



Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have remained focused on our #1 priority: keeping our Girl Scouts, their families, and our volunteers safe.

We know that everything looks different this school year, but Girl Scouts can help provide a sense of connection and normalcy for our girls. The current New Mexico Public Health Order effective October 16 prohibits groups of more than 5. While we understand the importance of girls meeting with their friends in person and participating in outdoor activities, we need to remember that we do not want to contribute in any way to a reversal of New Mexico's general containment of this pandemic. As we have seen all around us, everyone has a different idea and level of comfort regarding pandemic-era activities. There is no one answer-fits-all solution.

We continue to encourage and promote virtual and at-home programming as the safest option. Our virtual and at-home programming has been well received by our girls and we are working hard to provide an extraordinary experience.

We will continue to allow Troop Leaders to use their best judgement on planning any in-person activities as long as they meet the state health orders and Safety-Wise adult requirements. We will also rely on parents and caregivers to make the ultimate decision on whether it is in their girl's best interest to allow her to participate in any in-person activities.

Any troop planning an in-person meeting or activity is required to submit an Activity Notification Form for approval five days in advance of the activity. We will also require that any girls and adult who do participate in an in-person meeting or activity complete and submit a COVID Pre-Screening Questionnaire in advance of participating in the activity. Because the health and safety of everyone is our top priority, if you are feeling sick at all, you should not attend in-person activities.

It has never been more important to remember that Girl Scouting is not just what we do, it is about who we are.

We are not yet meeting in-person for council events, but as good Girl Scouts, we're using this crisis as an opportunity to try new things and new ways to deliver the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Please refer to our [Fall Program Catalog](#) (mailed to you in September), [events calendar](#) on NMGirlScouts.org, and our [Facebook page](#) for more virtual programming opportunities in the near future!

With these thoughts in mind, we will continue to listen closely to your suggestions and carefully monitor events both inside Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails and within our larger community.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we all work together to ensure the health and safety of our communities.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Rebecca Latham
CEO
Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails