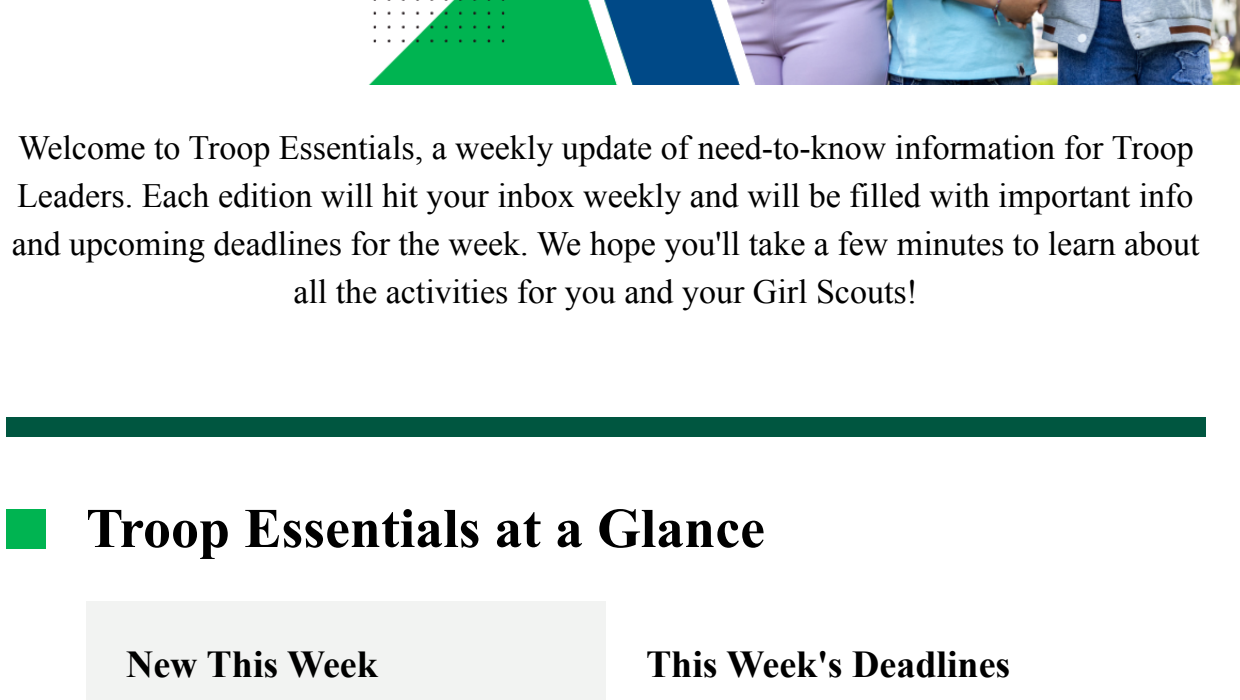




August 17, 2026



Welcome to Troop Essentials, a weekly update of need-to-know information for Troop Leaders. Each edition will hit your inbox weekly and will be filled with important info and upcoming deadlines for the week. We hope you'll take a few minutes to learn about all the activities for you and your Girl Scouts!

Troop Essentials at a Glance

New This Week	This Week's Deadlines
Council Announcements	Passport to Adventure Two Closes August 21
Program - Dice & Card League - Tabletop Guild	S'more to Learn: Volunteer Mentorship Closes August 22
Membership	Media Stars Santa Fe Closes August 24
Volunteers	
Fund Development	
La Tienda	
Product Program	
Community Announcements	
Previously Shared News	

Every Girl Scout has a story to tell. Share the moments that define your Girl Scout experience – the challenges you overcame, the friendships you forged, the positive impact you made. These Mission Moments inspire us all and are vital in helping us tell the Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails story on social media and in grant applications that support our mission.

[Share your Mission Moments here!](#)

Program

Dice & Card League | September 11

Cost: \$15	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on August 28
Dice & Card League is a monthly program for younger Girl Scouts who love board games, card games, teamwork, and friendly competition.	
Each session introduces girls to a variety of age-friendly games that build teamwork, problem-solving, communication, and confidence. From fast-paced card games to cooperative board adventures, participants learn how to think strategically, take turns, support their teammates, and celebrate wins together.	
Girls will rotate through different games each month, discovering new favorites while practicing skills like planning, adapting to challenges, and working as a group. The program keeps everything fun, accessible, and developmentally appropriate, making it a great entry point for girls who love games or want to try something new.	
Dice & Card League creates a welcoming, playful environment where Girl Scouts can connect with friends, build social skills, and enjoy the joy of tabletop gaming in a supportive setting.	

