

Council Updates

Office Closures.

We hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing holiday season! GSHG offices and shops will re-open on January 2 after our holiday break.

All offices and shops will be closed on January 19 for Martin Luther King Day.



Cookie Season is officially here!

We know this time of year can get busy, and we're here to support you every step of the way. If you need help with anything throughout the season, please don't hesitate to reach out to our staff. Not sure who to contact? Give Customer Care a call at 888-689-1912, and they'll connect you with the right person. We're cheering you on for an amazing season!

Troop Monthly Report

Don't forget to send in your Troop Report by the 15th each month! It's a fun way to share all the amazing things your girls have been up to, and it helps us to share the Girl Scout experience in a vivid way. The new form is quicker, easier, and way more user-friendly—and here's a bonus: the Service Unit with the highest completion rate will get a special shout-out in 5 on Friday!

We'd also love your feedback! If you have ideas to make the form even smoother to use, pass them along to Rick Lemyre at rlemyre@gshg.org.



Membership Updates



Early Bird Patch Contest

Think you have what it takes to design the next Early Bird patch? We want to see your creativity shine! Submit your original design for a chance to have your artwork featured as the official 2026 Early Bird patch for our council.



Plan ahead for Early Renewal!

It's never too early to start planning ahead! Troops should begin thinking about Early Renewal, especially since one of our cookie incentives includes coverage of the MY27 Membership Fee—yay!

Please note that a new membership fee structure will go into effect on **April 1, 2026**:

- Girl Membership: \$65
- Adult Membership: \$30 (no change)

Girl Scout Experience Boxes

It's easier than ever to lead the way with the Girl Scout Experience Box. As a Daisy or Brownie Girl Scout troop leader, you can receive complimentary meeting supplies delivered to your doorstep each month of the troop year!



Daisy Experience Box:

The Daisy Experience Box is available to new Daisy troops with at least 4 registered Daisy Girl Scouts.



Brownie Experience Box:

The Brownie Experience Box is available to new Brownie troops—including those brand new to Girl Scouts and those bridging to their first year of Brownies—with at least 4 registered Brownie Girl Scouts.

Volunteer Development Updates

Ready, Set, Troop!

3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. January's meeting will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Are you a first-year Girl Scout troop leader? Join GSHG each month for Ready, Set, Troop!—a series of one-hour virtual sessions designed just for our First-Year Troop Leadership Team volunteers.

Each month features a new theme focused on timely topics to help you lead your troop with confidence. You'll have the chance to learn, ask questions, and connect with other new troop leaders across our council.

January's Topic: Regional Support - Meet with your regional staff support team, meet other first-year Girl Scout leaders near you, Q & A

This month's meeting will take place on January 20, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



Register here!



2026 Outdoor Trainings

Get ready to head outdoors! Our 2026 Outdoor Trainings are coming up soon, and they're the perfect way for volunteers to gain confidence and learn the skills needed to lead Girl Scouts on fun, safe outdoor adventures. From campfire cooking and tent pitching to safety tips and planning unforgettable troop activities, these trainings have you covered. Stay tuned for registration details!

Camp Low Challenge Course Facilitator Training- High & Low Elements- Savannah - Region 3

Friday, January 16, 2026 - Sunday, January 18, 2026

This training certifies adult facilitators to operate the zipline and rock wall at Camp Low in Savannah, GA. The course also includes instruction on low elements. Participants must be registered members of Girl Scouts.



GRIT (Grow, Rise, Inspire, Train) Adult Training Weekend- Augusta - Region 2

Friday, March 27, 2026 - Sunday, March 29, 2026

Join us this spring for GRIT, our newest adult training weekend at Camp Tanglewood! Spend the weekend learning new skills, connecting with fellow volunteers, and enjoying a full lineup of classes including Songs & S'mores, Basic Water Rescue/Small Craft Safety, Archery, Advanced Cooking, enrichment sessions, and more. Camp Tanglewood is currently in a rebuilding season following last year's storms, so we'll be tent camping for this event—bringing an extra touch of adventure to the weekend!



