

girl scouts
heart of the south

heartstrings

NOVEMBER
2025

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If you know a volunteer we need to feature in the Volunteer Spotlight segment in an upcoming issue, email us at news@girlscoutshs.org to get them on the list!



November 2025
Volunteer Spotlight
Melissa Webb
SU 179 - Crit/Ark

Printable Links For those who prefer to download and print Heartstrings, written links for all embedded, external hyperlinks are provided below:

- p2 - Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Course
https://bit.ly/gshs_GSUSACANPC
You must be logged into gsLearn in your MYGS account prior to using the course link.
- p2 - GSUSA Abuse Prevention Policies & Procedures
https://bit.ly/gshs_GSUSAAPPP
- p2 - GSHS Text Messaging Opt-In Form
https://bit.ly/gshs_TEXT23
- p7 - Community Partners Page
https://bit.ly/gshs_CommunityPartnerPrograms
- p7 - Girl Scout Destinations
https://bit.ly/gshs_GSDestinations
- p10 - Troop Cookie Training Dates
Cookies 101 - The Basics (12/9/25)
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/5J5Ut4jqSCqmmOhefgCbpa>

- Troop Cookie Program Training (12/11/25)
https://zoom.us/meeting/register/kk_K2YZnT7Ong-AqfsJETg
- Troop Cookie Program Training (12/14/25)
<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/InpPZlISSEqShjmHcvJOQw>
- p11 - Cookie Pre-Order Merch Order Form
https://bit.ly/gshs_2026CookiePreOrderMerch
- p11 - Cookie Booth Priorities & Recommendations Survey
https://bit.ly/gshs_CookieBoothSurvey

For all 2025 Fall Product Program and Product Program required forms visit:
www.girlscoutshs.org/fallproduct

For all program and event registrations,
www.girlscoutshs.org/calendar

GSUSA Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Protocols

Nothing is more important than the health and safety of our girls.

To support and emphasize this, GSUSA has Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Protocols. It is required that all registered adults from October 2024 forward and recommended that all volunteers prior to this date complete the GSUSA [Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Course](#) available in gsLearn. (You must be logged into gsLearn in your MYGS account prior to clicking on the course link.) The training is delivered in two parts and takes about 50 minutes to complete.

Child abuse and neglect are difficult subjects to think about, yet the prevention of abuse is a topic Girl Scouts takes very seriously. This training prepares supervising adults of Girl Scout youth to recognize, respond to, and report concerns of child abuse and neglect. Additionally, supervising adults will be empowered to prevent abuse by learning Girl Scout recommended practices, policies and procedures. Girl Scout practices, policies and procedures are proactive measures designed to prevent abusers from interacting with Girl Scouts and to foster a safe space for children to thrive. GSUSA will also have the Safety Activity Checkpoints updated with the new [GSUSA Abuse Prevention Policies and Procedures](#).

STAY "IN-THE-KNOW" WITH GSHS!

In our ongoing efforts to enhance communications with members and volunteers, Girl Scouts Heart of the South offers automated text messaging!

Click the button and fill out the linked form to opt-in to this additional communications platform!

**GSHS TEXT
MESSAGING SERVICE
OPT-IN FORM**



November 2025 Volunteer Spotlight **Melissa Webb** SU 179 Crit/Ark

For more than 26 years, Melissa Webb has been a driving force for Girl Scouts—first as a girl member, then as a volunteer and troop leader. Her journey began in third grade, when she fell in love with the program. At the age of 18, she began leading a troop for her younger sister that included 23 girls in Memphis, determined to make a difference in her community.

That early experience shaped her lifelong passion for serving inner-city girls. “At 18, I had the opportunity to literally change the entire trajectory of a bunch of girls’ lives,” Melissa shared. Today, she continues that mission in West Memphis, Arkansas, where her troop spans every age level from first through eleventh grade.

Over the years, Melissa has been honored by Girl Scouts Heart of the South with the Appreciation Pin, the Honor Pin, and the Service Unit Distinguished Leader Award.

Melissa has guided girls to earn their Girl Scout Silver and Gold Awards, encouraging them to tackle real-world issues like bullying and mental health. She says the most important thing Girl Scouts provides is exposure—showing girls that life holds opportunities beyond what they see every day.

