

girl scouts
of montana
and wyoming





# Monthly Newsletter June, 2025









### **Contact Us!**

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facebook.com/GSMWcouncil



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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









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- 18) Summer Outdoor Challenge
- 19) Tell Your Girl Scout Story





Do you want the chance to be featured in the next edition of the Membership Newsletter?

Tell us about your unforgettable adventures, inspiring acts of volunteerism, conquered challenges and more here!



# Peaks and Pines September 20 to 21, 2025

## **Registration Now Open!**

Registration is now open for Peaks and Pines, our all-women's weekend getaway benefiting Girl Scouts!

## What is Peaks and Pines?

Enjoy a relaxing and fun-filled retreat in the great outdoors with other amazing women while supporting a cause that builds girls of courage, confidence, and character. Whether you're up for hiking, crafting, campfire chats, or simply unwinding in nature, this weekend has something for everyone.

### Where do Proceeds Go?

All proceeds help fund Girl Scout programs across our council. Don't miss out on this meaningful and memorable experience—register today!

### **Event Details**

September 20-21, 2025

Timbercrest Camp | Red Lodge, MT

Overnight Rate: \$175 - \$300/Per Person

Day Rate: \$100/Per Person

Questions? Email us at give@gsmw.org.

## Sponsorship Details

**Receive Updates** 

**Register Now** 

Visit our Webpage

# Council Crew Spotlight

Meet the Girl Scouts of MT & WY Team



## Briana Rickman

Director of Public Relations & Development Some of you might remember Briana from her previous work with GSMW as the Retail Sales Manager and on membership staff. She left for a few years but returned in 2020 as the Director of Fund Development. She brings compassion and heart to everything she does, making her a great part of the GSMW team.

You might interact with Briana if you have a Money Earning Request Form, have questions about donations/sponsorships/scholarships, or have questions regarding sensitive issues that sometimes come up with Girl Scouting.

Outside of work, Briana enjoys camping, fishing, digging in her garden, and spending quality time with her family.



## Casey Rein

## **Grants and Marketing Manager**

Casey joined GSMW in 2023 as the Virtual Member Experience Manager, supporting volunteers across Eastern Montana and beyond. With a background in social work, she brought strong communication skills and empathy to the role, making her a valued resource for volunteers.

In February 2025, she embraced a new challenge by joining the Fund Development and Marketing team. Known for her keen eye for detail and "challenge accepted" mindset, Casey has quickly made an impact and is excited to help create funding opportunities that empower girls across Montana and Wyoming.

When she's not working, Casey loves spending time outdoors hiking or gardening with her daughter—and she's always up for a good baking session in the kitchen!

# 1 in 6

youth will experience a mental health challenge at some point during their life.

Source: JAA Pediatrics



## Youth Mental Health Training

## Register and Learn!

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among children and adolescents ages 12-18.

Complete 2 hours of pre-work and then join us for an in-person session of learning about Youth Mental Health First Aid. After completion of the course, you will be a certified Youth Mental Health First Aider!

Join us to learn more about supporting your Girl Scouts with mental health challenges at one of the classes being offered this summer. Take home your own YMHFA manual full of tools and resources to support our youth.

Thanks to a generous grant from Shifting Gears, registration is FREE, and lunch will be provided. For more information and to register <u>click here</u>.

Register for one of our FREE Sessions Below

June 28th - Butte, MT

July 26th - Red Lodge, MT

Aug 2nd - Casper, WY

## Council Training Requests

Volunteers: If your troop wants to go hiking, have an outdoor cookout, or go on an overnight trip, one participating adult volunteer must complete GSMW's Outdoor Trainings. The first step in the training is available through gsLearn. The second part of the training is an in person Outdoor Cookout Training. This training must be renewed every 3 years.

Girl Scouts: Become a Teen Mentor as you earn your Program Aide (PA) Award!

Program Aide training gives girls the skills

and tools needed to develop leadership skills while working with younger girls.

Complete this form to indicate that you are interested in receiving either Outdoor Cookout training or Program Aide training. We will then work to coordinate training opportunities based on requests.

**Request Form** 

## Outdoor Cookout Refresher



Did you know that your Outdoor Cookout Certification needs to be renewed every three years? If it's time for your renewal, simply fill out the form below. To qualify, you must have taken the course at least once and have continued using the skills you learned. Once submitted, your form will be reviewed, and you'll be contacted regarding your renewal status.

Keep your certification current to ensure safe and successful outdoor experiences!