****Registration coming soon.***

Basic Outdoor Skills - Athens - Region 1

Friday, April 24, 2026 - Saturday, April 25, 2026

Basic Outdoor Skills prepares leaders with the knowledge and confidence to guide Girl Scouts through an outdoor overnight experience. This course covers the eight essential outdoor skills and is required for any trip involving outdoor cooking, campfires, or sleeping in the great outdoors. By completing this training, leaders gain the practical experience needed to help girls safely explore and enjoy their first outdoor adventures.



Basic Water Rescue and Small Watercraft Training - Effingham County - Region 3

Saturday, May 2, 2026

In this training, we'll learn what's needed to safely take Girl Scouts canoeing or kayaking. Topics will include basic water rescue techniques, safety procedures and equipment, instruction in canoe and kayak strokes and techniques, and what you need to prepare girls for a day trip on the water. We'll cover safety information and travel on the water ourselves. Bring a bag lunch, water, and suitable clothing.





Basic Outdoor Skills - Savannah - Region 3 ***Saturday, May 2, 2026 - Sunday, May 3, 2026***

Basic Outdoor Skills prepares leaders with the knowledge and confidence to guide Girl Scouts through an outdoor overnight experience. This course covers the eight essential outdoor skills and is required for any trip involving outdoor cooking, campfires, or sleeping in the great outdoors. By completing this training, leaders gain the practical experience needed to help girls safely explore and enjoy their first outdoor adventures.

Product Program Updates

Mark your calendars!

Don't miss a single sweet moment of the 2026 cookie season—check out the [2026 Cookie Program Calendar](#) for all the important dates, deadlines, and events coming your way! Be in the know, stay organized, and get ready for a Brave! Fierce! Fun! season full of cookies, friends, and Girl Scout adventures.



Upcoming Dates and Deadlines:

- **January 2:** Cookie Program Begins!
- **January 2-13:** Initial Order taking period of the Cookie Program
- **January 10:** Cookie Booth Selector Initial Round 10:00 a.m. - 11:59 p.m.
- **January 13:** Parent / Caregivers submit Initial Order in Digital Cookie
- **January 14:** Troops submit Initial Cookie Order and Rewards in eBudde
- **January 15:** SUPPM submit Initial Cookie Order and Rewards in eBudde
- **January 22:** Cookie Booth Selector Final Round Open to all SUs starting at 6:00 p.m. until the end of the Cookie Program on March 8th
- **January 30 - February 4:** Initial Cookie Order deliveries to SUs

What will happen on January 2nd, 2026?

All registered Girl Scouts will receive an email invitation to set up their Digital Cookie site. This email will be sent to the parent or caregiver email listed in myGS, so be sure to keep an eye on your inbox. Girl Scouts can also jump right in by selling with their paper order card.

Volunteers who are Product Program Ready will receive access to their troop's 2025–2026 eBudde site. If you don't receive an access email or you're still seeing information from the 2024–2025 Girl Scout year, that's a sign you'll need to complete the Product Program Ready steps.

Need help along the way? All cookie trainings and resources are available in gsLearn, including:

- Parent & Troop 101 trainings
- Helpful inventory tracking templates
- All required forms



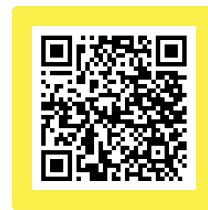
Are YOU ready for cookies?!

Step 1: Be Product Program Ready

- ☐ Be a registered Girl Scout volunteer with an approved background check for the current Girl Scout Membership year. To verify, call Customer Care at 1-888-689-1912.
- ☐ Have the Troop Cookie Program Manager role assigned to you in myGS to gain access to your troop eBudde Dashboard and have two non-related, background-checked volunteers assigned to the troop leadership role in myGS.
- ☐ Troops with less than 5 registered girls in grades K-5 and/or less than 3 registered girls in grades 6-12 may participate in upcoming Product Programs IF they are open in the Troop Catalog. Call Customer Care on 1-888-689-1912 for verification.
- ☐ Have your troop bank account set up by the Troop Account Manager.
- ☐ Sign the 2025-2026 Product Program Manager Agreement and Troop Debt Procedure forms.