Melissa loves that she has witnessed transformation firsthand, like the family of five girls who broke a multi-generational cycle of teenage pregnancy, with one now serving in the Navy and another working as a nurse.

For Melissa, Girl Scouts is more than a program—it’s a calling. “You can’t expect change if you don’t do anything,” she says. “This is my purpose.”

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Has your troop done a Service Project? Has your Service Unit held a great program event? Have you found the perfect way to organize badge steps into fun activities? We want to know about what our troops are doing in their meetings, communities, and Service Units! Send pictures and information about your latest and greatest to: news@girlscoutshs.org

You might just find yourselves highlighted in a council publication, on social media, or even in your local press!

GSHS MY25-MY26 PROGRAM CALENDAR

A full, current listing of all upcoming council programs and events is provided in each issue of Heartstrings. Our supplemental, programs and events-focused "Program Possibilities" e-newsletter is emailed to all members on the 15th of each month. Be on the lookout for additional, program-specific communications, too!

More exciting programs and events are being added all the time! For the latest information, visit the [GSHS Events Calendar](https://www.girlscoutshs.org) on our website at www.girlscoutshs.org.



Girl Scout Gold Award Training

2025 Girl Scout Gold Award Training Opportunities

Thursday, November 6, 2025, 6:00-8:00 PM [REGISTER](#)

Sunday, November 16, 2025, 2:00-4:00 PM [REGISTER](#)

Monday, December 8, 2025, 6:00-8:00 PM [REGISTER](#)

Saturday, December 13, 2025, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM [REGISTER](#)

\$5 per GSHS girl member

FREE for GSHS registered adult volunteers

Age Level: Seniors & Ambassadors, Volunteers

Online via ZOOM

NOVEMBER 2025

REGISTRATION FOR THE UPCOMING EVENTS SHOWN BELOW HAS ENDED.



Memphis Botanic Garden Girl ScOUTing Events

Fall Colors: Sunday, November 9, 2025

Tropical Treasures: Sunday, April 26, 2026

2:00 - 4:00 PM

\$8 per GSHS girl member

\$12 per accompanying adult

Age Level: Daisies - Cadettes

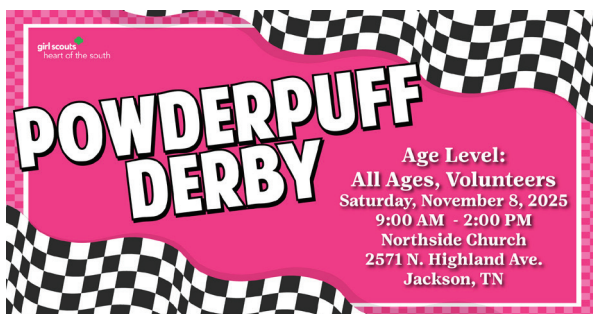
Memphis Botanic Garden

750 Cherry Road

Memphis, TN

For more information and to register for the November 9, 2025 event, click [HERE](#).

For more information and to register for the April 26, 2026 event, click [HERE](#).





American Red Cross Wilderness and Remote First Aid

2-DAY EVENT

Saturday, November 15 & Sunday, November 16, 2025

8:30 AM - 5:30 PM each day

(Class is 16 hours over 2 days.

All sessions must be attended.)

\$55 per GSHS member

Age Level: Ambassadors, Volunteers

UT Martin Brehm Hall

Martin, TN

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Saturday, November 1, 2025

MINIMUM #: 4

MAX # GIRLS: 8

MAX # ADULTS: 8



First Aid Heroes with Kappa Delta Union University

Saturday, November 15, 2025

12:00 - 2:00 PM

\$8 per GSHS member

Age Level: Brownies & Juniors

Kappa Delta House

University of Memphis Campus

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Monday, November 10, 2025.

MIN/MAX: 6/16

▶▶▶▶
**REGISTRATION
FOR THIS
EVENT HAS
ENDED.**
▶▶▶▶



Overnight
Journey

BREATHE
by the Trees

girlscouts
heart of the south

Age Level: Cadettes

5:00 PM, Friday, November 21 -

3:00 PM, Saturday, November 22, 2025

Camp Fisherville - Collierville, TN

Breathe by the Trees - Overnight Journey

REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT IS FULL.

WAITLIST IS OPEN - ONLY 2 SPOTS LEFT!

