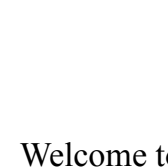




May 18, 2026



# TROOP ESSENTIALS



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

[Council Announcements](#)  
• Office Closure: Memorial Day

### Program

- Backcountry Basics
- Hiking Adventure Club: Clovis
- Brick by Brick: The Ultimate LEGO Engineering Challenge
- Playing the Past at Las Golindrin
- Outdoor Explorer Day Camp

### Membership

- Introducing Khaki Crew
- Membership Office Hours

### Volunteers

#### La Tienda

- NOTE: La Tienda will be open on Thursday, May 21st, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### Product Program

#### Community Announcements

- Service Unit 156 Donation Drive

#### Previously Shared News

### This Week's Deadlines

[Sports+Girls/Pitching for Change Self-Guided Patch Packet](#)

Registration closes May 22

[Clay & Coffee: Trinket Studio](#)

Registration closes May 22

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!](#)

## Council Announcements

### Office Closure: Memorial Day

Our offices will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day. Normal business hours will resume on Tuesday, May 26, 2026.

#### Note

- Normal Tuesday hours are 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### We're Hiring!

Are you or someone you know interested in working for Girl Scouts? Click the link below for more details on career opportunities, including two New Member

#### Action Needed

- [Apply to work](#) with Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails today!

Engagement Manager positions and an Associate Director of Strategic Partnerships & Community Engagement.

**Who Else Should Get This Message:** Anyone Interested in Making a Difference in the Lives of New Mexico Girls

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

### Badge Bash

Join us September 19, 2026, for Badge Bash, an unforgettable 21+ camp-inspired adventure where adults become Girl Scouts for the night.

#### Action Needed

- [Register your adult troop here!](#)

Badge Bash is more than an event; it's an interactive experience where our community celebrates leadership, creativity, and the power of girls.

Guests will form adult troops and travel from station to station, completing interactive badge challenges inspired by classic Girl Scout experiences. Along the way, participants earn badges, reconnect with or experience the joy of camp, and experience the impact of Girl Scouts firsthand.

**Who else should get this information:** Any adult interested in a fun evening with Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

## Program

### Backcountry Basics

Join us June 19-21 for a backpacking adventure to a primitive site near Camp Elliot Barker. You'll learn about packing, planning, and

#### Action Needed

- [Register here](#) by 5 p.m. on June 4

cooking while backpacking and learning about preventing and treating medical situations when you aren't near emergency services. This three-day course includes a *field guide, assessment documentation, two-year wilderness first aid (WFA) certification through the American Red Cross. This training requires the ability to hike a few miles with a backpack.*

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

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

### Hiking Adventure Club: Clovis

Lace up your boots and join the Hiking Club at Ned Houk Park in Clovis, NM! Explore scenic trails, make new friends, and enjoy the outdoors - one step at a time.

#### Action Needed

- [Register here](#) by Noon on June 5

We'll explore the winding trails and open spaces of Ned Houk Park, taking in views of native plants and the local landscape.

All experience levels welcome!

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

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

### Brick by Brick: The Ultimate LEGO Engineering Challenge

Get ready to compete, create, and engineer your way to victory!

#### Action Needed

- [Register here](#) by noon on June 5

In *Brick by Brick: The Ultimate LEGO Engineering Challenge*, CSA Girl Scouts will design structures that can survive disasters, work silently with a team to solve engineering puzzles, recreate famous landmarks under time pressure, build and pitch their own mini invention, and tackle a "final impossible piece" challenge for bonus points—all while earning points on a live leaderboard, strategizing with wildcards, and showing off their Pocket Build.

**Who Else Should Get This Message:** CSA Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts, & Their Caregivers

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

### Playing the Past at Las Golindrin

Hear ye, hear ye, Junior Girl Scouts of New Mexico. Come hither as we travel centuries back to earn the Playing the Past Badge on June 20th.

#### Action Needed

- [Register here](#) by noon on June 5

Before visiting, Juniors will decide on a character and create a costume using the provided self-guided Character Sheet. Then, upon arrival, Juniors will become their characters and explore life on a New Mexico ranch in the 18th century. By the end, Juniors will have experienced the daily life of a girl hundreds of years before them!

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

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

### Outdoor Explorer Day Camp: June 8-12

Girls step into nature with confidence as they explore trails, create nature-inspired art, and practice simple outdoor skills. Each day encourages curiosity, teamwork, and joyful discovery in the outdoors.