Product Program
Manager Agreement



Troop Debt
Procedure

Step 2: Watch training videos!

Go to gsLearn to access the entire Cookie Program Training playlist. Get started by watching the GSHG Cookie Program Training video to gain access to your Digital Cookie troop site and receive eBudde access.

Step 3: Mark your calendar!

Be aware of all deadlines set throughout the Cookie Program.

For Service Unit Product Program Managers! Take a look at pages 5-10 of your Cookbook for tips and tricks to help prepare you for your cookie program.

Are YOUR GIRL SCOUTS ready for cookies?!

Step 1: Complete the Parent Checklist!

This checklist contains the steps required to participate in the Fall Product Program.

- ☐ Register your girl for the current Girl Scout membership year. To verify, call Customer Care at 1-888-689-1912.
- ☐ Opt-in to receive emails. Ensure that your correct email address is in your myGS account and verify that you opted-in to receive emails to receive your Girl Scout's online site invite.
- ☐ Complete the 2026 Parent Debt Procedure. Completion of this form allows for Girl Scouts to receive packages/cases without pre-paying for cookies.
- ☐ Submit the 2025-2026 Product Program Parent Permission Form with your troop number, service unit name, and region. If you are unsure of this information, please contact your troop leader.
 - For Girl Scouts in multiple troops, you can only participate in one troop for the duration of the cookie program.
 - Submission of any product program forms does not require your participation in either program.



2026 Parent
Debt Procedure



Parent Permission
Form

Step 2: Watch the training videos!

Head to our website to access available training resources.

Step 3: Mark your calendar!

Be aware of all deadlines set during the Cookie Program.



Cookie Resources

Program Updates

Camp Guide coming soon!

Summer camp registration is just around the corner—keep an eye out for this year's Camp Guide full of adventure and fun!



Senior Solstice 2026 - January 24, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Register by January 9.



Girl Scouts of Historic Georgia invites graduating Girl Scout Ambassadors (Class of 2026) to a one-of-a-kind Solstice Celebration in Savannah—the birthplace of Girl Scouting. This unforgettable day honors your achievements and the journey that brought you here, with visits to iconic Girl Scout landmarks, a professional graduation photo, private trolley transportation, lunch at a celebrated Savannah restaurant, inspiring ceremonies, and official GSUSA gifts and insignia.

Open to graduating Ambassadors and one adult guest per girl.

Teen Leadership Conference - January 31 - February 1
Register by January 12.



Middle and high school Girl Scouts are invited to the Teen Leadership Conference at Wesleyan College in Macon, GA, an overnight experience focused on leadership, confidence, and growth. This year's theme, "Brave, Bold, and Brilliant," inspires girls to step into their power while experiencing college life through campus tours, an overnight stay, and hands-on workshops.

Girl Scouts Day at the Capital - February 3, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Register by January 23.

Spend the day learning how advocacy and legislation impact girls and communities across Georgia. Girl Scouts Brownies through Ambassadors will join sister Girl Scouts from around the state in Atlanta to explore important issues, connect with community resources, and take action by meeting with their legislators at the Georgia State Capitol. This hands-on experience supports progress toward the Democracy badge while building confidence, leadership, and civic engagement skills.



A virtual info session will be held on January 20, 2026, at 6:00 PM to help families prepare and make the most of the day.



Upcoming Cookie Rallies!

Join us for a Brave! Fierce! Fun! time at the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Rallies—packed with exciting activities, connection, and learning. Meet Shirley, our 2026 Cookie Ambassador, explore safe social media practices, and sharpen your cookie booth basics.