**Renew Your Certification** 



# **Highest Award Ceremony**

# Would You Like to Attend the Highest Award Ceremony in Helena, MT?

The Helena Service Unit together with GSMW will be hosting a Highest Awards Ceremony on Monday, June 16th at 2 PM in Helena, MT. If your Girl Scout or group would like to attend, please RSVP by Friday, June 6th.

If you have additional questions, email customercare@gsmw.org.

**RSVP Here** 

# Interested in Learning More about Highest Awards?

You've got what it takes to make a lasting impact—get started by earning a highest award in Girl Scouting.

You're ready to make the world a better place. Show everyone how you'll do it by earning the Girl Scout Gold, Silver, and Bronze Awards. Each award will challenge and help you take action in a big way. Click the button below to learn all about Highest Awards, read some of our Councils amazing Gold Award stories, and more!

Learn More



# End of Year Financials

Deadline is June 30, 2025

## **Annual Report Deadline**

June 30th is the deadline for your troop and/or service unit's annual report. Troop and service unit bank account signers must submit the reports via an online form accessed directly through our website.

Please note, bank accounts are subject to closure if we cannot ensure they comply with GSMW and GSUSA financial policies. This includes submitting the end-of-year financial report and appropriate documents by June 30th.

## **Financial Report Submission**

We want to make the annual reporting as easy as possible, so we've compiled several resources on our troop banking resources webpage.

Visit this page to find:

- ➤ A video tutorial on submitting the report
- ▶ Written instructions on submitting the report
- ➤ A template for tracking account activity
- A recording of a Q&A session regarding the report
- The Product Finance Tool

#### **Product Finance Tool**

Use the Product Finance Tool to determine your troop's product sales income and expenses, troop proceeds, and cost of leftover products from the cookie and fall programs. Using the tool is easy!

- 1. Download the tool from our website.
- 2. Enter your troop number in the green box at the top. The specific figures for your troop will automatically populate in the data fields.
- 3. In the leftover product calculation section, you will enter the sales value of Fall leftover product, and the package count of Cookie leftovers.

### Office Hours

Need help? Let's chat! You can schedule a 15-30 minute call with our finance team for one-on-one support. To schedule a time, email us at customercare@gsmw.org with your preferred days/times and specific questions you have or issues you're running into. The finance team will confirm your appointment via email. Meetings can be scheduled between 7 AM and 7 PM if our regular business hours don't work for you.



# Pack in the Memories at Summer Camp!

## **Camp Registration**

Join us for an unforgettable summer filled with new adventures, friendships, skills, and countless opportunities to create unforgettable memories! View the online camp guide and see what your favorite summer camp themes might be!

Please Note: The date of our camp locations have changed. Timbercrest Camp and Camp Castle Rock have switched schedules. Be sure to check the new dates for each location.





Read the Camp Guide Online Here!

Register Here

## Camp Theme Highlights



**Troop Registration** 

Girl & Adult Registration

**Girl Registration** 



## Long Weekend Camp

Specifically designed for adults and girls alike our long weekend camp offers something for everyone! Adults will level up their skills and girls will dive into classic camp fun. Register for the Long Weekend Camp by June 30 to save \$25 on each participant's registration.

#### What to Expect for Adults:

- Outdoor Skills Training, including Outdoor Cookout Training
- ▶ Mental Health First Aid Certification
- ➤ Workshops designed around the Girl Scout Leadership Experience

#### What to Expect for Girl Scouts:

- Classic camp activities (hiking, crafts, games)
- ► Campfires, songs, and s'mores
- ▶ New friends & and outdoor adventures

#### Camp Dates & Locations:

Camp Castle Rock: June 26–29, Butte, MT
\*Timbercrest Camp: July 24–27, Red Lodge, MT
\*Camp Sacajawea: July 31–August 3, Casper, WY
\*NEW - Girls can join the fun, no adult required!

## Mountain Expedition Short Week

Looking for a couple days full of expeditions? Look no further! Join us at Timbercrest Camp to raft down the Stillwater River and go horseback riding. When at camp, campers will be able to go for a hike, relax in hammocks, and learn survival skills. *Please note: If a camper weighs over 200 lbs, the activities may be limited.* 

## What to Expect for Girl Scouts:

- ► Horseback riding and river rafting
- ► Campfires, songs, and s'mores
- ▶ Hiking and survival skills

## Camp Date & Location:

Timbercrest Camp: July 20-23, Red Lodge, MT

Mountain Expedition Short Week



## What is

## Meeting

## in a Minute?

This all-inclusive activity box is designed for any Girl Scout troop!
The best part? Meeting in a Minute takes the guesswork out of preparing for your next troop meeting. Your troop can look forward to a new and exciting theme, so you can spend less time planning and more time mentoring your girls!



