





Summer Camp Guide 2024







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United Way

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Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan

800-497-2688 • girlscoutcamp.org • helpdesk@gshom.org Online shop: girlscoutshop.com/gshom

FIVE REGIONAL **CENTERS & SHOPS TO SERVE YOU!** **Ann Arbor Regional Center** 1671 Plymouth Rd Ann Arbor, MI 48105 734-714-5140 734-714-3037 FAX

Jackson **Regional Center** 4403 Francis St Jackson, MI 49203 517-784-8543 517-784-9553 FAX

Kalamazoo **Regional Center** 601 West Maple St Kalamazoo, MI 49008 Grand Ledge, MI 269-343-1516 269-492-1439 FAX

Lansing Regional Center at Wacousta 13287 Wacousta Rd 48837 517-699-9400 517-699-9405 FAX

Saginaw Regional Center 5470 Davis Rd Saginaw, MI 48604 989-799-9565 989-799-1450 FAX

Go outside and come back better!

Come to camp and leave with...

NEW FRIENDS

At camp, you have the opportunity to make friends that will last forever. You'll learn what it takes to be a great friend through intentional activities and lessons that promote cooperative learning. Living together and experiencing the magic of camp together, without distractions, creates the perfect setting to form lifelong memories and friendships.

RESILIENCE

Camp is a great place to learn to overcome challenges and grow strong. Here, you will learn to solve problems, be persistent when faced with challenges, and make tremendous progress towards being the strong successful person we know you can be! Camp is always a safe place to try new things and take on new challenges, even if they don't go right the first (or second or third) time.

DECISION-MAKING SKILLS

Summer camp is the perfect place to learn independence, and a big part of independence is your ability to make your own decisions. At Girl Scout camp, everything is girl-led, meaning you get to choose your path and your activities for your time at camp. By making these decisions for yourself, you get to build a camp experience that is focused on the skills and activities that matter to you while also practicing making decisions for yourself!

APPRECIATION OF NATURE

The benefits of being outdoors are tremendous! Those who spend time outside learn to handle stress better, have fewer symptoms of depression and ADHD, perform better in school, and have more positive relationships. At camp, the distraction of technology is eliminated, allowing you to unplug and connect with your fellow campers and the indescribable beauty around you. You'll make long-lasting memories while you sing songs at a campfire, hike the trails, throw a hatchet, learn about invasive species, tell stories under the stars, and make new friends.

COURAGE

Coming to camp for the first time might be scary at first, but you'll get comfortable quickly. At camp, you'll learn just how capable you are. From new foods at mealtime to climbing the rock wall to cooking over a fire, you'll have countless opportunities to try new things. And you won't be doing it alone! Our highly-trained camp counselors will be by your side to guide you and help you reach your goals as you grow your strength and courage.



Dear Girl Scout families,

Sweet, sweet summertime – when the sun is shining, school is paused for the summer, Michigan weather is at its prime, and Girl Scout Summer Camp is in full swing! Summer 2024 is filled to the brim with possibilities for life-changing adventures that will inspire girls to try new things, make new friends, and learn new skills in the great outdoors at Girl Scout Camp.

Not only is Girl Scout Camp a super fun way for girls to spend their summer, but it is also a place where girls gain incredible leadership skills and significant mental health benefits. At Girl Scout camp, girls will unplug from technology as they connect with nature and those around them. You simply can't find the magic of Girl Scout Camp anywhere else – and we can't wait to share it with our girls this summer!

In this guide, you'll find everything your girl will need to build a summer beyond her wildest dreams – a summer filled with adventures, laughter, friendships, learning, and memories to last a lifetime. It's going to be an incredible summer at Girl Scout Camp; she won't want to miss a single second!

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Jan Barker, CEO Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan

Welcome to Your **Girl Scout Camps!**

This summer at Girl Scout Camp is sure to be the best one yet! Campers will find adventure, make lifelong friendships, and gain the confidence they'll need to take on the world. We can't wait to see everyone at camp this summer!

Staff Training 0

At Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, we believe staff training is of utmost importance. Our camp staff participate in two full weeks of staff training, more than double the 30 hours that is required by the state of Michigan, to ensure your camper receives the best experience possible. Staff are given advanced training and certifications in first aid and CPR, youth development theory, group management and coaching, and high adventure activity facilitation, in addition to emergency procedures. All camp staff undergo a thorough application process, including background checks, reference checks, and interviews. Many campers love their experience so much that they return as Program Aides, Counselors in Training, and Junior Counselors before moving on to become camp staff!

Safety 0

At Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, the safety of our campers is our top priority. Safe fun and achievement are an essential part of camp. We take the care of your camper very seriously, while challenging her to reach her full potential. Every activity is planned well in advance,





and staff are trained to prevent injuries. If minor injuries do occur, staff are trained in first aid and CPR. Our overnight camps also have dedicated Health Officers with advanced first aid training, who operate under standing orders from an on-call physician. The Camp Director or Health Officer will contact you in the unlikely event that your camper gets sick or injured.

Equity 0

Equity is highly valued at Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan. Camp is a remarkable place where campers can gain self-reliance and feel the sense of belonging regardless of where they call home. With varied activities, they gain independence and courage to tackle new challenges while increasing their social interaction ability with a diverse group of other campers. Girl Scout Camp, by design, encourages campers to build their confidence, creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking skills. Staff at GSHOM camps provide a welcoming and safe place where every person is valued for their uniqueness and extraordinary potential for growth and development.

Camp Food 0

Great camp food starts with great ingredients. Meals at camp are kid-friendly and healthy. Our kitchens are nut-free, and our certified kitchen directors can work to accommodate dietary needs. If your camper has any food allergies or dietary restrictions, be sure to list them in detail on the health form at registration. This allows us to plan ahead to ensure that all campers have food that accommodates their needs while they are at camp. For more information, visit girlscoutcamp.org, and talk to the Camp Director if your camper has specific needs.

Camp Scholarships 0

Outdoor camping experiences are essential to the growth of all girls. Camp scholarships are available to families in need. Scholarships can be used for all summer camp programs. See our website for more information or call us at 800-497-2688.



Juliettes!

Camp is a great place for Juliette Girl Scouts to build connections! Juliettes can participate in all the same programs that girls in classic troops do. From overnight camp to troop and family camps, Juliettes can do anything at camp. Campers will need to bring an adult with them when participating in troop and family camp programs.

American Camp Association (ACA)

Girl Scout Heart of Michigan Camps follow the guidance of the American Camp Association (ACA). Our camps are also licensed through the State of Michigan and adhere to Girl Scout Safety Activity Checkpoints. So, what does all of this mean? It means that we comply with over 300 industry standards in health, safety, and program quality in order to maintain our license. Our camps have a site visit and are reviewed every year.

Where It All Happens

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Regional Centers, Retail Shops, and camp facilities.

1. Camp Linden

5285 Hogan Road, Linden, MI 48451 800-497-2688

2. Camp Merrie Woode 12584 Burchette Road, Plainwell, MI 49080 · 800-497-2688

3. Camp O' the Hills 2100 Pink Street, Brooklyn, MI 49230 517-592-6373

4. Camp Wacousta 13360 Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge, MI 48837 · 517-699-9400

5. Saginaw Regional Center 5470 Davis Road, Saginaw, MI 48604 989-799-9565

6. Kalamazoo Regional Center 601 W. Maple Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49008 · 269-343-1516

7. Ann Arbor Regional Center 1671 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 · 734-714-5140

8. Jackson Regional Center 4403 Francis Street, Jackson, MI 9203 · 517-784-8543

9. Lansing Regional Center at Wacousta

13287 Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge, MI 48837 · 517-699-9400

10. The Hut 177 N. Fourth Street West Branch, MI 48661

11. Barbara Osterman Cabin 400 Geza Road Alma, MI 48801

12. Jane Harris Cabin 1711 West High Street Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



Each Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan camp has a Trading Post full of fun and useful items for sale to make her camp stay extra memorable.



Ready to Register?

- Head to gshom.org (If you are already a Girl Scout member, you can use myGS.)
- Select "Events"
- Select the camp that interests your girl.
- Browse our different session offerings to find the one that's best for your girl.
- A \$100 non-refundable deposit will hold your spot.
- Once you register for a camp session, you will receive an email directing you to **campdoc.com**, where you will be asked to create a new profile or update an existing profile (including the health profile).
- Camp Information Packets will be available closer to summer time to better reflect accurate information.
- Attend our free Camp Open Houses, to see camp, meet the staff, and get all of your questions answered!
- Two weeks prior to the start of your camper's session, you will receive an email from the Camp Director which will include details about checkin, a reminder about what to pack, info about that week's camp theme, and more!

More on page 27.



Approximately 45 miles north of Ann Arbor, Camp Linden offers over 400 acres of hills, valleys, woods, and wetlands. Campers can explore a series of beautiful lakes and forest trails. Camp Linden features an accessible luxury pool, climbing wall, lakefront, fairy village, horseback riding, shooting sports ranges, hatchet throwing, and more! *Camp Linden is accredited by the ACA.*

Camp Linden offers overnight camp, troop and family camp, and day programs.





