



# Family Guide TO Girl Scouting




# Welcome Families



At Girl Scouts of Western Ohio, girls matter! We know there are no limits to a girl's success, and we create unique opportunities that help girls see that. As a Girl Scout member, your girl will discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls working together. You'll see her grow courageous and strong through a variety of enriching experiences, including field trips, skill-building, community service projects, and cultural exchanges. You'll watch her confidence build as she makes friends, tries new things, discovers her passions, and reaches her fullest potential in a safe, positive environment!

**Let the FUN begin!**

 Roni Luckenbill, CEO

## 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.

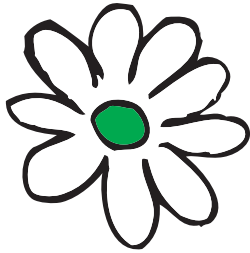
## Law

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.





# What to Expect



## Girl Scouts do A LOT!

Girl Scout activities are easy to participate in and teach skills that will benefit your daughter throughout her lifetime. Guided by supportive adults and peers, she will participate in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, a collection of programs and activities designed to help her **Discover** who she is and what she cares about; **Connect** who she is and what she values to things outside of herself; and **Take Action** to make the world a better place.

## Endless Opportunities

Girl Scouts engage in innovative and fun, age-appropriate activities that are girl-led, cooperative, and hands-on.

## Badges & Petals

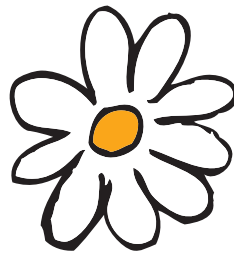
Badges offer girls the chance to try new things and develop specific skills, from financial literacy to camping to cooking to inventing to hiking.

## Leadership Journeys

Girls gain leadership skills and dive deeper into issues that are relevant to them, through project-based, multidisciplinary learning adventures that help them team up to identify and solve problems in their communities.

## Program Events

With hundreds of program events offered throughout the year, girls have many opportunities to engage their passions and try new things.



## Girl Scout Cookies

Troops and individual Girl Scouts participate in the fall product sale and Girl Scout Cookie Program to build key business skills and help offset costs for membership, program supplies, uniforms, activities, camp, and travel trips.

## Community Service

Girl Scouts strive to change their communities and the world in meaningful ways through short-term community service projects and longer-term Take Action projects.

## Camping

Camping is a great way for girls to explore leadership, build skills, and develop a deep appreciation for nature. Exciting resident, day, and troop adventure camp options are available for all ages.

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Girls typically participate in Girl Scouts with girls around their own age. There are six program levels in Girl Scouts, and girls can participate all the way through high school!



**Daisies K-1**



**Juniors 4-5**



**Seniors 9-10**



**Brownies 2-3**



**Cadettes 6-8**



**Ambassadors 11-12**

# Costs of Girl Scouts



## A Great Value!

Girl Scouts is a great value! Talk to your troop leader now about expenses you can anticipate for the coming year.

### Membership Fee (\$15/year)

Every girl and volunteer who participates in Girl Scouts is required to become a member of the organization. The membership fee, which is sent to our national organization, covers the cost of fundamental services that support the Girl Scout Movement as well as accident insurance for members participating in approved Girl Scout activities.

### Troop Dues (\$20-60/year)

Troops may charge moderate dues to pay for supplies and badges.



### Uniform (\$33 - \$46/year)

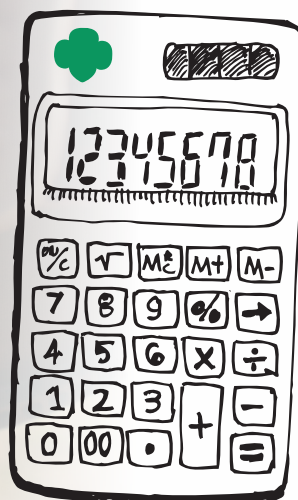
Uniforms are encouraged but not required, and many girls enjoy wearing them to display their badges. There is a uniform for each grade level, and one uniform can be used for up to two years.

### Girl Scout Books (\$7 - \$22/year)

A variety of books are available to support programming in troops.

### Special Programs (Varies)

When not covered by the troop, special programs, such as field trips or workshops, are generally paid for individually. Examples include camping trip supplies or fees to go to a Girl Scout program event.





