Council-wide request for financial contributions to help underwrite the cost of providing the full Girl Scout program to girls. It is a way that families and adult Girl Scouts can tangibly express their belief in the value of Girl Scouting. Family contributions support Leader education, camp maintenance, development of exciting new programs for girls, financial assistance where needed, publications to keep families informed, the website and much more.

Financial Assistance

In order to give every girl the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouts, despite financial status, financial assistance is offered. Financial assistance can be requested by anyone involved in our programs. Financial assistance is available for the following items:

- Membership registration fee
- Uniform components (sash, Troop/Group #, ID strip)
- Reasonable costs of girls' activities

Financial assistance applications are available through the Girl Scout offices, the Service Unit, the Troop/Group Leader or the Council website (www.gscb.org)

The Dollars and Cents of Girl Scouting

Fall Product Sale Program

This program includes selling nuts and candies and magazine subscriptions, books and computer software. The Fall Product Sales Program occurs during October each year.

The Girl Scout Cookie Tradition

It is no surprise that the Cookie Program is one of our biggest and most important money earning activities. Cookie orders are taken in January, delivered in mid-February and end in March.

500 + Club any individual or siblings who sell 500 boxes or more will receive extra incentives and a certificate for one year's membership registration dues.

Troop/Group Matters

Troop/Group Size

A Girl Scout Troop/Group should be small enough to allow for individual development, yet large enough to accommodate group activities. **The Leader makes the final decision as to the size of the Troop/Group.**

Meeting Day and Time

Availability of the meeting place and the Leader's personal time schedule are all factors in determining the meeting day and time. Troops/Groups may meet weekly, every other week or once a month. Troops/Groups may meet directly after school, in the evenings or on weekends.

Meeting Place

Troops/Groups meet in schools, churches and public buildings. A good meeting place must conform to health and safety standards, provide drinking water and toilet facilities, be free of fire hazards, permit group games without disturbing others and, if possible, have outdoor facilities nearby.

Meeting Activities

Troop/Group activities are based upon the interest and input of the girls. There are no mandatory requirements governing the activities a Troop/Group participates in. Activities can include, but are not limited to, badge work, arts and crafts, community service and singing songs.

Troop/Group Registration

Girl Scouts is a membership organization. All volunteers and girls participating in the Girl Scout movement must be registered as members through the Council. The membership year is October 1-September 30.

Troop/Group Sponsorship

A Troop/Group sponsor is an organization or business that assumes defined responsibilities for maintaining and supporting your Troop/Group. A sponsor usually provides a meeting place or a service to the Troop/Group and on occasion will make a donation to the Troop/Group. In exchange, the Troop/Group may do a service project during the year to benefit their sponsor.

Troop/Group Leadership

Any adult, male or female, who believes in the principles of Girl Scouting and can serve as a positive role model for girls can apply to be a Girl Scout Leader. At least one registered adult Leader per Troop/Group must be female.

Leaders Assist Girls In

- Learning decision-making skills
- Assuming a variety of responsibilities
- Selecting activities that match abilities and encourage growth
- Proceeding at their own pace
- Recognizing that learning experiences involve both success and failure

Background Checks

Every adult volunteer who works directly with girls and/or handles Troop/Group funds is required to take an online background check.

The Girl Scout Family

When you register as a Girl Scout you become part of the world's largest organization of and for girls, currently encompassing 2.4 million girl members and nearly one million volunteers!

Contact your daughter's Leader(s)

One of the best ways to be informed of what your daughter's Troop/group is doing is to keep in contact with her Leader. This is also the fastest and easiest way to get your questions answered. These trained adults are informed and care about your daughter so they should always be the first people you turn to with a question or concern.

Become Involved

Read material that is sent home with your daughter. This will keep you up-to-date on what she is learning and alert you to upcoming opportunities and deadlines.

Volunteer

There are many ways to involve yourself in Girl Scouting. For example, you could attend a Troop/Group outing, help with a money earning activity or possibly take on the Leadership of a Troop/Group .

Troop/Group Committee

The Troop/Group Committee gives the Troop/Group whatever help it needs in planning activities and money earning during the year. The committee includes parents, as well as interested members of the community, such as teachers or sponsor representatives. Speak with the Troop Leader for Troop/Group needs.

Service Unit

The Service Unit is a core group of volunteers who provide direct services to Troops/Groups within a specific geographic area.

Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council

The Council provides many services including Council-wide activities and projects.

Girl Scout Camping

One of the most unique opportunities for outdoor exploration is Girl Scout camping. Our Council owns four camps with a total of more than 400 acres of land.

Camp Grove Point Located in Earleville, MD along the Sassafras River. It has 265 acres providing wooded, meadow and swamp areas. there is a large beach on the river. The camp has platform tents and Adirondacks (three sided buildings) with screened Troop Houses as well as cabins.

Camp Country Center Located in Hockessin, DE. The camp includes 40 acres of fields and woods with four campsites, two pavilions, a Troop House, hiking trails, a creek and the Lynn W. Williams Science and Technology Lodge. The lodge is the first building in Delaware to receive Platinum Certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The building features a multi-purpose room, science lab, breakout room and commercial kitchen.

Camp Todd Located near Denton, MD. This camp property sits on a beautiful fresh water lake where various boating and swimming activities are permitted. It also features a meadow and wooded areas. Camp Todd has two cabins, four Adirondack (three sided buildings) units with screened Troop Houses, one platform tent unit, a large pavilion and a primitive camping area.

Camp Sandy Pines Located in Fruitland, MD on 49 acres of wooded area with a sandy meadow. It consists of a tree house unit with unit house, one cabin and one platform tent unit with screened Troop Houses, four seasonal cabins, a primitive camping area and a pavilion.

Girls can enjoy camping trips both on Troop/Group outings and through summer camp opportunities. Day camps and Resident camps are available during the summer months. Camps last approximately one week at a time and based on specific interests. Camp brochures will be available to registered members in early spring.



- Service Unit 1 Western Cecil County, MD
- Service Unit 2 Eastern Cecil County, MD
- Service Unit 4 Talbot County, MD
- Service Unit 6 Somerset County, MD
- Service Unit 7 Worcester County, MD
- Service Unit 89 Accomack/Northampton Counties, VA
- Service Unit 10 Southwest Sussex County, DE
- Service Unit 11 Northern Sussex County, DE
- Service Unit 12 Dover, DE
- Service Unit 13 Middletown/Odessa/Townsend, DE
- Service Unit 14 Southeastern Sussex County, DE
- Service Unit 15 Dorchester County, MD
- Service Unit 18 South of Rte 4, Newark, DE
- Service Unit 19 North of Rte 4, Newark, DE
- Service Unit 24 City of Wilmington, DE
- Service Unit 25 Mt. Pleasant, DE
- Service Unit 27 Talleyville, DE
- Service Unit 629 Claymont/Brandywine Hundred, DE
- Service Unit 30 Shore Points, DE
- Service Unit 31 Smyrna/Clayton, DE
- Service Unit 33 Caesar Rodney School District/Camden-Wyoming, DE
- Service Unit 34 Caroline County, MD
- Service Unit 36 Sudlersville/Kent County, MD
- Service Unit 39 New Castle/Delaware City/St. Georges/Richardson Park, DE
- Service Unit 45 Hockessin/Yorklyn/Brandywine Springs/Pike Creek, DE
- Service Unit 88 Centreville/Grasonville/Kent Island, MD
- Service Unit 97 Wicomico County, MD/Delmar, DE