5:00 PM Friday, November 21, -

3:00 PM Saturday, November 22, 2025

\$35 per GSHS registered girl member

Age Level: Cadettes

Camp Fisherville • Collierville, TN

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Friday, November 7, 2025.

MIN/MAX: 10/18



C.A.M.P. Skills Training Overnight - Fall 2025

6:00 PM - Friday, November 21 -

7:00 PM Saturday, November 22, 2025

\$35 per registered GSHS volunteer

For Volunteers

Camp Tik-A-Witha

Van Vleet, MS

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Wednesday, November 5, 2025.

MIN/MAX: 5/13



Compass and Orienteering

Sunday, November 23, 2025

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

\$15 per registered GSHS member

Age Level: Cadettes - Ambassadors, Volunteers

Camp Tik-A-Witha

Van Vleet, MS

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

**Registration ENDS at Midnight,
Wednesday, November 5, 2025.**

MIN/MAX: 5/20



Knots and Lashing

Sunday, November 23, 2025

1:00 - 5:00 PM

\$15 per registered GSHS member

Age Level: Cadettes - Ambassadors, Volunteers

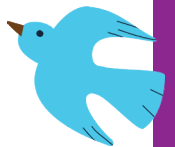
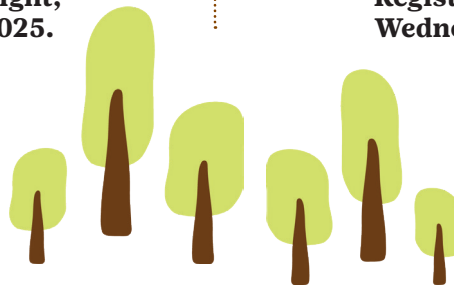
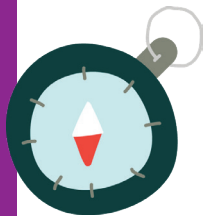
Camp Tik-A-Witha

Van Vleet, MS

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

**Registration ENDS at Midnight,
Wednesday, November 5, 2025.**

MIN/MAX: 5/20



DECEMBER 2025 and BEYOND



Girl Power: Saving Lives Through the Science of Blood Donation

Saturday, December 6, 2025

9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

\$20 per GSHS registered girl member

Age Level: Juniors - Ambassadors, Volunteers

Vitalant • 1040 Madison Ave. • Memphis, TN

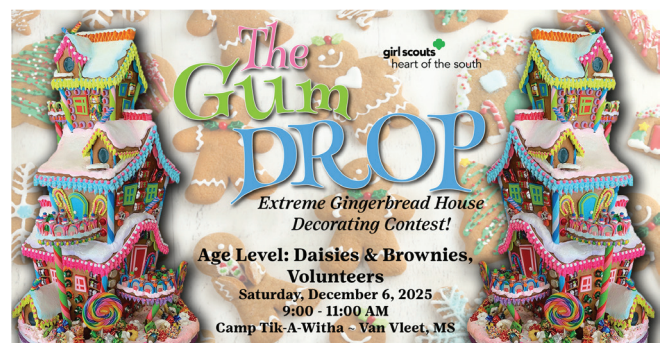
For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

**Registration ENDS at Midnight,
Monday, November 24, 2025.**

MINIMUM: 20

MAX # GIRLS: 50

MAX # ADULTS: 15



The GumDROP: Extreme Gingerbread House Decorating Contest 2025

Saturday, December 6, 2025

9:00 - 11:00 AM

\$15 per GSHS registered girl member

Age Level: Daisies & Brownies, Adults

Camp Tik-A-Witha • Van Vleet, MS

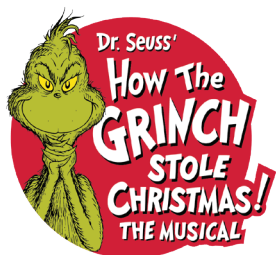
For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

**Registration ENDS at Midnight,
Friday, November 21, 2025.**

MINIMUM: 15

MAX # GIRLS: 45

MAX # ADULTS: 5



Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! The Musical

Tuesday, December 16 - Saturday, December 20, 2025

Showtimes and Ticket Prices Vary

All Ages, Families, Friends

Orpheum Theater ♦ Memphis, TN

For more information and to purchase tickets, click [HERE](#).