Camp Linden Theme Descriptions

In addition to traditional camp activities, all campers attending camp during the following weeks will participate in themed activities such as all-camp games, competitions, and dinners.

Week 1, June 30-July 3: Shipwrecked



Ahoy! Are ye ready for adventure? You've run aground on an island known as Camp Linden. Now, you and your shipmates must explore the land and learn to survive off the resources. You'll get the chance to learn skills such as fire building, knot tying, shelter building, and more. You may even unearth some hidden treasure!

Week 2, July 7-12: **Time Travelers**

Join us for a fantastic journey through time! From the Jurassic Age to the future, we'll explore history and beyond. Each day will be a chance to experience a new time period as you explore all the fun and excitement Camp Linden has to offer!

Week 3, July 14-19: Wild, Wild West



Howdy y'all, and welcome to the wild, wild West! Yee haw! Get ready for a rootin' tootin' adventure where you'll get a chance to explore, try your hand at our shooting ranges, meet our horses, and even search for gold!

Week 4, July 21-26: **Once Upon a Time**



Once upon a time in the far away land of Camp Linden, campers embarked on a magical quest... Join us for a week filled with witches, wizards, princesses, knights, and mystical creatures of all shapes and sizes! Together, we'll try exciting activities from tie dye to boating, play Alpha Wolf, and experience the meaning of camp magic!

Week 5, July 28-August 2: **Blast Off!**



Houston, we have an awesome week of camp! Get ready for an out-of-this-world experience. You'll get the chance to explore far away planets, search for alien life, build your own rockets, and watch for meteor showers in the night sky!

Week 6, August 4-9: Linden Games



Gear up for an exhilarating week of fun and friendly competition! This is your chance to represent your unit's team in Camp Linden's leading competition event. Earn points by participating in theme days and all-camp activities and growing and showcasing your camp skills. Who will bring home the gold?



Camp Merrie Woode is located in Plainwell (just north of Kalamazoo). Camp Merrie Woode is the oldest continuously licensed overnight camp in the state of Michigan. Located on Warner Lake, this camp is 200 acres full of fun and exciting adventures for your camper. Camp Merrie Woode features horseback riding, target sports, hatchet throwing, slingshot, swimming, boating, indoor and outdoor climbing walls, and more!

Camp Merrie Woode offers overnight camp, troop and family camp, and day programs.





Camp Merrie Woode Theme Descriptions

In addition to traditional camp activities, all campers attending camp during the following weeks will participate in themed activities such as all-camp games, competitions, and dinners.

Week 1, June 30-July 3: Outerspace



Camp is out of this world in this space-themed session! Build rocket ships, chart the stars, and create out of this world artwork. During this session, you'll even have an opportunity to go stargazing at Reed's Landing!

Week 2, July 7-12: Way Out West



Woah there! Head backwards in time and travel Westward to the land of cowboys and cacti. Train to be a sharpshooter like Annie Oakley at BB guns or visit an old west boom town in Gold Rush!

Week 3, July 14-19: Once Upon a Time 🥒



Long, long ago and far, far away, there was a land called Camp Merrie Woode! Train like a knight at archery, create fantastical costumes, and discover an enchanted forest during this magical week. Perhaps you will even see a unicorn!

Week 4, July 21-26: Rainforest Adventure /



Pack your bags for this trip through the Amazon rainforest! Learn all about different types of plants found in this unique biome, make crazy jungle animal puppets, and go wild for rainforest trivia games!





Located between Lenawee and Jackson Counties in the Irish Hills area. Camp O' the Hills is situated on 109 beautiful acres of rolling hills, valleys, and woods. There are 3 lakes bordering the camp with a beach on Wamplers Lake. Camp O' the Hills is popular for troop camping, summer troop samplers, and community encampments. Camp O' the Hills offers wonderful day and weekend programs. Adventures include archery, canoeing, kayaking, BB guns, slingshots, hatchets, geocaching and letterboxing and a Nature Center.





Observe and record the amazing turtle nesting season at Camp O' the Hills. During the month of June, the Native Michigan turtle species come into camp for the annual nesting season. Learn to build nesting boxes and predator screens to help save the nests, and identify the different native species. Help collect and document one of the wonders of nature for our annual report.

Session A: June 14-16 S

Session B: June 21-23

Troop Sampler Camp 🎽

The fun starts Friday night at the campfire with a snack and songs! On Saturday, your troop will explore camp together. Some of the adventures you'll enjoy include canoes, kayaks, archery, BB guns, slingshots, hatchets, letter boxing, geocaching, and crafts. Join us for a weekend filled with adventures, fun, friends, and memories.

Session A: May 31-June 2 Session C: July 12-14 Session E: August 2-4 Session B: June 28-30 Session D: July 19-21 Session F: August 16-18





Sample Itinerary

Friday

7:00 pm - Arrival 7:30 pm - Campfire and Snack 8:00 am - Flag Ceremony 8:10 am-9:00 am - Breakfast 9:15 am-10:15 am - Slingshots 10:30 am-11:30 am - Boating 11:45 am-12:45 pm - Lunch 1:00 pm-2:00 pm - Archery

Saturday

2:15 pm-3:15 pm - BB Guns 3:15 pm-3:30 pm - Snack 3:45 pm-4:45 pm - Trading Post /Free Time 5:30 pm-6:30 pm - Dinner 7:00 pm-8:30 pm - Campfire & Snack

Sunday

8:30 am - Breakfast 10:00 am - Check-out



Camp Wacousta, located in Grand Ledge, features 14 acres of beauty nestled along the Looking Glass River. Whether you want to fly fish, paddle, water tube, or just enjoy the natural beauty of the site, Camp Wacousta is a great place for your troop or family to explore. Camp Wacousta was once the site of a historic mill, the remnants of which can still be seen today. To book your stay at Camp Wacousta (or any of our camp properties), simply visit girlscoutscamp.org and click "Family and Troop Rentals" from the drop down to reserve your spot online or call us at 1-800-497-2688.

> Sign up and join Camp Wacousta's **Campfire Cooking Event** May 7, 2024

Work at GSHOM Camps!

Do you love the outdoors? Do you have a passion for working with kids? Do you want to make a difference? Do you know someone who does?

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan camps are hiring for summer 2024!

Working at camp you will:

- ·Gain hands-on leadership skills.
- ·Build connections.
- Develop on-your-feet critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Make a difference in the lives of youth.
- Help shape and grow the leaders of tomorrow.

Positions available at:

Camp Linden and Camp Merrie Woode June-August

- · Aquatics director
- Equestrian director
- · Counselor-in-training director
- \cdot Office and retail director
- \cdot Activities director
- · Camp counselors
- · Activities assistants
- · Lifeguards
- · Equestrian assistants and MORE

On-site positions available!

Camp O' the Hills May-August

- · Outdoor Adventure Facilitators
- Lifeguard



to get more info

Scan the QR code

Seasonal or part-time available!

Have fun!



Whether you stay for a whole week or join us for a mini session, All Around Camp is a great experience! Explore traditional camp activities, learn new skills, and build friendships that last a lifetime.

All Around Camp

Entering Grades 2-12 | 6 Days | Lodge Accommodations | \$520

All Around Camp is about experiencing a taste of everything camp has to offer. During this six-day session, campers will choose a pathway that they will attend for one activity block every day, and choose their activities for the remaining blocks from the activity options. This session is perfect for first-time campers who are ready for a full week experience or returning campers who love everything that camp has to offer!

| Dates | Camp Linden | Camp Merrie Woode |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Week 1: June 30- July 3 | | |
| Week 2: July 7-12 | Entering Grades 2-12 | Entering Grades 2-12 |
| Week 3: July 14-19 | Entering Grades 2-12 | Entering Grades 2-12 |
| Week 4: July 21-26 | Entering Grades 2-12 | Entering Grades 2-12 |
| Week 5: July 28- August 2 | Entering Grades 2-12 | |
| Week 6: August 4-9 | Entering Grades 2-12 | |



All Around Mini

Entering Grades 1-8 | 4 Days | Lodge Accommodations | \$410

In this four-day sesssion, you'll get a taste of what camp has to offer. Try out activities like swimming, boating, arts and crafts, and much more.

Camp Linden - Weeks 1, 2, and 4 Camp Merrie Woode - Week 1

All Around Mini Session participants will not participate in a pathway and will instead have camper's choice while they are at camp.

All About All Around

What is camper choice?

Camper choice blocks are activity blocks where campers get to choose from a selection of activity offerings depending on their interests! Some camper choice activities that will be offered this summer include:

| Archery | Fire Building |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Boating | Nature Hike |
| Climbing Wall | Tie Dye |
| Swimming | Wood Burning |
| Hatchet Throwing | Candle Making |
| BB Guns | Outdoor Ethics |
| Slingshot | Water Ecology |
| Knife & Knot Skills | Painting |
| | |

What does a day at camp look like?