#### Action Needed

- [Register for Outdoor Explorer Day Camp here](#)
- [Learn more and register for Leadership Tracks here](#)

Come ready for engaging conversations, fun activities, and a supportive space to grow and shine.

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

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

## Membership

### Introducing Khaki Crew (Working title!)

We're launching a new, council-wide leadership collective for Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors who want to help shape the future of Girl Scouting in New Mexico.

#### Action Needed

- CSAs apply [here](#) by August 30th

Because this group is girl-led from the start, members will help choose the final name; your voice matters from day one.

Work with older Girl Scouts from across the state to share ideas, build leadership skills, and represent youth voices council-wide. Members advise on programs and events, connect with peers, and collaborate with council staff through hands-on experiences and training.

If you're entering grades 6-12 and love brainstorming, planning, and making a difference, we'd love to have you.

**Who else should get this information:** CSA Girl Scouts and their caregivers

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

### Membership Office Hours

Have questions about renewing your membership? Need to get ready for the year ahead? Not sure how to fill out your Troop YEAR?

#### Action Needed

- Use Meeting ID: 817 1100 9971 to [join via Zoom](#)

Join us on Zoom for Membership Office Hours on 5/27/26 from 6:00–7:30 PM. Membership staff will be on hand to answer all your membership questions. Drop in anytime!

**Who else should get this information:** Anyone with membership questions

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

## Volunteers

### New Behavior Management gsLearn Course

Girl Scout adults make troop time fun, welcoming, and unforgettable. This course helps volunteers and staff create safe, inclusive spaces filled with excitement and adventure while building confidence to handle behavior challenges that arise.

#### Action Needed

- Check out the new course [here!](#)

With practical tips and easy-to-use strategies, adults are empowered to keep troop time positive and help every Girl Scout shine.

Who else should get this message: Troop Leadership

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

## La Tienda News & Promotions

### La Tienda Hours This Week

La Tienda is open Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. this week.

#### Action Needed

- [Contact us](#) with your La Tienda needs

**NOTE: La Tienda will be open on Thursday, May 21st, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

**May Promotion:** 2026 Kindergarten, High School, College, & Trade School Grades take 20% off for May! We celebrate your dedication to your education!

Represent your Girl Scout Sisterhood! Don't forget your cords, stole, and tassel for graduation day and graduation photos!

**Birthday Club:** Stop by La Tienda during your birthday month to receive your birthday fun patch!

**Who else should get this message:** Troop leadership, adult volunteers, and Girl Scout caregivers

**Contact:** [Customer Care](#)

## Product Program

### Cookie ACH Complete

Troop Cookie ACH withdrawals and deposits were processed as of Monday, April 20th. Please monitor your troop's bank account to ensure the correct amount was withdrawn or deposited.

#### Action Needed

- Please monitor your troop's bank account and inform us of any issues with withdrawals.

If there are any issues, please email [customercare@nmgirlscouts.org](mailto:customercare@nmgirlscouts.org) immediately. We are processing troop bonus payments and Service Unit payments the week of April 27th.

**Who Else Should Get This Message:** Troop Cookie Chairs and Troop Treasurers

**Contact:** [Product Program Team](#)

## Community Announcements

### Service Unit 156 Donation Drive

Service Unit 156 is hosting a period product donation drive benefiting *A Light in the Night*, a charity that supports homeless women, men, and children.

#### Action Needed

- For questions or to coordinate drop-off near Cottonwood Mall, please [email Anna Cummings](#) or call 505-417-2273.

Leaders are encouraged to share this information with their families, and collection

boxes may be set up at places of business, schools, or places of worship.

Requested donations include pads, tampons, feminine hygiene wipes, individual factory-sealed packets of ibuprofen or Pamprin, and small chocolates to include in care boxes.

Donations are being accepted through June 8. Items may be delivered to Anna Cummings near Cottonwood Mall or placed in the donation box located at council.

**Who else should get this message:** Troop and Service Unit Leadership

**Contact:** [Katrina Montoya](#)

### 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

### May 11, 2026

- AANHPI Heritage Month Free Self-Guided Patch Program
- NOTE: La Tienda Open Saturday, May 16
- Service Unit 156 Donation Drive

### May 4, 2026

- Ohana! A Girl Scout Experience
- Hook & Needle Yarn Club
- Clay & Coffee: Trinket Studio
- Sports+Girls/Pitching for Change
- New Behaviour Management gsLearn Course
- Troop Year End Activity Report (YEAR) Now Open
- NOTE: La Tienda Closed Saturday, May 9
- May La Tienda Promotion: Graduates Receive 20% Off in May

**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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