Region 1 - Athens: Saturday, January 10, 2026

Please register by January 6.



Region 3 - Savannah: Saturday, January 10, 2026

Multiple sessions available. Please register by January 6.



Region 2 - Augusta: Saturday, January 10, 2026

Please register by January 6.



Region 6 - Macon: Saturday, January 10, 2026

Please register by January 5.



Retail Updates

Cookie Bundles!

Cookie Season is here, and we have adorable new Booth Bundles to help your setup shine and boost your sales! Quantities are limited, so snag your bundle while they last!

Items are also sold individually!

The G.O.A.T Bundle - \$85.00 (\$100 value)

- Choice of Square or Rectangle Tablecloth
- Cookie Pennant Banner
- Cookie Rectangular Banner 47 x 24
- Cookie Handheld Signs (Set of 4)
- Cookie Money Pouch
- Cookie Thank You Cards (Pack Of 25)
- Cookie Yard Sign & Stake

The Ultimate Sign Bundle - \$45.00 (\$55 value)

- Cookie Pennant Banner
- Cookie Rectangular Banner 47 x 24
- Cookie Handheld Signs (Set of 4)
- Cookie Yard Sign & Stake

The Extreme Wagon Bundle - \$45.00 (\$56 value)

- Cookie Handheld Signs - Set of 4 (2025)
- Cookie Money Pouch (2025)
- Cookie Thank You Cards Pack Of 25 (2025)
- Cookie Yard Sign & Stake (2025)
- Cookie Pennant Banner (2025)



NEW GSHG Certified Cookie Seller long-sleeve tees!

Perfect for layering under your vest at cookie booths or showing off your cookie business on the go. Available in Pink or Dark Green in Youth Small–Large and Adult Small–4X.

Pre-order for \$27 to be cookie-season ready!

Orders placed by January 10 receive a **FREE** cookie-themed hair accessory to complete your look.

Our next Shop Saturday will be January 3 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Come visit us at one of our locations!

- Athens Shop: 185 Newton Bridge Road, Athens, GA 30601
- Macon Shop: 6869 Columbus Road, Lizella, GA 31052
- Savannah Shop: 535 E. Liberty Street, Savannah, GA 31401

Meet the Membership Team!

Questions? Reach out to our staff, or call Customer Care at 888-689-1912 today!

Athens & Gainesville

Jaci Bridges, Regional Director of Membership and Volunteer Support

Ansley Land, Membership Manager

Emma Humphrey, Membership Manager

Melissa Clink, Membership Manager

Augusta

Quianna Wizzart, Regional Director of Membership and Volunteer Support

Demar Johnson, Membership Manager

Lisa Martin, Membership Manager

Shekoyah Cox, Youth Coordinator

Mona Cox, Youth Coordinator

Savannah

Tammy Williams, Regional Director of Membership and Volunteer Support

Alexa Collyer, Membership Manager

Emilee Fry, Membership Manager

Sally McCoy, Membership Manager

Jennifer Rounds, Membership Manager

Kendalynn Thomas, Youth Coordinator

Albany

Keisha Herrin, Membership Manager

Cynthia Gaines, Membership Manager

Columbus

Dee-Dee Rivers, Senior Director of Membership and Volunteer Support

Anne Whitmer, Regional Director of Membership and Volunteer Support

Lauren Fender, Membership Manager

Wanda Jenkins-Davis, Youth Coordinator

Raneshia Hudson, Youth Coordinator

Melissa Burkett, Membership Manager

Macon

Jade Hill, Regional Director of Membership and Volunteer Support

Ashley Newton, Youth Coordinator

Ashlynn Kilcrease, Youth Coordinator

Kiara Jackson, Membership Manager

Pristiny Brown, Membership Manager

Rachel Griffith, Membership Manager



You can always access our full [staff directory online](#) or call Customer Care at 888-689-1912, and they will direct you to the right person!