## Meeting in a Minute: Funshine Sunshine

Get ready to soak up the sun and explore the magic of solar-powered fun! The Funshine Sunshine Box is packed with bright and crafty adventures perfect for curious minds and creative hands.

#### What's Inside the Box

- UV bead bracelets & lizard keychains learn about UV rays while making color-changing crafts.
- Solar oven cook up sunny treats using the power of light.
- Trefoil bandana create your own sun-printed design.
- Plus, sun safety tips to stay cool and protected while you play!

# Boxes are available in the following sizes, and shipping is included:

- 6 activity sets \$25
- 12 activity sets \$40



**ORDER NOW** 



## Unlock New Skills with STEM the Gap!

Girl Scouts can stay inspired with STEM the Gap's virtual badge and patch programs. These fun, flexible online workshops are perfect for summer. No troop meetings needed!

Girls can explore topics like AI, Cybersecurity, Coding, and STEM Careers, all led by women in STEM and tailored to every Girl Scout level. Plus, don't miss the Virtual Chess patch program, complete with dangling chess charm!

Note: STEM the Gap Academy is independently run. Visit GSMW's STEM the Gap page for details.



## Summer STEM Van Tour

The Mobile STEM Van is back for the summer, bringing STEM activities to communities across the region.

You can view the current tour schedule to see if the van will be visiting a town near you. Additional stops may be added as the summer continues, so be sure to check back for updates.

Tour Schedule



## **Girl Scout**

# Cookie Program

## **Congrats Top Entrepreneurs!**

Congratulations to these girls who really excelled with Goal Setting, Decision making, Money Management, People Skills, and Business Ethics.





## Top Overall Entrepreneurs

Overall Highest	Ella D.	Troop 2092
2nd Highest	Jocelyn G.	Troop 2026
3rd Highest	Hadley S.	Troop 3514

## **Top Troop Entrepreneurs**

Troop 2026 17,005 Packages

## Top Entrepreneursby Grade Level

Top Daisy	Jessica J	Troop 3065
Top Brownie	Aspen R.	Troop 2074
Top Junior	Jocelyn G.	Troop 2026
Top Cadette	Ella D.	Troop 2092
Top Senior	Zoe F.	Troop 3445
Top Ambassador	Loriana W.	Troop 1177
Top Juliette	Gabriella L.	Troop 6250
Top Digital	Loriana W.	Troop 1177

## Top Entrepreneurs by Region

SWW	Hannah K.	Troop 1548
SCW	Elizabeth M.	Troop 1808
ECW	Presleigh B.	Troop 1146
SEW	Loriana W.	Troop 1177
NEW	Charlotte D.	Troop 1021
EMT	Aubrey M.	Troop 2281
HDQ	Ella D.	Troop 2029
SCM	Emmagrace F.	Troop 3557
NCM	Jessica J.	Troop 3065
CMT	Hadley S.	Troop 3514
SWM	Gabriella L.	Troop 6250
NWM	Addalyn M.	Troop 3358

## Real ID Requirements for Travel

Exciting travel is on the horizon for our Girl Scouts—from coast-to-coast trips to life-changing Destination adventures! To keep things running smoothly at the airport, here's what you need to know.

Starting **May 7, 2025**, all adults (18 and older) flying within the U.S. need a **REAL ID** or another TSA-approved form of identification (like a passport).

Not sure if your license qualifies? Check for a star in the corner or contact your state DMV.

**Girl Scouts under 18** do not need ID when flying with an adult, so they can stay focused on the fun ahead.

Let's make sure everyone's ready to board for their next great Girl Scout experience!
Learn more at tsa.gov/real-id.

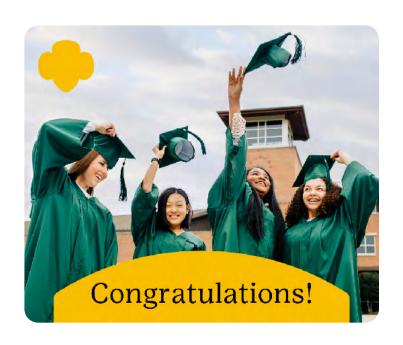
## Congrats Grads!

From all of us at GSMW, congratulations to the graduating Class of 2025!

As a Girl Scout and graduate, the world is ready for your brilliance, leadership, and compassion.

Your dedication to your communities and helping make our world a better place is unmatched. We cannot wait to see what you do next as you embark on a new chapter.

Here's to your bright future!



# Free Shipping + New Merch Spend \$50 and receive FREE shipping!



Free Shipping
June 11-12!

Receive FREE shipping on orders of \$50 or more placed through our Billings and Great Falls stores from June 11 - 12, 2025!

