

# December Newsletter

girl scouts<sup>🍀</sup>  
of montana  
and wyoming







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[facebook.com/GSMWcouncil](https://facebook.com/GSMWcouncil)



[@girlscoutsmtwy](https://www.instagram.com/girlscoutsmtwy)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/gsmw>

## Facebook Groups

GSMW - Billings, HDQ

GSMW - Northeastern Wyoming

GSMW - Eastcentral Wyoming

GSMW - Southeast Wyoming

GSMW - Southwest Wyoming

GSMW - Southcentral Wyoming

GSMW - Southwest Montana

GSMW - Northcentral Montana

GSMW - Southcentral Montana

GSMW - Northwest Montana

GSMW - Central Montana

GSMW - Eastern Montana





## FEATURED

### Page 9

#### Silver Award of the Year

Olivia W., Kymani R. and Emma W. focused on reducing the number of drivers ignoring red flashing lights and stop signs on school buses and improving bus loading zones.

## Table of Contents

### 4) Volunteer Recognitions

Volunteer Recognitions is way for caregivers and fellow volunteers to show their appreciation for that special someone who goes above and beyond.

### 5) Alumna Spotlight

A Girl Scout working to help girls have the experiences she had in Girl Scouts.

### 6-7) Product Program

Wrap up the Fall Product Program and get ready for the Cookie Program.

### 8) Winter Outdoor Challenge

Get ready to celebrate the outdoors with the new 2025 Winter Outdoor Challenge.

### 9) GSMW Silver Award of the Year

Olivia W., Kymani R. and Emma W. focused on reducing the number of drivers ignoring red flashing lights and stop signs on school buses and improving bus loading zones.

### 10) Girl Scout Retail: Holiday Edition

Spread Holiday cheer with Girl Scout gear.

### 11) Atta Girl for Adding Girls

Add new girls to your troop for exciting rewards.





# Volunteer Recognitions

## What Are Volunteer Recognitions

Our volunteers are amazing, and we love celebrating everything you do! Volunteer Recognitions is way for caregivers and fellow volunteers to show their appreciation for that special someone who goes above and beyond.

## What Do I Need to Consider?

Caregivers, do you think your daughter's Troop leader is the best? Nominate them for the [Outstanding Volunteer Award](#).

Troop Volunteers, is there that special someone who goes above and beyond for your troop? Maybe it's the person who makes the Cookie Program go smoothly or brings awesome activities to the troop meeting. You can nominate them for the [Volunteer of Excellence](#).

Don't forget your Service Unit Managers, Product Managers and Day Camp Directors, they can be nominated for the [Appreciation Pin](#).

## Learn More

Find out more about Volunteer Recognitions, the nomination and endorsement requirements with the [Adult Award Criteria](#) or reach out to your Member Experience Manager. [Nominations](#) are open and the deadline to submit is January 31, 2025.

[Award Criteria](#)

[Nominate a Volunteer](#)

[Past Awardees](#)



# Alumna Spotlight

## What is Your Favorite Girl Scout Achievement?

“One of the core values of Girl Scouts is giving back and staying connected to the community, and it's a value that has always meant a lot to me. The achievement I'm most proud of from my time in Girl Scouts centers around my favorite holiday, Christmas. Each year, my troop and I would learn Christmas carols and perform at local retirement homes. The residents always lit up with joy, and it was such a meaningful way for us to spread holiday cheer and make a positive impact in our community. It was an experience I'll never forget and one that taught me the true spirit of giving.”

## What Are You Doing Now?

I currently live in Montana, just a stone's throw away from one of the most breathtaking places on Earth—Glacier National Park. I'm fortunate to have what I consider the best job in the world: being a professional Girl Scout! I work for Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming, where I get to help girls have the same incredible experiences I had in Girl Scouts. It's truly a privilege to support both the girls and their families as they embark on their own Girl Scout journeys, and I feel so grateful to be part of such an inspiring and impactful organization.

## If You Could Give a Young Girl Scout of Today Some Advice, What Would it Be?

Don't be afraid to make mistakes—they're an essential part of learning and growing. It's normal to feel scared or uncertain when trying something new, and that's okay. Those moments of discomfort are often the ones that teach you the most. If you feel nervous or unsure, remember that everyone starts somewhere, and mistakes are just part of the journey. They don't define you; they help shape you into a stronger, more confident person. Embrace challenges and trust yourself. You are capable of more than you think, and each step, even the missteps, brings you closer to your goals. Keep asking questions, trying new things, and, most importantly, be kind to yourself along the way.