Days at camp vary based upon a camper's interest and session, here's an example of what a day at camp might look like!

| 7:00 am | Wake Up! |
|------------------|---|
| 8:00 am | Breakfast |
| 9:00 am | Kapers |
| 9:45 am | Opening Flag Ceremony |
| 10:00 am | Activity Block 1: Archery Pathway |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch |
| 1:00 pm | Turtle Time |
| 2:00 pm | Activity Block 2: Swimming! |
| 4:00 pm | Activity Block 3: Water Ecology |
| 6:00 pm | Dinner |
| 7:15 pm | Closing Flag Ceremony |
| 7:30 pm | All Camp Activity: Campfire |
| 9:00 pm-10:00 pm | Wind Down Time/ Bedtime (varies by age level) |

Introducing Pathways

A chance to choose your path to adventure, learning, and fun!

"A badge is a symbol that girls have done the thing it stands for often enough, thoroughly enough, and well enough to be prepared to give service in it." -Juliette Gordon Low

Camp is all about being girl-led! Brand new this summer, we are introducing our Pathways Program. This program gives campers the opportunity to dive deeper into the camp activity of their choosing, all while developing core competencies that will help them take on the world.

Every All Around camper attending a full-week session will get the chance to choose a pathway for their time at camp. Each day, one activity block will be focused on the chosen pathway, giving campers the chance to learn, practice, and grow their skills while working towards a badge in that area! The other activity blocks each day will be camper choice.



*Additional specialty pathways may complete the requirement for a badge and those who do not can choose to purchase a fun patch from the patches available at our Trading Post.

*Pathways are intended to help develop skills and maintain progression. Participants will make progress towards badges on pathways where applicable.

*All Around Mini Session participants will not participate in a pathway and will instead have camper's choice while they are at camp.



Pathway options will include boating, archery, outdoor skills, arts, and camp sampler for our campers that want to try a bit of everything. Additional specialty pathways may also be offered.

Boating

Set sail with the boating pathway! Participants in this pathway will have the opportunity to try out kayaking, canoeing, and rowboating! They will spend a session each day out on the water (weather permitting) and master maneuvering skills and will even have the opportunity to practice basic boating rescue procedures! Participants in this pathway will complete all of the necessary requirements for the Senior Paddle Badge.

Archery

Ready, aim, fire! Participants in this pathway will spend their week perfecting their archery skills through instruction, games, and challenges! Participants will complete all requirements for the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan council's own Archery Badges and the Cadette Archery Badge.

Outdoor Skills

Brave the great outdoors in the Outdoor Skills Pathway. Learn how to build eco-conscious campsites, identify plants, and cook over a campfire! Participants in this pathway will complete all requirements for their Environmental Stewardship Badge at every level.

Outdoor Arts

Explore different media through art in the outdoors! Sketch, paint, and create in a natural setting while building your art skills and creating wonderful masterpieces. Participants in this pathway will complete the requirements for their Outdoor Art Badge at every level.

Camp Sampler

Can't choose? This is the perfect option for you! From seasoned campers to first time friends, camp sampler has a little bit for everyone. Take to the archery range, adventure out on a boat, learn to start a fire, and tie-dye a bandana. Join us in this pathway to start your camp journey. A special fun patch for this pathway will be available for purchase at our Trading Post.



Whether you've been riding for years or have never ridden a horse before, we have a horseback riding program for you! Our horse camps are the perfect opportunity to explore camp and spend time with our amazing horses! Each full day of camp, you'll get to spend one of your activity blocks at the barn growing your equestrian and riding skills and the other two participating in some of our other exciting camp activities!

Weather permitting, Horse Camp Mini includes two two-hour lessons, all six-day Horseback Riding programs include four two-hour lessons, and Horseback Riding Level Four includes ten lessons!

| Horse | Horseback | Horseback | Horseback | Horseback |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Camp | Riding | Riding | Riding | Riding |
| Mini | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Level 4 |

Horse Camp Mini

Entering grades 2-6 | 3-Season Accommodations at Camp Linden, Lodge Accommodations at Camp Merrie Woode| 4 days | \$460

Horse Camp Mini is a great introduction to all things horses! This four-day session is the perfect opportunity to meet our horses and experience the magic of camp! During your two barn lessons, you'll learn and practice the basics of grooming, tacking, and riding. When you're done, you'll be ready to tackle Horseback Level 1.

Week 1 at Camp Linden (3-Season Accommodations) Week 1 at Camp Merrie Woode (Lodge Accommodations)

Horseback Riding Level 1

Entering grades 2-8 |3-Season Accommodations at Camp Linden, Lodge Accommodations at Camp Merrie Woode | 6 days | \$650

Horse Camp Mini is NOT a prerequisite for this session

Do you love horses? Have you always wanted to learn how to ride? Horseback Riding Level 1 is perfect for you! In this six-day camp session, you will get to know our horses while learning about horse care and horseback riding basics. By the end of the week, you will have learned how to groom and tack and how to start, stop, and steer a horse through different games and patterns.

Weeks 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 at Camp Linden (3-Season Accommodations) Weeks 2, 3, & 4 at Camp Merrie Woode (Lodge Accommodations)







Horseback Riding Level 2

Entering grades 4-10 | 3-Season Accommodations at Camp Linden, Lodge Accommodations at Camp Merrie Woode | 6 days | \$650

Prerequisite: Completion of Horseback Riding Level 1

In Horseback Riding Level 2, you'll get a chance to review and build on all the skills learned in Horseback Riding Level 1! During your four riding lessons, you'll practice your horse care skills, learn to trot, and go for a trail ride around our beautiful camp trails. You must have completed Horseback Riding Level 1 or have Camp Director approval.

Weeks 2, 3, 4, & 6 at Camp Linden (3-Season Accommodations) Weeks 2, 3, & 4 at Camp Merrie Woode (Lodge Accommodations)

Horseback Riding Level 3

Entering grades 6-12 | Tent Accommodations at Camp Linden, Lodge Accommodations at Camp Merrie Woode | 6 days | \$650

Prerequisite: Completion of Horseback Riding Level 2

Ready to level up your riding skills? In Horseback Riding Level 3, you will expand your knowledge of our equine friends while learning and practicing new horsemanship skills. Building on skills learned in Horseback Riding Levels 1 and 2, you will practice controlling your horse at faster gaits and learn new riding patterns and techniques. You must have completed Horseback Riding Level 2 or have Camp Director approval.

Weeks 2, 3, 5, & 6 at Camp Linden (Tent Accommodations) Week 4 at Camp Merrie Woode (Lodge Accommodations)

Horseback Riding Level 4

New this year!

Entering grades 8-12 | Tent Accommodations | 13 days | \$1,300

Prerequisite: Completion of Horseback Riding Level 3

Brand new this year, Horseback Riding Level 4 is for our most experienced riders who want to dive deeper into riding and horsemanship skills! In this exciting two-week program, you will develop independent riding skills at different gaits, try out new riding styles, explore camp on horseback, and hone your riding technique. You will also grow the skills necessary to care for horses long-term and learn what it takes to work with our horses! Enjoy a stay at camp over the weekend for extra one-on-one time with your two- and four-legged friends! Participants must have completed Horseback Riding Level 3 or have Camp Director approval.











Backpack Excursion

Entering grades 6-12 | Tent Accommodations | 6 days | \$520

Are you ready to wander into the wilderness? In this program, you will learn the basics of planning and packing for a backcountry trip. You'll learn and practice skills including navigation, hiking safety, environmental ethics, outdoor cooking, packing a backpack, and filtering water. Then you'll head out on a hike to a primitive campsite for your overnight adventure! Here, you'll pitch tents, build a fire to cook over, and enjoy some stargazing. Campers should be able to carry a 30-lb. pack and bring comfortable, sturdy shoes for hiking.

Camp Linden: Weeks 2 & 5 Camp Merrie Woode: Week 4

Junior Rangers



Entering Grades 4–8 | Tent Accommodations | 6 days | \$520

In Junior Rangers at Camp Merrie Woode, you will spend their week learning all about their local ecosystem and how to take care of the earth. You will learn about the Great Lakes' watershed, try woodworking by making a bug hotel, perform an owl pellet dissection, and create an eco-friendly campsite. Campers enrolled in Junior Rangers should come prepared with hiking shoes and a sleeping bag.

Week 2 at Camp Merrie Woode





Life Skills

Entering grades 6-12 | Tent Accommodations | 6 Days | \$520

This program is perfect for campers who are ready to take on the world! You'll learn important skills from personal finance to changing a flat tire to first aid. You'll even take the Red Cross First Aid Certification course. When you're not learning essential skills, you'll get to have even more fun participating in camper choice activities. What are you excited to learn?