Who else should get this information: DBJ Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Tabletop Guild | September 11

Cost: \$15	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on August 28
The Tabletop Guild is a monthly meet-up for Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts who love storytelling, strategy, creativity, and collaborative adventures.	
Each session invites older Girl Scouts into the world of tabletop games—ranging from role-playing campaigns and cooperative strategy games to world-building challenges and character-driven quests.	
Guild members will explore leadership through gameplay: taking turns facilitating encounters, designing challenges, managing group dynamics, and practicing creative problem-solving. Sessions may include one-shot RPG adventures, campaign-building workshops, themed game nights, or opportunities to learn how to run a game as a youth facilitator.	
This program is perfect for Girl Scouts who enjoy imagination-driven experiences, narrative thinking, and building community with peers who share their interests. No prior tabletop experience is required—just curiosity, teamwork, and a willingness to dive into new worlds.	

Who else should get this information: CSA Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Girl Scouts Love State Parks | September 12

Cost: \$5	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on August 28
Join us for a day of hiking, wildlife discovery, nature activities, and outdoor adventures at participating parks across New Mexico.	
Participating parks: - Rio Grande Nature Center State Park - Hyde Memorial State Park - Cerrillos Hills State Park - Clayton Lake State Park	
☒ Special event patch included with registration.	
Visiting another state park instead? Event patches will be available in La Tienda .	
Come celebrate the outdoors with your troop, friends, and family while making memories and discovering the beauty of New Mexico's state parks!	

Who else should get this information: Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

New Mexico Summer Bucket List | Self-Guided

Cost: \$7	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on August 14
As summer winds down, we hope you've made plenty of unforgettable memories across the Land of Enchantment!	
The New Mexico Summer Bucket List gives Girl Scouts the chance to commemorate 100+ fun activities, explore their communities, take on regional challenges, and earn the GSNMT Summer Bucket List fun patch . Download the program booklet in MyGS and finish checking off your summer adventures before the season ends!	
Who else should get this information: Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers	
Contact: Customer Care	

Media Stars Santa Fe | August 27

Cost: FREE	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 5:00 p.m. on August 24
We're looking for northern NM Girl Scouts of all ages to join our upcoming content recording session in downtown Santa Fe.	
Participants should wear Girl Scout gear and bring their vest or sash. Adults are welcome to help during sessions, and recordings may be featured on social media.	
Who else should get this information: Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers	
Contact: Customer Care	

Membership

Chile Award Submissions are Now Open!

Troop volunteers and Juliette caregivers may submit nominations for the Chile Award. Service Unit Volunteers may submit nominations for the Service Unit Ristra Award.	Action Needed ☐ The Chile Award nomination forms are now available on our website!
All award submission forms are due by September 30, 2026 .	
Who else should get this message: Troop and Service Unit Leadership	
Contact: Customer Care	

Volunteers

New to Troop Leadership? Join Us!

S'more to Learn: Volunteer Mentorship is open to all troop leadership.	Action Needed ☐ Register for one (or both) of this month's sessions
This virtual series focuses on helping Girl Scout troop leaders build confidence, strengthen their skills, and connect with fellow volunteers.	August 22nd at 9 am August 26th at 5:30 pm.
Each month features a new topic with practical guidance and helpful takeaways for both new leaders and those looking to refresh the basics. To make participation easy, multiple sessions will be offered each month on the same theme. Every session will also include at least 30 minutes of open forum conversation and Q&A, giving you time to ask questions, share ideas, and learn alongside other troop leaders. This month's topic is tips and tricks for troop organization and running meetings.	
Who else should get this message: All new troop leadership	
Contact: Customer Care	