Read more of Casey's story [here!](#)



Alumna Spotlight  
Casey Nelson





# Girl Scout Fall

## Product Program

### Fall Product Program

Congratulations on a successful 2024 Fall Product Program. You and your girls sure did “Embrace Possibility” and had great successes!

### Program & Communications Survey

We want to hear from you! How did you enjoy participating in the Fall Product Program? Help us plan for future programs by completing our survey. Questions? Email [customercare@gsmw.org](mailto:customercare@gsmw.org).

**If your Girl Scout(s) participated in the Fall Product Program, [take this survey](#).**

**If your Girl Scout(s) did NOT participate in the Fall Product Program, [take this survey](#).**

### Product Deliveries

All deliveries to customers should be completed and money should have been turned in by caregivers to the Troop by December 2nd. If you have Caregivers who have not turned in all the money due to the Troop, please go online and complete an [Outstanding Balance Form](#) by TODAY, December 3rd.

### Automatic Clearing House (ACH) Sweep

You will receive the ACH email on December 5th and the ACH Sweep will be processed on December 10th. Please email [gsmwaccounting@gsmw.org](mailto:gsmwaccounting@gsmw.org) with any questions, or if you need assistance with verifying bank account information.

### Rewards

Fall Rewards should be arriving mid to late December. Your Service Unit Product Managers will notify you when to pick up rewards for the Girl Scouts in your Troop!

### Mark Your Calendars

Mark your calendars and join us on [Facebook](#) Live for an exciting announcement you don't want to miss on December 20th! We will reveal the Top Fall Product Program Entrepreneurs, the lucky Girl Scout who gets to adopt Ellie, our giant Asian Elephant, and there will be a sneak peek of the 2025 Cookie Program Mascot!



# Girl Scout

## Cookie Program

### 2025 Cookie Conferences and Trainings

Get ready for the upcoming Cookie Program by clicking on and registering for the trainings below!

**Every Troop Should Have at Least  
One Person Attending a Regional Cookie  
Conference Live or Virtually**

We will have additional training videos and resources available on our website to help assist you with the program including the Cookie Technology Demo, Volunteer Cookie Guide, Caregiver Cookie Involvement Form, Cookie Meeting Agenda, and more! We look forward to sharing the latest and greatest to help you and your girls have a successful Cookie Program.

### Training Schedule

Learn more about the trainings you need to attend and RSVP by selecting the links attached to the date/time below.

Service Unit Training	Date/Time
Service Unit Kickoff	<a href="#">January 2nd at 7:00 PM</a>

Troop Training	Date/Time
New Troop Webinar	<a href="#">January 7th at 7:00 PM</a>
Cookie Conferences	<a href="#">January 14th - 18th</a>
Cookie Technology Demo	January 28th at 7:00 PM

**Cookie Conferences:** RSVP to reserve exclusive SWAG!

**Cookie Technology Demo:** Mark your calendars. Registration link coming soon.

Caregiver Training	Date/Time
Caregiver Training	<a href="#">January 29th at 6:30 PM</a>

Juliette Training	Date/Time
Juliette Mentor Training	<a href="#">January 9th at 6:00 PM</a>

**Juliette Mentors:** Please read through your mailed packet before this meeting.

### Cookie Program Dates

January 31st

Cookie Program Begins

February 18th by 11:59 PM

Troop Initial Orders Due

February 19th by 11:59 PM

Service Unit Initial Order Edits Due

March 10th - 18th

Service Unit Deliveries

March 21st - April 13th

Cookie Booths

April 13th

Cookie Program Ends

April 16th by 11:59 PM

Troop Rewards Due

April 17th by 11:59 PM

Final Rewards Due



### 2025 Cookie Program

January 31st - April 13th

## Winter Outdoor Challenge

The GSMW Winter Outdoor Challenge is back again!

Girls, families, or Troops can complete these activities with a goal of reaching 100 points. You can submit the finished sheet online and earn a free fun patch from GSMW.

Find the Winter Outdoor [challenge on our website](#).



## Take our Fall Product Program and Communications Survey

Whether you participated or not, we want to hear from you!

If your Girl Scout(s) did NOT participate in the Fall Product Program, [Take This Survey](#).

If your Girl Scout(s) participated in the Fall Product Program, [Take This Survey](#).







