

Volunteer News

August–September 2025

Welcome to Girl Scouts!

Whether you're new to volunteering or a longtime member, we're so glad you're here. At Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska, we're proud to support more than 600 troops across the state as girls build leadership skills, confidence, and lifelong friendships. From planning trips to running businesses and earning awards, Girl Scouts are learning to lead and make lasting change in their communities. Thank you for choosing Girl Scouts. Let's make it a great year!

Yours in Girl Scouting,
The Troop Support Team



Planning a Well-Rounded Girl Scout Year

The most successful troops and IGMs take part in a variety of fun and meaningful activities—think field trips, community service, camping, council events, STEM, outdoor adventures, badges, and Product Programs. Talk with your Girl Scouts about what they're excited to do and aim to include a little bit of everything. Not sure how to lead certain activities? That's a perfect opportunity to involve other parents. As you plan your year, keep the **Girl Scout Leadership Experience** in mind! This girl-led, learning-by-doing framework helps girls build confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills through age-appropriate decision-making. Your Troop Support Specialist is always here to help!

Celebrate Girl Scout Spirit Week

Mark your calendar! Girl Scouts across Nebraska will be celebrating **Girl Scout Spirit Week** from **October 27-31**. Keep an eye out for this year's themes and fun activities that your troop can participate in to show their Girl Scout spirit and even earn a patch!



Checklist for a New Girl Scout Year

Here is a quick checklist of things to make sure your Girl Scout year starts right!

1. Host a Parent Meeting. Have a clear ask of what you need from them this year.
2. Share the list of badges that girls in your program level can earn and share it with your troop.
3. Review your roster to ensure everyone is registered, and all volunteers have active background checks.
4. Create a troop code of conduct for every one to agree on and sign.
5. Go through the Annual Program Book and see what events catch your eye!



World Cleanup Day September 20, 2025

What if every Girl Scout picked up just one piece of litter? Let's find out! Join the global movement on September 20 (or another day that works for your group) and take action for a cleaner planet.

It's easy to participate! Girls earn a FREE patch, too!

1. Pledge to join
2. Clean up litter in a local park or public space
3. Report your effort online and request your patch

Last year, 23 million people across 191 countries joined in. Let's show the world what Nebraska Girl Scouts can do!



Join Us for the Fall Product Program!

Looking for an easy way to kick off your Girl Scout year *and* earn funds for Girl Scout adventures? The 2025 Fall Product Program is better than ever with higher proceeds, exciting new treats, and more ways to participate. **Sign up today!**





Renewal Reminder

Help us keep troop meeting info up to date for GSUSA's online troop selection tool! Submit your details using the **Troop Information Change Request Form** on our website or email them to **Member Support**.

To find the digital form, go to: **bit.ly/GSSNforms** to access the form.

If emailing, please include your troop number, meeting day, time, location, grade levels, and capacity of girls and volunteers for your troop. If 80% of troops update and confirm their information, troops will be entered into a drawing to win a program credit! Stay tuned for more info.



New Year, New Theme: *It's a Girl Scouts' World!*

We're thrilled to announce our 2025–2026 theme: ***It's a Girl Scouts' World!*** This year is all about trying new things, building skills, and making memories. Many of this year's events and trips were inspired by ideas submitted by Girl Scouts themselves so gather your friends, sign up early, and get ready for a year full of fun!

Watch your mailbox in late July/early August for the new **Annual Program Book**, packed with exciting programs to help you plan your best Girl Scout year yet! Some popular events fill up fast! Check deadlines and remaining spots often and register early to secure your spot.



Girl Scouts...It's a Little Bit of Everything! Passport Redemption

Don't forget to redeem your 2024–2025 *Girl Scouts...It's a Little Bit of Everything!* passport! After attending any five council-sponsored programs, **girls** earn a deck of cards, a booklet full of games to play with a friend, and a \$25 Program Credit. **Co-leaders** earn a \$25 Program Credit after collecting 9 stamps.



Troop Banking Best Practices

Troop funds belong to the entire troop and should benefit all members—not individuals. Unless saving for a long-term goal, most funds should be used within the year they're earned, with some saved to start the next year.

At the beginning of the program year, create a budget with your girls (age-appropriate) to build their financial literacy. Always deposit money promptly (never hold funds or use personal accounts) and ensure all authorized signers communicate before spending to avoid overdrafts.

Keep and provide receipts for all income and expenses. Review the troop bank account regularly, just like a personal one, and reconcile monthly to stay on top of your June 30 Troop Finance Report.

Ideally, one volunteer handles the debit card and deposits, while another reviews the statements. Choose a method that works for your troop but always maintain transparency. And when in doubt, reach out to your Troop Support Specialist for help!



Volunteer Facebook Groups—Stay Connected!

Follow **Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska** on Facebook for the latest updates, stories, and announcements. Then, join your local volunteer group to connect with others, ask questions, and share your troop adventures!

- **Southeast** – Wendy Werner
- **Northeast**
- **East Central** – Joanne Savicky and Natasha Rosario
- **Panhandle** – Katy Asmus
- **Southwest** – Jennifer Gilland
- **Central** – Lila Munsell

Save the Date – Camporee 2025!

June 5–7, 2025

**Timberlake Ranch Camp, Marquette
Grades K–12**

Join Girl Scouts from across Nebraska for a weekend of outdoor adventure, friendship, and fun! Watch for full details in the 2025–2026 Annual Program Book. Don't forget your SWAPS. Register by May 1.