Week 4 at Camp Linden



Night Owls

Entering grades 4-8 | Tent Accommodations | 4 or 6 Days | \$410-Mini \$520-6 Day

Explore camp nightlife! You'll get to experience an epic night hike, discover new things about nocturnal animals, dissect owl pellets, and stay up late! We'll make sure you have a campfire and a midnight snack to keep you going.

Week 1 at Camp Linden - Mini session Week 6 at Camp Linden - Full week

Paddle Excursion

Entering grades 6-12 | Tent Accommodations | 6 days | \$520

Paddle your way to your next great adventure! In this program, you will spend your time on the water exploring Lake Louise, Cranberry Creek, the Twin Lakes, and more! You'll learn about boating and aquatic safety and hone your paddling skills in kayaks, canoes, and rowboats. After practicing these skills, weather permitting, you'll paddle out for an overnight at our primitive campsite, Paradise Point. Campers should be comfortable on the water, able to tread water, and able to swim 50 yards on their own.

Weeks 3 & 6 at Camp Linden



Shark Week Teen Takeover Mini Session



Entering Grades 6–12 | Lodge Accommodations | 3 Days | \$375 Check-in: Sunday, 2:00 p.m Check-out: Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.

It's shark week as teens take over Camp Merrie Woode! Have a late-night campfire, attend a tie-dying party, and have a movie and popcorn night at camp. Dress up for the shark vs. surfers lunch on Monday or create and pitch zany inventions in our very own Shark Tank!

Participants may add a trail ride onto their experience for a fee.

Week 5 at Camp Merrie Woode

Wild About Woodworking



Entering grades 4-8 | Tent Accommodations | 6 days | \$520

Discover the wonderful world of woodworking in this brand-new program! You will learn all about the basics of working with tools and how to stay safe in a wood shop. You'll gain the skills necessary to design and create projects like bird houses and rubber band boats, and then work as a team with our Camp Rangers to build a raised garden bed for our Fairy Village. When you're not working on these exciting projects, you'll get to try out some camper choice activities! Participants will earn the Cadette Woodworking Badge.

Week 3 at Camp Linden

Back by popular demand!

You Can't Do That at Camp!

Entering grades 4-8 | Lodge Accommodations at CL Tent Accommodatios at CMW | | 4 or 6 days | \$410-Mini \$520-Full Week

Breaking the rules has never been so fun! This zany and shenanigan-filled session is perfect for everyone who wants permission to break the rules. In addition to camper choice activities, you'll get to pull pranks, stay up past lights out, enjoy a movie night with midnight snacks, and maybe even have a pizza party!

Week 1 at Camp Linden - Mini session Week 5 at Camp Linden - Full week Week 3 at Camp Merrie Woode



Leadership Programs

Girl Scouts is the premiere leadership organization for girls, and camp provides unlimited options to hone leadership skills. Start your path to becoming a leader at camp, at school, and beyond!



Leader in Training (LIT)

Entering grades 8-10 | Tent Accommodations | 6 Days | \$520

Ready to start learning leadership skills and working with younger campers? This program is perfect for older campers who are ready to transition from camper to Counselor in Training. You'll learn how to facilitate songs and games, plan and lead art activities, and help support younger campers during their time at camp. You'll even get to help plan a program! Campers will still participate in at least one camper choice activity per day. This is a great program for Program Aides!

Week 6 at Camp Linden Week 4 at Camp Merrie Woode

Counselor in Training I (CIT I)

Entering grades 10-12 | Tent Accommodations | 13 Days | \$700

The Counselor in Training (CIT) program provides a handson experience that puts you on the path to becoming a Camp Counselor. In this two-week program, you'll be trained by seasoned camp staff and learn about leadership techniques and styles, group dynamics, outdoor skills, age characteristics, and more. The CIT Program is designed so high-school aged Girl Scouts can participate in leadership training and then apply those skills with younger campers in the same session. CITs will have the opportunity to shadow Camp Counselors and work directly with campers! CITs who complete the program will earn the Counselor in Training pin, which will be available for purchase in the Trading Post.

Weeks 2-3 at Camp Merrie Woode Weeks 4-5 at Camp Linden

Counselor in Training II (CIT II)

Entering grades 11-12 | Tent Accommodations | 13 Days | \$700

Prerequisite: Completion of Counselor in Training I

Once you've completed Counselor in Training I, head back to camp to build upon the skills you learned. During this two-week program, you will explore our program areas at camp and explore the basics of developing and delivering a camp program and camp operations. CIT II's will shadow our director team and work alongside them to facilitate programs. This program includes GSHOM archery training and slingshot range training. CIT II's who complete the program will earn the Counselor in Training II pin, which will be available for purchase in the Trading Post.

Weeks 2-3 at Camp Linden Weeks 3-4 at Camp Merrie Woode

Junior Counselor (JC)

Entering grade 12

Prerequisite: Completion of Counselor in Training II

This volunteer program is an amazing opportunity to get hands on experience! Junior Counselors are volunteers who have the option of assisting in a unit with campers and at program areas such as the equestrian or aquatic areas. You can choose sessions that you would like to volunteer for during the summer, so program dates may vary. All Junior Counselors are required to apply and interview for the position and attend our JC training.

Scan to apply

*Length of stay, dates, and accommodation depends on chosen volunteer dates. *You can find the Junior Counselor application here: QR code *Applicants will be notified regarding interviews beginning in February





CIT Tradition Spotlight

Our leadership program is steeped in tradition. Here's a look at some of our favorites:

Clipboards: Once a camper completes CIT I, they are gifted with their own personalized clipboard. This clipboard says their camp name and is a great tool for keeping organized and fanning campfires.

Blue Bottles: Once a camper completes CIT II, they are gifted their own blue bottle. This blue bottle represents summer camp and coincides with a song of the same name.

Service Project: CITs make their mark on camp in more ways than one. Past CIT classes have completed service projects at camp that ensure future campers continue to have amazing experiences in the outdoors.

A Day in the Life of a CIT

| 7:00 am | Walzo Upl |
|----------|---|
| 7.00 am | Wake Up! |
| 8:00 am | Breakfast |
| 9:00 am | Kapers |
| 9:45 am | Opening Flag Ceremony |
| 10:00 am | Age Characteristics Workshop |
| 12:00 pm | Lunch |
| 1:00 pm | Turtle Time |
| 2:00 pm | Camper Choice Activity: Pool, BB Gun, or Boating Skills |
| 4:00 pm | Shadow Counselors in Units |
| 6:00 pm | Dinner |
| 7:15 pm | Closing Flag Ceremony |
| 7:30 pm | Help Facilitate All Camp Game: Gold Rush |
| 9:00 pm | Group debrief exercise |
| 10:00 pm | Lights Out |

| A Week in the Life of a CIT | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Monday | Camp out night! | |
| Tuesday | Personality Tests, shadow cookout with Brownie Girl Scouts | |
| Wednesday | Hiking Excursion, play Bandits in Gold Rush | |
| Thursday | Archery Certification, lead tie dye with Junior Girl Scouts | |
| Friday | Lead closing campfire, get ready for CIT Weekend | |
| Saturday | CIT Weekend! Paddle Advantue | |





Question 1: How has camp impacted you?

• My time at Girl Scout camp has made me so much more confident in myself and my skills, taught me how to be a team player, and helped me build long lasting friendships. As a younger Girl Scout, camp helped me gain some independence and life skills. As a camper, and now as a staff member, camp has always given me the space to find and be my best self. Being surrounded by strong, positive, female role models at camp was incredibly beneficial to me as a camper, teaching me I could do

"...camp helped me build long lasting friendships." anything I set my mind to.

• Having spent three of my

summers at camp, I realize how important it is to fill your days with the things that you love! I remember being so nervous about working at a summer camp, but I'm forever grateful I took that step. I realized not only how much I can push my own comfort zone, but also how I can convince others to do the same!

• Camp has impacted me in so many ways. Not only has camp taught me a ton of new things like archery, fire building, and outdoor skills, but it's also taught me important social, leadership, and team building skills. Camp has also provided me with an amazing community that I could never get anywhere else. Nowhere else in the world would I be able to scream about a rig of bamboo, a donkey bridge, or some pink pajamas with absolute confidence and zero judgement. Camp is a place where everyone can be themselves with the amazing support of fellow Girl Scouts.

Question 2: Why do you love camp?

• I love Girl Scout camp because of the amazing energy you just can't find anywhere else. Camp is a safe place to let loose and be your goofiest happiest self, to challenge yourself, and to learn new things. I also love the beautiful outdoor environment and fun activities, of course!

"Camp is my second home"

• Most of us have someplace

we call home, but what people don't realize is that it's possible to have more than one home. Camp is my second home. Whenever I'm back, I feel a sense of peace and happiness that is unparalleled anywhere else on this earth. There's no other place where I can run around in the sun all day, be with people from all over the globe, then go to sleep tucked away in the woods and under the stars.

• I love camp so much for this exact reason. I love singing songs while walking to different parts of camp, hanging out with so many new people, and making lifelong friends. I have met so many people through camp that I know I will be friends with for forever. Camp brings people together, but also fosters learning new things.