Volunteer Recognition Nominations Are Now Open Year-Round

You asked for nominations to open earlier so you could recognize outstanding volunteers throughout the year—and now you can. Volunteer award nominations are open year-round.	Action Needed ☐ Check out the Volunteer Recognition page
Nominations submitted by November 30 will be considered for recognition at the Celebration of Service and Success on April 17.	
Before submitting a nomination, please review the requirements for each award carefully. Be sure your nomination clearly explains how the volunteer meets the award criteria.	
You will also need email addresses for all endorsers. Each award lists the minimum number of endorsers required, but you may include additional endorsers if you would like.	
Who else should get this message: All members	
Contact: Customer Care	

La Tienda News & Promotions

La Tienda Hours This Week

La Tienda is open 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday & Wednesday, & Thursday this week.	Action Needed ☐ Contact us with your La Tienda needs
August Promotion: Get your troop ready for a new year of adventures with our Back to Troop Bundle at the Girl Scout La Tienda Shop!	
Choose Your Own Adventure! Customize your bundle with the items that best fit your troop's needs and kick off the new Girl Scout year prepared for fun, learning, and unforgettable memories.	
Stop by the La Tienda Shop this August to build your perfect bundle. We can't wait to help you get adventure-ready!	
Who else should get this message: Troop leadership, adult volunteers, and Girl Scout caregivers	
Contact: Customer Care	

Product Program

Getting Started with the 2026 Fall Product Program

The Fall Product Program will begin soon. Training for volunteers will be available in gsLearn for Fall Product Program Troop Chairs starting Monday, August 17th if their	Title ☐ Fall Product Program Chairs need to complete their forms to gain access to training
2026 Fall Product Program Troop Chair Agreement is submitted. Click here to complete the form. The Fall Product Program begins Friday, September 25th.	
Who else should get this message: Fall Product Program Troop Chairs	
Contact: Customer Care	

2026-2027 Product Program Calendar

Back to school means back to troop, and as your troop plans its Girl Scout year, remember to save these important product program dates.	Action Needed ☐ Share this calendar with other troop volunteers and families
Click here to check out the full 2026-2027 Product Program calendar, including dates for the Fall Product Program and Cookie Program. Dates for Cookie Reward experiences will be released on Tuesday, January 26, 2027.	
Who else should get this message: Troop Volunteers & Girl Scouts Families	
Contact: Product Program Team	

Community Announcements

The Land of Enchantment Young Ambassadors Program	Action Needed ☐ Learn more here
The Land of Enchantment Young Ambassador Program is seeking powerful youth entering their junior or Senior year in high school for the school year 2026-2027 to support the Governor's goal of cleaning New Mexico and enhancing the natural beauty of our state.	
Selected Ambassadors will participate throughout the school year, organizing community projects, and will work with a group of their peers on a statewide leadership and engagement project. Ambassadors are young people in their community who want to take leadership to educate and empower their community to be litter-free.	
Ambassadors will receive a \$3,000 participation stipend upon completion of the fellowship and projects. They will receive training in project management and community leadership and gain experience in leading projects.	

Beyond the Baseline

Beyond the Baseline serves the greater Albuquerque community, bringing hands-on learning through free life skills, academic enrichment, and tennis.	Action Needed ☐ Sign Up Here
August 15, 11 am - 1 pm: Show Me The Money! Introduction to saving your money for a great future powered by Nusenda	
August 29, 11 am - 1 pm: APD Canine Heroes Meet and learn from our canine heroes about the work they do every day to keep us safe	

Share Your Upcoming Events & Projects

Do you have an upcoming event or project that you'd like to share with all Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails troops/members?	Action Needed ☐ Contact us
Send us your information to be included in future Troop Essentials emails!	
Who else should get this message: Troop and Service Unit Leadership	
Contact: Katrina Montoya	

Previously Shared News

August 10, 2026 - Girl Scouts Love State Parks - New Mexico Summer Bucket List - Media Stars Santa Fe - Chile Awards Open! - New to Troop Leadership? Join Us! - Volunteer Recognition Nominations Are Now Open Year-Round - Back to Troop Bundles - Getting Started with the 2026 Fall Product Program - The Land of Enchantment Young Ambassadors Program - Beyond the Baseline	August 3, 2026 - Curious Cats! - LEGO Club - Passport to Adventure Two - Celebrate 110 Years of Girl Scouting in New Mexico! 2026-2027 Product Program Calendar
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Visit the [Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails website](#) for more information and upcoming events.

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Have a question or need assistance?
[Contact us](#) for more information.

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