Masterpieces & Memories: A Girl Scout Art Day

Saturday, December 6, 2025

Times Vary by Age Level Event

\$20 per GSHS registered girl member

Age Level: Daisies-Ambassadors, Volunteers

GSHS Leadership Center ♦ Jackson, TN

Daisies: 9:00-10:30 AM [REGISTER](#)

Brownies & Juniors: 10:45 AM-12:15 PM [REGISTER](#)

Cadettes-Ambassadors: 1:30-3:30 PM [REGISTER](#)

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Monday, November 17, 2025.

MIN/MAX: 20/25



C.A.M.P. Skills Training Overnight - Winter 2026

8:30 AM - Saturday, January 24 -

2:00 PM Sunday, January 25, 2026

\$35 per registered GSHS volunteer

For Volunteers

Camp Fisherville ~ Collierville, TN

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Wednesday, January 7, 2026.

MIN/MAX: 5/18



American Red Cross Babysitter Training

Age Level:

Cadettes - Ambassadors

Saturday, December 20, 2025

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Possibility Place

GSHS Memphis

Leadership Center



American Red Cross Babysitter Training

Saturday, December 20, 2025

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

\$75 per GSHS registered member

Age Level: Cadettes - Ambassadors

Possibility Place

GSHS Leadership Center ♦ Memphis, TN

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Saturday, December 13, 2025.

MIN/MAX: 3/12



C.A.M.P. Skills Training Overnight - Spring 2026

7:00 PM - Friday, March 20 -

5:00 PM Saturday, March 21, 2026

\$35 per registered GSHS volunteer

For Volunteers

GSHS Jackson Leadership Center

Jackson, TN

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

Registration ENDS at Midnight,

Wednesday, March 4, 2026.

MIN/MAX: 5/18



Travel Talk: Girl Scout Travel 101 Q&A

Thursday, April 2, 2026

6:00 - 7:30 PM

FREE for all attendees

Age Level: Volunteers

Online on ZOOM

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).



Are you ready for the ultimate adventure?

Girl Scout Destinations are the ultimate adventure for individual Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts. Push past your comfort zone by applying for a trip on your own, and make friends from all over the country as you travel with new Girl Scout friends. There's a unique, life-changing experience for everyone.

Click [HERE](#) to search for your next adventure today!

Community Partner Programs



Community Partners offer program opportunities to troops throughout our council.

Click [HERE](#) to browse the list of Community Partner businesses and organizations that your troop can contact and connect with!

We are grateful to our Community Partners for opening their doors and programs so Girl Scouts can discover new opportunities and connect the possibilities in their local region.

Registration
Now Open!

**GIRL SCOUTS
UNITE**



Seniors, Ambassadors, and Volunteers

Join Girl Scouts Heart of the South for an unforgettable trip to Washington, D.C. for the Girl Scouts Unite event at the GSUSA National Convention! July 21 - 26, 2026!

Thanks to special grant funding, GSHS girls can attend for only \$600!!! Passport Bucks can also be applied to this event!

Click [HERE](#) for more info and to register today!

IT'S NOT
TOO LATE TO
PARTICIPATE!

BRAVE.
FIERCE.
FUN!

2025 FALL PRODUCT PROGRAM

It's NOT too late! Don't miss out on early start-up funds for your troop!!!

The Fall Product Program is a FAST, FUN and EASY way to help fund your troop adventures! Girls can offer customers great products that make awesome holiday gifts, teachers' gifts, etc.!

The BEST part? It's online only at this point in the program! There's no money for girls to collect and no product for girls to deliver!

Girls can participate online through November 16, with no product to deliver. For those participating in-person, a limited amount of nut/candy inventory will be available for pickup at each service center beginning November 3. Contact info@girlscoutshs.org to reserve your nut/candy items.

DIGITAL DAY
NOVEMBER 8TH



Log into your [M2 Online System](#) on Saturday, November 8th and send out 20 emails to family and friends! You will be entered to win a 20 oz. tumbler. Ten lucky girls will be selected!

If your family and friends purchase \$20 in total orders on Saturday, November 8th, you will be entered to win \$50 Passport Bucks from the council to spend in the Trefoil Trunk Shop, on council programs, membership and more! One lucky girl will be selected.