• I love camp because of the connections it promotes with nature and other people who love camp. It's a unique environment that will offer campers a sense of independence and community. The entire camp staff are incredible people who work hard to create camp magic and instill campers with a love of Girl Scouting and the outdoors.

Question 3: How has the CIT Program impacted you?

• The CIT program taught me leadership skills and helped me to build my confidence in leading. I also learned a ton of camp songs and games, as well as making unique memories and strong friendships.

• I'm a person who loves helping people, so the CIT program is the perfect way for me to dedicate myself to others. Being the CIT Director, I see how much of an impact I can have on the CITs, and how much of an impact they would have on me! Nothing beats being able to actually see growth in real time and know that that person is destined for more amazing things. My time as a CIT Director also helped me develop skills I'll use in my future career!

• The CIT program was an amazing experience for me. First of all, the friends I made during the program are some of my closest friends ever. Being at camp for two full weeks allowed us to become so close and learn so much from each other. The skills I learned during CIT also allowed me to be so much more prepared for being a JC and everything I learned has helped me so much outside of camp. When I first got the CIT manual, I was astonished at all of the information that you really have to learn to be a counselor. That is one of the reasons that inspired me to continue through the program was that I knew that I wanted to provide amazing experiences for other campers using those skills. Some of the things I learned in CIT are problem solving, conflict management, and most importantly, how to lead songs! *When I became a JC I felt so prepared to do all of these things,* especially with the amazing guidance that I received during CIT by the CIT directors, who were amazing.

"The CIT program taught me leadership skills and helped me to build my confidence in leading."



Question 4: Why should campers sign up for the CIT Program?

• If you are passionate about camp, the CIT program is for you! CITs have a chance to learn a plethora of camp songs and games and get some insight on how things work behind the scenes at camp. The two-week program is a great opportunity to really get to know fellow campers and build strong friendships. Along with participating in the awesome activities Girl Scout camp has to offer, you will also learn how to run those activities. CITs learn leadership and conflict resolution skills in a fun and constructive way, making memories you'll keep with you forever.

• Even if you know yourself well, there is always more to learn! I believe that the CIT program is a great space for CITs to be while in the search for themselves and also gives them an experience to identify with for the rest of their lives. This program can seem daunting, but convincing yourself to do something is always the hardest part. Once you've been through the program, I think you'll love it as much as I do!

• Campers should sign up for CIT because you learn so many important skills that are amazing if you want to become a counselor one day, but also everything that you learn in CIT will help you with life outside of camp too. You also end up with an amazing bond with everyone in your CIT group that are guaranteed to become friends for life. • Campers should sign up for the CIT program if they are especially passionate about the camp environment. The CIT program is a unique learning experience where campers will gain leadership skills while they make friends in a strong group setting. This camp is more immersive and involved than any other and offers opportunities for leadership and develops skills that will be important assets for future staff members.





These events are designed for troops and families and serve as a great camping option for first time campers and seasoned campers alike. Adults are required to accompany girls. Refer to the Safety Activity Checkpoints to find the minimum adult to youth ratio. Juliettes are welcome with an accompanying adult!

Troop Sampler

Entering grades K-12 & Adults

\$110/ GSHOM member lodge accommodations
\$105/ GSHOM member 3-season cabin accommodations
\$125/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$120/ Non-member 3-season cabin accommodations Check in: Friday, 7:00 pm Check out: Sunday, 10:00 am

The fun starts Friday night at the campfire with a snack and songs! On Saturday, your troop will explore camp together. Some of the adventures you'll enjoy include: canoeing, kayaking, archery, BB guns, slingshots, hatchets, letterboxing, geocaching, and crafts. Join us for a weekend filled with adventures, fun, friends, and memories! Includes the following meals: Friday snack; Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack; and Sunday breakfast.

| Session | Date | Location |
|---------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Α | May 31 - June 2 | Camp O' the Hills |
| В | June 28-30 | Camp O' the Hills |
| С | July 12-14 | Camp O' the Hills |
| D | July 19-21 | Camp O' the Hills |
| Е | August 2-4 | Camp O' the Hills |
| F | August 16-18 | Camp O' the Hills |

Save the Turtles

Entering grades 4-12 & Adults

\$110/ GSHOM member lodge accommodations
\$105/ GSHOM member 3-season cabin accommodations
\$125/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$120/ Non-member 3-season cabin accommodations Check in: Friday, 7:00 pm Check out: Sunday, 10:00 am

Observe and record the amazing turtle nesting season at Camp O' the Hills. During the month of June, the native Michigan turtle species come into camp for the annual nesting season. Learn to build nesting boxes and predator screens to help save the nests and identify the different native species. Help collect and document one of the wonders of nature for our annual report. Meals included are as follows; Friday-Snack, Saturday-Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Snack, Sunday-Breakfast.

| Session | Date | Location |
|---------|------------|-------------------|
| Α | June 14-16 | Camp O' the Hills |
| В | June 21-23 | Camp O' the Hills |

Me and My Gal: Dance through the Decades

Entering grades K-12 & Adults

\$110/ GSHOM member lodge accommodations
\$105/ GSHOM member tent accommodations
\$125/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$110/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$90/ Pitch Your Own Tent accommodations
\$90/ Pitch Your Own Tent member price
\$95/ Pitch Your Own Tent non-member price
\$65/ Day only member price
\$70/ Day only non-member price
Check-in: Friday 7:00 p.m.
Check-out: Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Take a trip through the 70s, 80s, 90s, 00s, and now at Me & My Gal: Dance through the Decades. Dress up in the styles of your favorite decades at our Decades Dance on Saturday Night and learn about different types of popular music through the years, all while participating in some favorite camp activities like archery, climbing, boating, and more! Campers can bring any adult female, age 18 or older. Meals provided: Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and Sunday continental breakfast. Day option: Saturday lunch and dinner.

June 21-23, or 22 at Camp Merrie Woode

Jamboree

Entering grades K-12 & Adults

\$110/ GSHOM member lodge accommodations
\$95/ GSHOM member tent accommodations
\$125/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$110/ Non-member tent accommodations
\$90/ Pitch Your Own Tent member price
\$95/ Pitch Your Own Tent non-member price
\$65/ Day only member price
\$70/ Day only non-member price
Check in: Friday, 7:00 pm
Check out: Sunday, 10:00 am
Day only check-in: Saturday, 9:00 am
Day only check-out: Saturday, 9:00 pm

The name Jamboree is derived from the Swahili word "jambo" meaning "hello", and at this classic and exciting event, you'll get the chance to say "hello" to your Girl Scout friends and family from across the state! Meet friends from other troops, bring S.W.A.P.S. to share with your fellow Girl Scouts, and celebrate Girl Scout traditions all weekend long with camp activities from boating to tie dye to archery and more! Stay for the whole weekend of fun or come out for Saturday only to enjoy a day of adventure! This is a great event for Juliettes to attend with an adult! Note: Add on a trail ride for a fee of \$30 per rider. Meals provided for full weekend participants: Friday snack; Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and Sunday breakfast. Meals provided for day only participants: Saturday lunch and dinner.

Register by April 30 and add-on a Jamboree t-shirt to tie dye at a discounted rate!

June 28-30 at Camp Linden

Troop Camp: Wacky Science

Entering grades K-12 & Adults

\$110/ GSHOM member lodge accommodations
\$95/ GSHOM member tent accommodations
\$125/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$110/ Non-member tent accommodations
Check-in: Friday 7:00 p.m.
Check-out: Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Have you ever wanted to come to camp with your troop? Now is your chance! Girl Scouts and their troop leaders get to spend the entire session together enjoying camp activities. Do wild and wacky science experiments together and participate in outdoor cooking, swimming, boating, archery, rock climbing, and more! **Note:** All troops must have adult members in attendance, based on Girl Scout ratios. Camp staff do not stay in lodgings with campers. Lodging is assigned based on size of troop and availability. Add on a trail ride for a fee of \$30 per rider. Meals provided: Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and Sunday continental breakfast.

August 2-4 at Camp Merrie Woode

Family Camp: Splashtacular

All ages welcome!

\$110/ GSHOM member lodge accommodations \$95/ GSHOM member tent accommodations \$125/ Non-member lodge accommodations \$110/ Non-member tent accommodations Stayover: Check-in: Friday 7:00 pm; 6:00 pm "Pitch your own tent" option Check-out: Sunday 10:00 am Day Option: Saturday 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

Come camping with the ENTIRE family! This unique session allows Girl Scouts to come to camp with their whole family, including brothers! Swim and boat in the beautiful Lake Warner, choose between an indoor and outdoor climbing wall, and take aim at archery. Come for just the day or stay the whole weekend!

Meals provided for the full weekend: Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and Sunday continental breakfast.

Meals provided for Saturday only: Saturday lunch and dinner

Add on a trail ride for a fee of \$30 per rider.