# Family Participation



**You are encouraged to participate** in Girl Scouting with your daughter. Whether you take on the role of troop leader, plan activities, drive girls on outings, supply meeting snacks, or share information about your profession during a troop meeting, your contribution is valued and vital. Your involvement will ensure she maximizes the benefits of being a Girl Scout...and you'll have fun, too!

## Support Your Girl Scout

- Spend time with her and enjoy fun Girl Scout events and activities together.
- Encourage her to take risks and try new things.
- Ask about her experiences, and let her amaze you with her wow-worthy stories.
- Attend meetings, group activities, and special ceremonies together.
- Stay connected through our social media channels, email newsletters, and website.

## Support Her Troop Leaders

- Volunteer as a Troop Assistant to assist at meetings, be a troop driver, or help manage the Girl Scout Cookie Program.
- Recognize troop leaders with occasional notes of thanks, or consider coordinating a gift from parents during Troop Leader Appreciation Week in April.

## Support the Girl Scout Council

- **Volunteer!** Do you have a particular skill, like archery or sewing that you're willing to share with all Girl Scouts? Would you be interested in mentoring older girls through their prestigious Gold Award projects?

There are many volunteer opportunities beyond your girl's troop. Let us know how you'd like to help out, and we'll help you find a role that matches your interests. Contact [customerservice@gswvo.org](mailto:customerservice@gswvo.org) or visit [gswvo.org](http://gswvo.org) to learn more.

- **Donate!** Family Giving provides the financial resources for Girl Scouts of Western Ohio to invest in the future of our girls, your girl. Each gift is important, and 100% of your contribution supports the work of Girl Scouts of Western Ohio. Invest in Girls. Change the World. Donate today at [gswvo.org/donate!](http://gswvo.org/donate!)





Today, there are **2.7 million Girl Scouts**— 55,000 of these girls and volunteers participate within our 32-county area in Western Ohio and Southeastern Indiana.



Troop Leader Names \_\_\_\_\_

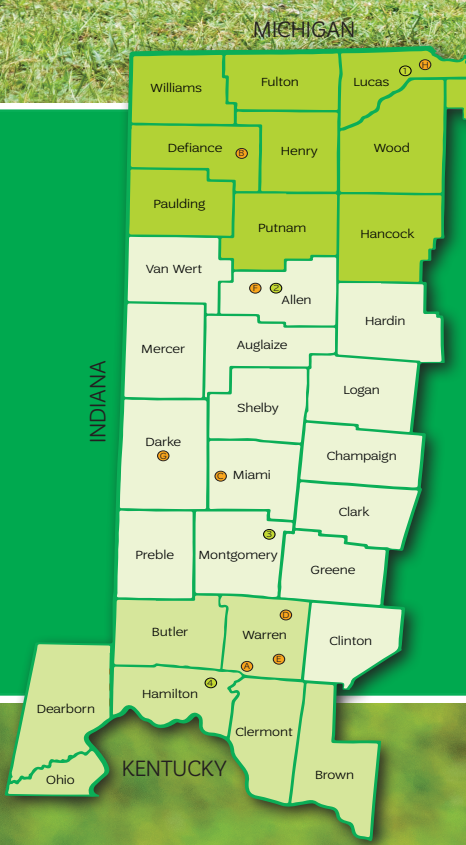
Leader Phone Numbers \_\_\_\_\_

Leader Emails \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Number \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Meeting Day \_\_\_\_\_

Troop Meeting Location \_\_\_\_\_



**Service Centers**

- ① Toledo
- ② Lima
- ③ Dayton
- ④ Cincinnati

**Camps**

- A Camp Butterworth
- B Camp Libbey
- C Camp Rolling Hills
- D Camp Stonybrook
- E Camp Whip Poor Will
- F Camp Woodhaven
- G Little House - Greenville
- H Little House - Toledo

**Special Dates in Girl Scouting**

- June 1**
- October 31** Fall program event registration opens. Juliette Gordon Low's, our awesome founder's, Birthday.
- November 9**
- January 6** Spring events registration opens. Girl Scout Cookie Program order taking begins.
- January 25**
- February 22** Camp Registration opens. World Thinking Day—Celebrate and learn about girls from other countries.
- March 26**
- April** Girl Scout Cookie Program ends. Early Bird Registration Opens—Register for the 2017-18 Membership Year.