Girl Scout Cookie Crossover Personalized Patch



- Send 20+ emails during the Fall Product Program.
- Create your avatar.
- Use the "Share My Site" function in the M2 system to ask friends & family for support during the 2025 Fall Product Program.
- Sell 325 packages of cookies during the 2026 Girl Scout Cookie Program.

See page 10 or click [HERE](#) for a fun, printable **Fall Product Program fridge calendar** and checklist you can print out and use to help keep you motivated and achieve those goals!

Click [HERE](#) for an awesome, **customizable door hanger** that you can print off, fill in, cut out and take with you as you set off in your neighborhood!

Click [HERE](#) to view our amazing **array of merchandise** - and check out all the fantastic NEW ITEMS on offer this year!

PASSPORT BUCKS

A GREAT WAY TO PAY FOR YOUR GIRL SCOUT EXPERIENCE!

Passport Bucks are a great way to finance your Girl Scout adventures.

Participate in the Fall Product Program and select Passport Bucks to pay for Council events and trips, next year's membership, Girl Scout gear in our store, or even summer camp! Then participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program starting in January to keep earning more Passport Bucks to help pay for your adventures!

Girls can use Passport Bucks to help fund their trip to the 2026 Girl Scout Convention in Washington, DC! Join GSHS - and 10,000+ Girl Scouts - as we celebrate the spirit, individuality, and self-confidence that make Girl Scouts shine!

More information about this exciting council trip coming soon!

In the meantime, visit https://bit.ly/gshs_NCS2026 for details from GSUSA.

**FOR MORE INFO
AND RESOURCES,
CLICK TO VISIT
OUR GSHS
VOLUNTEER
FALL PRODUCTS
RESOURCE PAGE.**

**BRAVE.
FIERCE.
FUN!**



Finalizing Your Fall Product Program

CHECKLIST FOR TROOPS:

- ☐ **Check troop PGA to see if your troop is close to a PGA reward level!**
 - ~ \$325 PGA = GS Emergency Kit (Troop) & Goal Getter Patch (each girl selling)
 - ~ \$375 PGA = One early cookie booth site pick
 - ~ Need help reaching your goals? Additional product is available at council offices for pick up prior to Nov. 19 to receive credit towards girl rewards and troop proceeds. Contact info@girlscoutshs.org for additional product.
- ☐ **Rewards**
 - ~ Check the Rewards section in the M2OS system and choose rewards for any girls needing selections.
 - ~ Check the Personalized Patch section in the M2OS system and notify any girls that have action required to receive their patch.
 - ~ After December 1, download and/or print the rewards delivery tickets for the troop and girls for easy reward separation once they arrive.
- ☐ **Payments**
 - ~ Verify your ACH bank information for accuracy on the Banking and Payments section in M2OS.
 - ~ Troops need to have payments in their troop bank account and any ACH shortage and Outstanding Balance information reported to the council prior to November 19.
- ☐ [ACH Shortage Form](#)
- ☐ [Outstanding Balance Form](#)
- ☐ **Troop Summary Report**
 - ~ After December 1, download or email the M2OS Troop Summary report to the Troop Treasurer for end of year Financial Reports.

Upcoming Fall Product Program Dates

- Monday, November 3, 2025**
Troops can pick up additional nut/candy items from offices.
- Saturday, November 8, 2025**
Digital Day
- Monday, November 10, 2025 at 6:30pm**
M2OS Training – Finalizing Your Sale
[REGISTER HERE](#)
- Sunday, November 16**
Final day for online program.
- Monday, November 17, 2025**
Troop finalizes rewards in M2OS.
- Wednesday, November 19, 2025**
[ACH Shortage](#) and [Outstanding Balance](#) forms due.
Last day to pick up additional nut/candy items from offices.
- Monday, November 24, 2025**
ACH from troop bank accounts.

Click [HERE](#) for a downloadable, printable version of our full **2025 Troop Fall Product Program Calendar**.

Click [HERE](#) for a downloadable, printable version of our full **2025 Service Unit Fall Product Program Calendar**.