While you're at it, check out our new customizable GSMW Tees! Available in white, light heather blue, purple, and forest green, in both youth and adult sizes for \$10.

Our store can personalize these shirts with your troop number, role, or name (from \$5 to \$7).

Please Note: This promotion runs June 11-12, 2025. In-store or phone/email orders only; not available online. Exclusions include any out of stock items and the 2025 Cookie Riser.















## **GIRL SCOUTS**

## SUMMER OUTDOOR CHALLENGE



Take the Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming Summer Outdoor Challenge! Check out the activities below to earn yourself a brand-new patch:

- 1. Keep track of your activities and reach 100 points, earning a free fun patch!
- 2. Submit your 100-point list at www.gsmw.org/challenges by August 30, 2025.

#### 50 Point Challenges

- ☐ Spend a week at Timbercrest Camp
- ☐ Spend a week at Camp Sacajawea
- ☐ Spend a week at Camp Castle Rock

#### 25 Point Challenges

- ☐ Go to a Troop, Go, or Try-It Camp
- ☐ Attend a Council-Run Outdoor Program
- ☐ Go to a Service Unit Day Camp

#### 10 Point Challenges

- ☐ Go camping for a night
- ☐ Attend a Park Ranger talk
- ☐ Complete an outdoor badge
- ☐ Make a Leave No Trace poster & share it
- ☐ Go horseback riding
- □ Volunteer at a clean-up event
- ☐ Build a fort outside using natural materials
- ☐ Make and then cook in a Solar Oven

#### 5 Point Challenges

- ☐ Go to (or make) a drive-in movie theatre
- ☐ Pick up trash at a park or public square
- ☐ Visit a National Park
- ☐ Roast a marshmallow
- ☐ Sing songs around a campfire

- ☐ Make a native plant "seed ball" and plant it
- ☐ Create art entirely out of natural items
- ☐ Walk a dog for someone in the community
- ☐ Learn why bees are important
- ☐ Visit a State Park
- ☐ Go on a night hike with your caregiver
- ☐ Visit an outdoor festival
- ☐ Go to a farmer's market
- ☐ Photograph Nature
- ☐ Visit a monument
- ☐ Camp in your yard
- ☐ Find a cool rock by the river
- ☐ Plant vegetables
- $\square$  Go foraging
- ☐ Find a four-leaf clover
- ☐ Visit a zoo or farm
- ☐ Read outside for 30 minutes
- ☐ Take a group photo with friends
- $\square$  Learn to set up a tent
- ☐ Learn about bear safety
- ☐ Learn a new constellation
- ☐ Earn an outdoor badge
- ☐ Go on a nature walk
- ☐ Go to or host a picnic

#### 1 Point Challenges

- ☐ Skip rocks on water
- ☐ Write a letter to a friend
- □ Nap in a hammock
- □ Watch the sunset
- ☐ Fly a kite
- ☐ Run through a sprinkler
- ☐ Spot a rainbow
- ☐ Find and observe a butterfly
- ☐ Take a walk with a friend
- ☐ Create sidewalk chalk art
- ☐ Make your own popsicle

### Summer Challenge GIVEAWAY



Enter for the chance to win the Summer Challenge Giveaway!
Be sure to submit a photo of you completing the activities with a brief description upon submitting your form to GSMW.

## Ready, Set, Action!

# Help us Tell Your GS Story

#### Girl Scouts make a difference

Girl Scouts are making a difference every day— conquering challenges, giving back to their communities, and creating unforgettable memories. Now, we want to showcase your adventures! We're collecting photos and b-roll footage of Girl Scouts in action—whether they're exploring the outdoors, earning badges, meeting inspiring people, or simply having fun! Your submissions may be featured in Girl Scout promotions, social media, newsletters, and more!

## How to Submit Your Story

Upload your photos or videos and include a description. Be sure to include details like who is featured, what is happenning, and what the story is behind the video or imae shared. Then submit! If you have problems uploading content, please reach out to us at customercare@gsmw.org.

## Tips for Filming Great Video

- Shoot in landscape mode! (Turn your phone sideways for a wider, more professional shot.)
- Find good lighting. Natural light works best—avoid dark spaces or backlighting.
- Keep it steady. Hold your phone with both hands or use a tripod.
- Capture natural sound. Let us hear the excitement but avoid wind or loud background noise.
- Short & sweet! Clips between 10-30 seconds work best.
- · Send the highest quality file. Don't compress or resize before submitting.

## Permissions

By submitting your content, you grant Girl Scouts of Montana and Wyoming permission to share your story. We will only use first names and last initials when referencing individuals.

Submit Your Girl Scout Stories and Experiences!