# Silver Award of the Year

## Congratulations, Troop 1932!

Congratulations to Troop 1932 of Green River, Wyoming on receiving the 2024 GSMW Silver Award of the Year.

Olivia W., Kymani R. and Emma W. focused on reducing the number of drivers ignoring red flashing lights and stop signs on school buses and improving bus loading zones.

The team conducted surveys and went on bus ride-alongs to gather insights on problem areas and discovered that community education and inadequate signage were the root.

With the information they learned, they presented solutions to the school board where they gained their approval. The team designed and coordinated installation of clearer signage at challenging loading zones and ran public awareness campaigns that included radio ads, pamphlets and a booth at a block party to educate the public about school bus safety. The radio ads will continue to air during key times during the school year to heighten awareness of bus safety laws.

The school board has also approved and committed to installing permanent safety improvements like concrete barriers and special needs loading zones.

The impact of their project is seen through feedback received from bus drivers and safety coordinators that suggests 50% reductions in violations.

The team discovered personal strengths including public speaking, leadership, creativity, and technology and recognize that their efforts have inspired long-term community changes. Way to go Troop 1932!

Watch their Project Video Here



# Spread Holiday Cheer

## With Girl Scout Gear

### Looking for the Perfect Gift?

From cozy sweatshirts to festive ornaments to Squishmallows, apparel, Trefoil Fun Finds, and more, the GSMW Shop has the perfect gift ideas for the Girl Scout(s) in your life! Check out some of these items on the tree!

1. Hacky Sack \$3
2. Aaron's Puddy \$4
3. Paracord Bracelet \$5
4. Teal Unicorn \$15
5. Single Squishmallow \$4
6. Friendship Bracelet \$4
7. Bath Bomb \$4
8. YoYo \$4
9. Cookie ornaments \$8.50-\$19.99
10. Adult Zip Up Front \$45-\$48 | Youth Hoodie \$39
11. Trefoil Ornaments \$8
12. Pink Penguin \$15
13. Shoe Charm \$3
14. First Aid Kit \$4
15. Nail Art \$3

### New Mystery Grab Bags!

Mystery Grab Bags\* have just dropped in the Billings Shop! What's inside? That's for you to discover!

Each Mystery Grab Bag is packed with surprise Girl Scout merchandise, from fun accessories to exclusive items you can't find anywhere else. It's the ultimate treat-yourself moment or a perfect gift for the Girl Scout in your life.

Mystery Grab Bags costs \$15 and shipping is included. They are available for both adults and youth. Limited quantities are available, so be sure to order yours ASAP.

**\*All Mystery Grab Bag purchases are final sale and cannot be exchanged, returned, or refunded.**  
Email [shop@gsmw.org](mailto:shop@gsmw.org) or call 406-252-0488 to order yours today!







# Atta Girl for Adding Girls

Girl Scouts is about making new friends and keeping the old! Each time you add a new Girl Scout to your troop, you create new friendships and provide girls with the opportunity to try new things, dream up new adventures and have FUN! Introducing new friends to Girl Scouts allows existing members to flex their leadership skills and build confidence. Everyone wins—Atta girl!

Between now and December 31st, add a first time troop girl and collect great rewards! Keep track of girls added to your troop to self-report during January with rewards delivered mid-February.

Reward	+2 First-Time Troop Girls	+3 First-Time Troop Girls	+4 First-Time Troop Girls
Atta Girl Patch for girls and required leaders	✓	✓	✓
Meeting in a Minute Box of Your Choice for 6 girls	✓	✓	
\$20 GSMW Store Credit		✓	✓
*Meeting in a Minute Box of Your Choice for 12 girls			✓
*Prize Entry			✓

*\*Troops will receive one prize entry after adding four first time Troop Girls. Troops will receive an extra prize entry for each additional first time Troop Girl that they add.*

## Meeting in a Minute Details

Meeting in a Minute takes the guesswork out of preparing for your next troop meeting, so you can spend less time planning and more time mentoring your girls! Each box contains all the primary supplies you need to host a successful troop meeting:

- Creative, fun, and age-appropriate activities
- Detailed instructions
- Activity supplies
- Snacks

*\*Only one meeting in a minute per troop. At the +2 and +3 level, troops get one box for 6 girls. At the +4 and +5 level troops get one box for 12 girls.*

Each prize entry is eligible to win one of the following:

\$50 GSMW Store Credit

Party in a Box w/Pizza

STEM Van Experience for Your Troop