Please note: Participants who choose a "Lodge" option may be placed in shared housing with other families. Families interested in a more private option may book the tent accommodations option, capable of accommodating up to four people in one tent or may book our "pitch our own tent" option and will be provided green space to bring their own tent.

August 9-11, or 10 at Camp Merrie Woode

| Member | Lodge | Tent | Pitch your own tent | Day Option |
|----------------------------|-------|------|------------------------|---------------|
| K-12 | \$110 | \$95 | \$90 | \$60 |
| Adults | \$110 | \$95 | \$90 | \$60 |
| Children Aged 3 – Pre-K | \$55 | \$50 | \$50 | \$35 |
| Children Aged 0-2 | Free | Free | Free | Free |

Summer Fun Days!

Entering grades K-12 & Adults

\$35/ Member price Camp Linden
\$40/ Non-member price Camp Linden
\$45/ Member price Camp Merrie Woode (includes lunch)
\$50/ Non-member price Camp Merrie Woode (includes lunch)
Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Come join us for a day of fun in the summer sun! From thrilling adventures on the rock wall and the archery range to cooling off with a dip in the water to making incredible tie-dye creations to roasting s'mores over a fire, there's sure to be fun for everyone! These programs are great for troops and families alike!

Please note: Lunch is served at Camp Merrie Woode for this program. Please pack a sack lunch when attending this program at Camp Linden.

| Session | Date | Location |
|---------|---------|------------------------------------|
| A | July 13 | Camp Linden & Camp Merrie Woode |
| В | July 20 | Camp Merrie Woode |
| С | July 27 | Camp Linden |

Me & My Gal: Swinter Wonderland!

Entering grades K-12 & Adults

\$110/ GSHOM member lodge accommodations
\$105/ GSHOM member tent accommodations
\$125/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$110/ Non-member lodge accommodations
\$90/ Pitch Your Own Tent accommodations
\$90/ Pitch Your Own Tent member price
\$95/ Pitch Your Own Tent non-member price
\$65/ Day only member price
\$70/ Day only non-member price
\$70/ Day only non-member price
Check in: Friday, 7:00 pm
Check out: Sunday, 10:00 am
Day only check in: Saturday, 9:00 am
Day only check out: Saturday, 9:00 pm

Let's go walking in a summer wonderland! It's swinter at Camp Linden: winter in summer where we get the best of both seasons! Experience the magic of winter at camp without the cold! Bring a special woman in your life to enjoy summer and winter activities alike. Take a dip in the swimming pool, create an unmeltable snowman, take aim at archery, sip hot cocoa, climb the climbing wall, participate in a snowball fight, and cool down by the fireside. Campers can bring any adult woman over the age of 18 for this enchanting weekend. Note: Add on a trail ride for a fee of \$30 per rider. Meals provided for full weekend participants: Friday snack; Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner; and Sunday continental breakfast. Meals provided for day only participants: Saturday lunch and dinner.

Register by June 30 and add-on a Me and My Gal t-shirt to tie dye at a discounted rate!

August 16-18 at Camp Linden

Camp Trail Ride Days

Entering grades 2-12 & Adults

\$30/ Trail Ride

Make a day of it and add on more activities!

Other activity prices vary. Contact

reservations@gshom.org for availability and pricing!

Build your day at camp with your troop or family! Come out for a trail ride and add-on other camp activities to make it a day of adventure! Trail rides are one hour long and are offered hourly from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on the following dates at Camp Linden and Camp Merrie Woode:

| Session | Date | Location |
|---------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Α | Tuesday, August 13 | Camp Linden & Camp Merrie Woode |
| В | Wednesday, August 14 | Camp Linden & Camp Merrie Woode |
| С | Thursday, August 15 | Camp Linden & Camp Merrie Woode |
| D | Wednesday, August 21 | Camp Linden |
| Е | Thursday, August 22 | Camp Linden |

Other camp activities will be offered upon request on these dates. **NOTE:** Trail ride participants must wear pants and closed toe shoes.



Explore Camp Merrie Woode Series

Daisy's Day at Camp



Entering Grades K-1 & Adults \$45/per participant August 8th, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In Explore Camp Merrie Woode: A Daisy's Day at Camp, participants will spend a day at Camp earning their petals and doing camp activities such as slingshots, bouldering, and arts and crafts. Visit each station located throughout camp and learn what each petal is all about! A picnic lunch will be provided to all participants.

Brownie Bites



Entering Grades 2-3 & Adults \$45/per participant August 9th, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Explore Camp Merrie Woode: Brownie Bites is all about badges for Brownies! Participants in this program will have the opportunity to earn the Brownie level Art and Design, Bugs, Eco Friend, Senses, or Outdoor Adventurer badges. Travel around camp to different stations as trained camp staff guide you through this sampling of Brownie Level badges. All participants will receive a picnic lunch. Add on a trail ride for a fee of \$30 per rider (Entering 2nd Grade and up).

Environmental Stewardship Entering Grades K-12 & Adults



\$45/per participant August 7th, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Explore Camp Merrie Woode: Environmental Stewardship is geared towards those interested in earning their Environmental Stewardship badges at every level. Learn how to protect nature and take care of the world around you. Learn how to build a safe campfire, to protect nature from trash, to take a minimal impact hike, to explore biodiversity, and to advocate for the planet! All participants will receive a picnic lunch.

Add on a trail ride for a fee of \$30 per rider (Entering 2nd Grade and up).

Think Like a Citizen Scientist **Entering Grades K-12 & Adults** \$45/per participant July 31st, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

In Explore Camp Merrie Woode: Think Like a Citizen Scientist, participants will start their journey as a Citizen Scientist through hands-on activities, data collection, hypothesis creation, and observations! Learn how scientists solve problems and be ready to take action and advocate in your community. All participants will receive a picnic lunch.

Climbing Adventure Entering Grades K-3 and Adults

\$45/per participant August 5th, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm



Badges may be available

for purchase in the Trading Post during the event.

In Explore Camp Merrie Woode: Climbing Adventure, Daisies and Brownies will be able to earn their Climbing Adventure Badge. Daisies will be able to tackle our TWO bouldering walls and Brownies will challenge themselves on our artificial indoor climbing walls. But wait, there's more to camp than climbing! Participants will also make some cool crafts to take home and have a chance to learn all about the knots and equipment we use at our climbing activities. Please note: the outdoor bouldering wall is a weatherdependent activity. In the case of rain or high winds alternative adventures will be offered. All participants will receive a picnic lunch.

Add on a trail ride for a fee of \$30 per rider (Entering 2nd Grade and up).

Math in Nature

Entering Grades K-5 & Adults \$45/per participant August 6th, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm



Nature is full of numbers, shapes, and design elements to discover! Explore Camp Merrie Woode: Math in Nature is the perfect opportunity for Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors to earn their Shapes in Nature, Numbers in Nature, and Design with Nature badges. Explore camp through activities and crafts and earn badges along the way! All participants will receive a picnic lunch.

Paddling Partv Entering Grades 6-12 & Adults \$45/per participant August 6th, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm



Take to the water in this exciting adventure. In this oneday boating intensive, you'll learn skills both on the water and on shore. Practice boating maneuvers, compete in canoeing races and contests, master boating knots, and more! Participants in this program will have completed the requirements for the Senior Paddle Badge. Please note: boating is a weather-dependent activity. Should weather conditions indicate it is unsafe to be on the water, alternative adventures will be offered. All participants will receive a picnic lunch.



Are you ready for overnight camp?

Overnight camp is a very fun and exciting experience, but we know that it can also be a big step, especially if you have never been before! Not sure if you're ready? Take this quiz to find out! Add up your points to see your results!

Have you ever spent the night away from home?

- 0 No, never
- 1 Once or twice
- **2** I've stayed with other family members
- 3 Yes! I love sleepovers

Have you ever been camping?

- **0** No, never
- **1** No, but I want to go!
- **2** Once or twice
- **3** I LOVE camping!

Can you make your own bed and keep track of your things?

- **0** No
- **1** I think so
- **2** I could do that
- **3** I already do this at home

Can you shower, get dressed, and brush your hair and teeth on your own?

- **0** No, I haven't done this before
- **1** I can do some of these things
- 2 Yeah
- **3** I do all these at home

Do you like spending time outdoors?

- **0** No, I don't like being outside
- **1** Sometimes, but it's not my

favorite

- **2** I like being outside
- 3 I'm never inside!

Are you excited to meet new friends?

- **0** I don't want to
- 1 I'm nervous, but it could be cool
- 2 Yeah, that sounds fun
- **3** I am SO EXCITED!

Are you excited to try new things?

- **0** I don't want to
- **1** I'm nervous, but it could be cool
- 2 Yeah, that sounds fun
- **3** I am SO EXCITED!

Do you want to come to camp?

- **0** No, not really
- **1** I think so
- 2 Yeah!
- **3** Summer can't come fast enough!!

Results:

0-8 Points:

Our troop and family programs might be perfect for you this summer! You may not be ready for overnight camp quite yet, but don't worry, GSHOM camps have so much more to offer! Come visit camp for a day or a weekend for one of our many exciting troop and family events! Find more information on page 22.