GIRL SCOUTS HEART OF THE SOUTH 2026



COOKIE PROGRAM

**BRAVE.
FIERCE.
FUN!**



SUNDAY, DEC. 14	DIGITAL COOKIE - CAREGIVER ACCESS DATE
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17	GIRLS BEGIN TAKING ORDERS VIA DIGITAL COOKIE ONLY
SATURDAY, DEC. 20.....	DIGITAL DAY #1
FRIDAY, DEC. 26	GIRLS BEGIN TAKING ORDERS IN PERSON
SUNDAY, DEC. 28	EARLY DIGITAL COOKIE SETUP REWARD DEADLINE
SATURDAY, JAN. 10.....	COOKIEPALOOZA (ALL LOCATIONS)
SATURDAY, JAN. 17	GIRLS SUBMIT INITIAL ORDERS TO TROOPS
SATURDAY, JAN. 17	DIGITAL DAY #2
MON.-THURS., FEB. 2-12	TROOP COOKIE DELIVERY
FRIDAY, FEB. 13	COOKIE BOOTHS BEGIN
SUNDAY, FEB. 15	GIRLS SUBMIT PAYMENT TO TROOPS
FRI.-SUN., FEB. 20-22	NATIONAL GIRL SCOUT COOKIE WEEKEND
SUNDAY, MAR. 1	GIRLS SUBMIT PAYMENT TO TROOPS
WEDNESDAY, MAR. 11	DIGITAL COOKIE "GIRL DELIVERY" OPTION ENDS
SUNDAY, MAR. 15.....	LAST DAY FOR COOKIE BOOTHS & DIGITAL COOKIE SALES
MONDAY, MAR. 16	GIRLS SUBMIT COOKIE BALANCE TO TROOPS
MID-MAY	SU DISPENSES REWARDS TO TROOPS
SATURDAY, MAY 9	C.E.L.E.B. CAMP ADVENTUREFUL
FRIDAY, SEPT. 4	PASSPORT BUCKS EXPIRE

Product Program Forms

Troops that have not submitted the required Product Program forms to the council will have orders (not paid for online) REMOVED from the council online ordering systems (eBudde) prior to council submitting orders to vendors.

Once the troop submits the required forms, they can then pick up product from an office or cupboard prior to program deadlines and troop/girls will receive proper credit. Submit the forms linked below to info@girlscoutshs.org.

Troop Product Program Manager Agreement & Policies

If the same volunteer is responsible and submitted for Fall Product with Cookies marked, it is not necessary to submit again.

Troop ACH Authorization & Bank Information Form

If submitted for Fall Product and there are no bank changes, it is not necessary to submit again.

MY25 Financial Report & Bank Statements

If not submitted through VTK before Sept. 30, 2025, submit through the Wufoo link above.

ALSO REQUIRED: Two fully screened volunteers for each troop participating.

Troop Cookie Training Dates

Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30pm

Cookies 101-The Basics

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Thursday, December 11 at 6:30pm

Troop Cookie Program Training

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Sunday, December 14 at 3:00pm

Troop Cookie Program Training

[REGISTER HERE](#)





It's time to get you and your Girl Scouts ready for the 2026 Cookie Program with colorful new signage and buttons! Now's the time to place your pre-orders!

If you're interested in any of these items (shown above), there is no guarantee they will be available without submitting your pre-order! Click [HERE](#) or the image above for more information on each item and to place your pre-order TODAY! (Council minimum quantities must be reached.)

This is a pre-order opportunity ONLY. Orders must be submitted and paid for by NOON on Sunday, November 16, 2025. We expect that items will be available for pick-up at your choice of council Trefoil Trunk locations by early January, when offices reopen from Winter Break. If items are available before then, we will do our best to accommodate earlier pickup.

COOKIE BOOTH PRIORITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS SURVEY

As we gear up for the upcoming 2026 Cookie Season, we want to hear from you about your booth priorities and recommendations!

Complete the survey linked below to let us know:

- What are your favorite booth sites?
- What locations do you expect to see listed in eBudde?
- Do you have locations that you want to add that haven't been listed?
- What other suggestions/recommendations for booth locations do you have for the council to secure and list in eBudde?

GSHS will do our best to secure as many of the sites recommended by this survey as possible. However, it is ultimately up to the business to allow us to set up booths on their premises or not. Also, please keep in mind that many locations do not allow booths due to corporate policy (examples: Target, Ikea, Trader Joes, etc.).

Click to take the survey today! We want to hear from YOU!
Survey closes at midnight, Sunday, November 9, 2025.

COOKIE BOOTH PRIORITIES & RECOMMENDATIONS SURVEY