9-16 Points:

You're ready to give overnight camp a try! It might still seem a little scary, but we think you'll have a blast at overnight camp! Come check out everything camp has to offer, try new things, and make awesome friends and memories! Still nervous? Try one of our mini sessions! They're perfect for firsttime campers!

17-24 Points:

Have you been here before? You are so ready for overnight camp! If you haven't been to camp before, you're definitely ready to come now! We are so excited to see you at camp this summer! It's going to be so much fun!



So, you want to register for camp!

Registration opens January 15!

Register online or with paper form

If you would like to apply for a scholarship, fill out our scholarship application form as well as the paper registration form, and send both to programreg@gshom.org.

Scan for paper registration form Scan for Camp Scholarship form







You're a force of nature, Girl Scout

The benefits of experimenting the southers, in an all gift environment, with the support of our phenomenal camp staff are simply the best optime (genering trans that are been trained with better mental, environment, and by each staff. Believe and the south of the s

Register Online

- Go to GirlScoutCamp.org
- Click on Summer Camp
- Click on the type of camp, then choose the week to attend.
- Click on the session you would like to attend. Click the "Register Now Button" (this will take you to the Login Page for "MYGS" Account)
- After choosing the attendee's name, scroll down and choose the session you want to attend.

There is a non-refundable \$100 deposit required for overnight camp sessions over 5 days, and a \$50 deposit for overnight camp sessions 4 days and under. If an amount does not appear at checkout, then you will need to make sure a session is chosen.

If you are unable to find the week or session you are looking for or if you are having issues with completing the order, please contact our Help Desk at helpdesk@gshom.org or 800-497-2688.

Remember to print off or save your receipt when the order is completed; this will be your confirmation.

For overnight camp sessions, you will receive information about creating or updating your Campdoc profile. Campdoc is a secure platform to provide necessary health information about your camper.

For overnight, troop/family camp and day programs, you will receive an information packet from the camp staff four weeks prior to the program start day.

If you have questions about the registration process, please contact the Help Desk at helpdesk@gshom.org or 1-800-497-2688.

Troop/Family Camp Registration Form







Why Wait Until June?!

There are opportunities to attend Camp all through the year. Come to camp as a troop for an overnight or day trip, or attend one of our programs as a Juliette! Camp Merrie Woode, Camp Linden, and Camp O' the Hills have opportunities to attend year-round!

Overnight Trips

Weekends spent at camp are a great way for troops to bond, step outside their comfort zone, and make lasting memories. Camp staff can customize your troop's weekend to make sure that you have an amazing time! You can work on badges in your lodge or make progress on Outdoor Badges with our camp staff. You can also take part in high-adventure activities, like climbing wall, archery, and hiking!

Ways to Come to Camp



Scan to find out more



Day trips are a fantastic way for troops to have a camp adventure! Enjoy fun camp activities, as well as make progress towards Outdoor Badges. The camp staff will support you throughout your entire stay, all you must do is pay for activities, bring a bagged lunch if you are at Camp Linden or Camp Merrie Woode, and be ready to have a blast! If you are going to Camp O' The Hills, you can add meals to your stay. **Note:** The day use fee is waived for groups that book adventures!

| Activity | Grade | Camp Linden | Camp Merrie Woode | Camp O' the Hills | |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Archery | 2nd - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Air Rifles | 2nd - 12th | N/A | year-round | year-round | |
| BB Gun | 2nd - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Boating | K- 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Outdoor Climbing Wall | 4th - 12th | spring to fall | spring to fall | N/A | |
| Indoor Climbing Wall | 2nd – 12th | N/A | year-round | N/A | |
| Cross Country Skiing | 2nd - 12th | N/A | N/A | weather permitting | |
| Fire Building | K - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Hatchet Throwing | 6th - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Horseback Riding | 2nd - 12th | designated days in summer | designated days in summer | N/A | |
| Knife & Knot Skills | 2nd - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Nature Hike | K - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Sledding | K - 12th | weather permitting | weather permitting | weather permitting | |
| Slingshot | K - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Snowshoeing | K - 12th | weather permitting | weather permitting | weather permitting | |
| Swimming | K - 12th | summer | summer | TBD | |
| Team Building | K - 12th | year-round | year-round | year-round | |
| Tree Sap Tapping | K - 12th | N/A | N/A | late winter early spring | |

Don't Forget!



- Sunscreen*
- Bug spray*
- Jacket

Sweatshirt or sweater

- Pants**/Shorts
- Shirts
- Underwear (and a couple extra!)
- Socks (and a couple extra!)

Pajamas

- Two pairs of sturdy shoes***
- Water shoes
- Swimsuit
- Beach towel
- Rain gear
- Brimmed hat
- Mess kit
- Bag for wet clothing
- Shower bag
- Flashlight and batteries
- Toiletries
- Towels and washcloth
- Soap
- Hair care products
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Hairbrush
- Lip balm
- Sanitary products
- Shower shoes (flip flops)
- Hair ties
- Sleeping bag or bedroll
- Pillow and pillowcase
- Twin size bed sheet set

Summer Camp **Packing List**

Packing for camp? We can't wait to see you! The following is an outline of the essentials you will need to bring! A more detailed list will be included in the info packet you receive prior to your camp session.



*Non-Aerosol ** Pants are required for horseback riding. Pants or knee-length shorts are required for climbing wall. ***Closed-toed shoes are required for certain activities such as horseback riding, climbing wall, and all target sports. Shoes with incomplete



1. Who can attend Girl Scout camp?

All campers must be registered Girl Scout members, but you do not need to have any previous Girl Scout experience to attend Girl Scout Camp! If you aren't a member yet, you can become one while registering for camp! At GSHOM camps, we strive to create a welcoming, equitable, and inclusive environment. Our goal is to empower all youth, regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, religion, sexuality, or gender identity and ensure that all campers have a great camp experience.

2. Who are the counselors and staff?

We know that a strong camp staff team is essential in making your camper's experience great; that's why we work hard to hire and train excellent camp staff who are passionate about working with youth in the outdoors and are excited to spend their summer with your campers! Before camp begins, all camp staff undergo two weeks of intensive staff training to make sure they are well-equipped to guide your camper through their camp experience. All counselors must be 18 years old or older and/or have graduated high school. To ensure your camper's safety, all staff are background checked and must have current first aid and CPR certification.

3. Where will my camper stay?

We have multiple accommodation types at each of our camps. Accommodation type is listed with each camp program, so you can get an idea of where you'll be staying from the moment you register. Our lodges are fully enclosed buildings, generally with electricity and plumbing, that sleep anywhere from 8-36 people. Three-season cabins are small wooden structures that have screens with canvas coverings for windows and no electricity. The tents at camps are platform tents which consist of a canvas covering over a wooden platform. Each tent and three-season cabin sleeps four people. Campers in all types of lodging will have their own cot or share a bunk bed. All campers staying in tent or three-season units will have access to latrines and/or shower houses. You will get your specific unit assignment when you arrive at camp.

4. What will my camper do?

The activities that your camper does will depend on the program they sign up for and their individual interests! At GSHOM, we strive to make camp as girl-led as possible; this means that campers are able to choose the activities they participate in each day to build their own experience!

Activities offered at camp include high-adventure areas such as archery, climbing wall, BB guns, and hatchet throwing; aquatics activities, including swimming and boating; arts and crafts (including tie dye!); outdoor skills; games; and team-building activities.

5. Can I talk to or visit my camper while they are at camp?

You are welcome to write letters or notes to your camper both before and during their time at camp! Your camper is also able to write letters home. We deliver mail to campers and send out mail from campers daily. Since we are a technology-free camp, however, you will not be able to call or text your camper. Since our policy allows our campers to fully engage in their time at camp and have the best possible experience with minimal distractions, visiting campers is not allowed. In case of an emergency during camp you can reach out to the Camp Director.

6. What if my camper is missing home?

Missing home is a perfectly normal thing for campers of all ages to experience. Being away from home for an extended period of time can be challenging, but it is also a great opportunity to learn, grow, and gain independence! All our staff are trained extensively on how to work with campers who are missing home. We strive to make sure that every camper is heard and supported so that they will have the best camp experience possible!

7. What if my camper has dietary restrictions or is a picky eater?

Our kitchen staff are able to cater to a variety of dietary needs! Please make sure to note all dietary restrictions during registration and when filling out your camper's CampDoc profile. You will also be able to speak to a staff member during check-in to confirm that the kitchen is aware of your child's needs or discuss any additional concerns. Kitchen staff and your camper's counselors will be made aware of any restrictions or allergies to ensure that your child is properly taken care of and always has something to eat!

8. How will my camper get their medication at camp?

All medicine at camp is securely stored and distributed by the camp's Health Officer. All medications (including over-the-counter medicines and supplements) must be brought to camp in their original packaging and turned in to the Health Officer at check-in. Please note all medications, including dosage and time(s) taken, on your camper's CampDoc profile. Your camper's counselors and the Health Officer will be made aware of your camper's medication schedule and ensure that they receive all needed medications. Emergency medications such as epi-pens or inhalers will be kept with your camper's counselor or another trained staff member who is with them at all times.

9. What if my camper gets sick or injured?

All staff are trained in first aid and CPR to ensure your camper's safety. Our Health Officer also obtains CPR and First Aid for the Professional Rescuer or equivalent certification to be able to treat and handle a variety of medical situations. All health and safety policies are developed in direct coordination with our on-call physician. Parents and guardians will be notified in case of severe illness or injury.

10. Can my camper bring their phone to camp?

Our camps are technology-free in order for campers to fully engage with their time at camp. We understand that it can be challenging to be away from the technology that we are used to, but we believe that it is an important part of the camp experience. Being technology-free eliminates outside distractions and stressors and allows campers to make meaningful connections and memories. Campers are not permitted to bring phones, smart watches, tablets, or similar devices. Medical exceptions may apply with Camp Director approval.

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Overnight Camp Refund Policy

Our hope is always that you find a session or two (or three!) that works for you and your family. At the time of registration, a \$100 non-refundable deposit is due.

If you cancel your registration more than four weeks prior to your camp start date, you will be refunded all but your \$100 deposit.

If you cancel your registration within four weeks of your camp start date, you will not receive a refund.

Weekend and day program cancellations require two weeks' notice to be eligible for a refund.

Cookies to Camp Program!

May 1st through June 18th, 2024

Let the Girl Scout Cookie Program bring you to camp! Girl Scouts who would like to experience the great outdoors can earn camp credit through the Girl Scout Heart of Michigan Cookies to Camp program.

This unique program will be available May 1 through June 18, 2024.

Girl Scouts participate in the Cookies to Camp Program on an individual basis. Girls earn \$1.15 for every package sold, which is received on a Cookies to Camp card. This card is used towards their Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan summer camp adventures! Join us at the Camp Open House, April 27 from 1 pm-4 pm to pick up your Cookies to Camp packet. You may also get started by following this link to join our Cookies to Camp program to receive your packet electronically.



Cookies to Camp credits expire September 1st, 2024.

225 boxes = One week of Day Camp! **520 boxes** = One week of Overnight Camp!

Your guide to decoding camp lingo

All Camp Activity: An activity that we do all together as a camp. An All Camp is sometimes a giant game we play and sometimes consists of different stations where we try out different activities. Some of our favorite All Camp games include Gold Rush and Alpha Wolf.

Camper Choice: Activity blocks where campers get to choose which activity they would like to participate in given 2-4 activity options.

Camp Name: Names that folks go by at camp that are different from their names outside of camp. Camp names are a Girl Scout Tradition and help create the magical environment we all have come to love. Did you know Juliette Gordon Low's camp name was Daisy?

Counselor in Training (CIT): A CIT is a high school aged camper who is learning all about leadership skills at camp and how to be a camp counselor. They get hands on experience by shadowing other camp staff. CITs often help lead games and songs while at camp and are seen as leaders.

Junior Counselor (JC): A JC is a high school aged volunteer who has completed the CIT I & II programs. They live in units and help out staff at activity areas during summer camp.

Kapers: Kapers are tasks we do to take care of our camps. Each day, we complete these kapers with our unit. Some examples of kapers are taking a trash hike, helping feed the horses, setting the tables for meals, and leading flag ceremonies.

Turtle Time: Turtle time is our rest hour each day. At camp, we are very active, so we have to make sure to set some time aside to rest and recharge each day. This typically happens after lunch and is a great time to read a book, make a friendship bracelet, or take a quick nap.

Campfire: Campfire is a time where we come together as a camp to sing songs and watch silly skits while enjoying a beautiful fire. Campfires typically happen at the beginning of the week and the end of the week.

Cookout: Cookout is a meal that you get to make with your unit over a campfire that you all build together. This is a great time to bond with your unit and create some fun campfire meals!

Hoppers: Hopper are the campers who set the tables before a meal and help clean up after the meal. Hoppers are assigned as kapers each day.

Gaga Ball: Gaga ball is one of our favorite games at Camp Linden. It is a variant of dodgeball that we play in a gaga pit. The game combines dodging, striking, running, and jumping, with the objective of being the last person standing. Players hit the ball at each other with their hands and are eliminated if the ball strikes them on or below the knee. The game can be played by a group of individual players or with teams, as well as in one-on-one matches.

Camp Ranger: Camp Rangers are staff who help take care of camp maintenance. Be sure to say hello when you see them on camp!

Units: Units are what we call groups of campers who all live in the same place.

Pathways: This is a new program that gives campers the opportunity to dive deeper into the camp activity of their choosing. Every All Around camper attending a full-week session will get the chance to choose a pathway for their time at camp. Each day, one activity block will be focused on the chosen pathway, giving campers the chance to learn, practice, and grow their skills while working towards a badge in that area! Pathway options include boating, archery, outdoor skills, arts, and camp sampler for campers that want to try a bit of everything. Additional specialty pathways may also be offered.

Trading Post: Retail shops specially located at each GSHOM camp!



Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan 2024 Camper Care Kits

Kits will be delivered to your camper the first day of camp.

Camp Linden

Beginner Camper Care Kit: \$35

Basic Mess Kit in a mesh bag (plate, bowl, cup, fork, spoon, knife) • Flashlight • Camp Linden water bottle • Camp Linden bucket hat • Exclusive camp patch • Drawstring bag

Memories Camper Care Kit: \$35

Camp Linden picture frame, (4" x 6") • Camp Linden autograph pillowcase w/sharpie • Camp Linden journal & pen • Six postcards and stamps • Exclusive camp patch • Drawstring bag

Horse Camp Camper Care Kit: \$35

Camp Linden horse bandana • Camp Linden horse plush • Horse bracelet • Horse book • Horse socks • Exclusive camp patch • Drawstring bag

Adventure Camper Care Kit: \$40

Camp Linden water bottle • Camp Linden bandana for tie-dying • Camp Linden carabiner • Camp Linden hat • Exclusive camp patch • Sling bag

Camp Merrie Woode (CMW)

Beginner Camper Care Kit: \$35

Basic Mess Kit in a mesh bag (plate, bowl, cup, fork, spoon, knife) • Flashlight • CMW water bottle • CMW bucket hat • Exclusive camp patch • Drawstring bag

Memories Camper Care Kit: \$35

CMW picture frame, holds a 4" x 6" photo • CMW autograph pillowcase w/ sharpie • CMW journal & pen • Six postcards and stamps • Exclusive camp patch • Drawstring bag

Horse Camp Camper Care Kit: \$35

Camp Merrie Woode horse bandana • CMW Horse plush • Horse bracelet • Horse book • Horse socks • Exclusive camp patch • Drawstring bag

Adventure Camper Care Kit: \$40

Camp Merrie Woode water bottle • CMW bandana for tie-dying • CMW carabiner • CMW hat • Exclusive camp patch • Sling bag



Create your own Camper Care Kit: \$35+

Stop in at any of the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Regional Center Shops, or Camp Trading Posts, to create a one of a kind camper care kit for your camper. Choose camp items, fun items including books and activity kits. Spend at least \$35.00 and receive a sturdy Girl Scout drawstring bag. This camper care kit will be delivered to your camper at any of Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Regional Centerrun day or overnight camps.

Camper Care kits are so much fun to receive!

Camps at-a-Glance

| Program | Grades | Week 1 6/30-7/3 | Week 2 7/7-7/12 | Week 3 7/14-7/19 | Week 4 7/21-7/26 | Week 5 7/28-8/2 | Week 6 8/4-8/9 |
|----------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| All Around | 2-12 | | | | | | |
| All Around Mini | 1-8 | | | | | | |
| Horse Mini | 2-6 | | | | | | |
| Horseback Riding Level 1 | 2-8 | | | | | | |
| Horseback Riding Level 2 | 4-10 | | | | | | |
| Horseback Riding Level 3 | 6-12 | | | | | | |
| Horseback Riding Level 4 | 8-12 | | | | | | |
| Backpacking Excursion | 6-12 | | | | | | |
| Paddle Excursion | 6-12 | | | | | | |
| Junior Rangers | 4-8 | | | | | | |
| Teen Takeover Mini | 6-12 | | | | | | |
| Life Skills | 6-12 | | | | | | |
| You Can't Do That at Camp! | 4-8 | | | | | | |
| Leadership 101 | 8-10 | | | | | | |
| CIT 1 | 10-12 | | | | 4 | | |
| CIT 2 | 11-12 | | | | | | |
| Night Owl | 4-8 | | | | | | |
| Night Owl Mini | 4-8 | | | | | | |
| Wild About Woodworking | 4-8 | | | | | | |

💧 Camp Linden

Camp Merrie Woode









EMERGENT





🔇 JACKSON[®]

















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