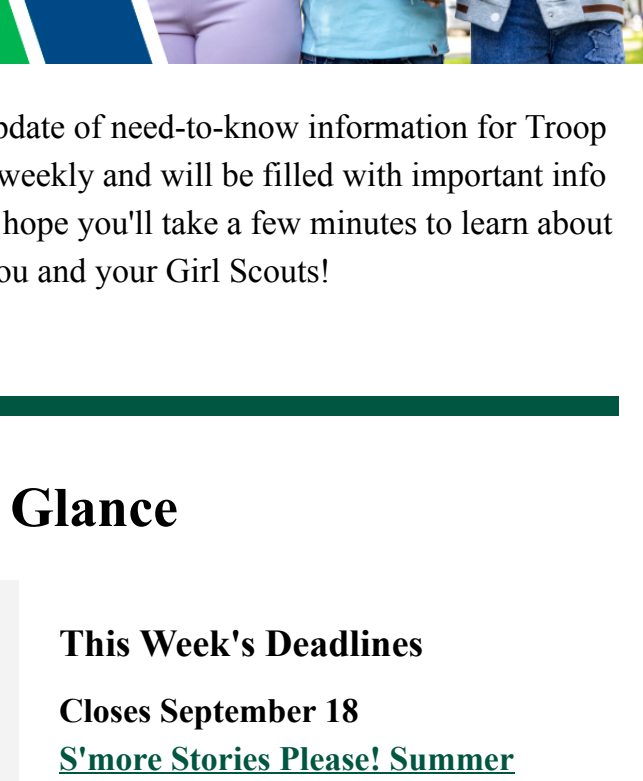




September 14, 2026



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	This Week's Deadlines
Council Announcements - Last Chance: Girl Member of the Board of Directors Application Program - Panem Project: Survive & Thrive - Girl Scouts of Panem: The Hunger Games Movie - Spooktacular Trunks & Treats - Bracketology: Hockey Membership Volunteers Fund Development La Tienda - Closure for Inventory Product Program - Host a Fall Product Rally for Your Troop & Earn a Free Patch Community Announcements - Annual Catholic Scouting Mass Previously Shared News	Closes September 18 S'more Stories Please! Summer Book Club (Self-Guided) Daisy Petal Series (Virtual) Helping Hands, Living Heritage (Santa Fe) Closes September 19 S'more to Learn: Troop Organizations & Meetings (Virtual)

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

Last Chance: Girl Member of the Board of Directors Application

Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails is seeking a passionate, thoughtful, and dedicated 9th, 10th, or 11th-grade Girl Scout to serve as a Girl Member on the Board of Directors .	Action Needed ☐ Apply here by 5:00 p.m. on September 18
This is a unique opportunity to make a lasting impact while learning how organizations operate and how leaders work together to create positive change.	
Her voice matters. Her leadership matters. Apply today!	
Who else should get this information: Senior & Ambassador Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

SAVE THE DATE: Annual Meeting | November 14

Join us on November 14, 2026, at the Berna Facio Professional Development Center, 3315 Louisiana Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110, for the Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails Annual Meeting.	Action Needed ☐ Watch for additional details and registration information coming soon!
Who else should get this information: Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Program

Panem Project: Survive & Thrive | October 13

Cost: \$10 per Girl Scout	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on September 25
The Panem Project is a five-part virtual Girl Scout rebellion. This is not a homework-style book club; it's strategy, storytelling, resilience, and district drama.	
Join one session or rise through the full rebellion from the Reaping to the Mockingjay.	
In Survive & Thrive , our first high-energy virtual challenge night, JCSA Girl Scouts will test their survival instincts through arena-inspired games, resilience missions, teamwork challenges, and leadership decisions under pressure. Girls will explore confidence, preparedness, observation skills, and what it means to stay strong when everything feels impossible.	
Includes one live virtual experience plus optional at-home missions for girls who want to complete badge requirements (no recording).	
Who else should get this information: Volunteers, Girl Scouts & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Girl Scouts of Panem: The Hunger Games | October 17

Cost: \$15 per girl, \$5 per adult	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on October 2
Do you volunteer as Tribute? Council is excited to welcome our Tributes—Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors—to Girl Scouts of Panem, a virtual book and movie club!	
Join us at The Capitol (Council Office) on October 17th from 6-9 PM for the inaugural screening of <i>The Hunger Games</i> as we kick off this thrilling series inspired by the beloved books and films.	
Whether you are a longtime fan of the Hunger Games Universe or experiencing the story for the first time, this event is the perfect opportunity to gather with fellow Girl Scouts for an evening of adventure, discussion, and movie magic. Participants are encouraged to come dressed in their district colors or Hunger Games-inspired attire for added fun!	
Who else should get this information: JCSA Troop Leaders, Girl Scouts & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Spooktacular Trunks & Treats | October 24

Cost: FREE	Action Needed ☐ Sign Up Here to decorate a trunk!
Girl Scouts, families, and friends are invited to decorate their car trunks in creative, colorful, or delightfully spooky themes—then share sweet treats with trick-or-treaters in true style.	
We are turning our parking lot into a spooky alleyway.	
Girl Scouts will get a special spooky patch!	
Highlights: Trunk Decorating Contest – Show off your troop spirit with creative themes! Food Alley- Get your grub on with Tacos and spooky treats Costume Contest – Wear your silliest, sparkliest, or spookiest outfit. Fun & Games – Halloween crafts, photo ops, and more!	
Tip: Keep decorations and costumes friendly for all ages—spooky but not scary.	
Who else should get this information: Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts, & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Bracketology: Hockey | November 2

Who will take home international hockey glory? Girl Scouts and their families follow the action of the 2026 IIHF Women's World Championship. Special thanks to Chevron for helping make this program possible.	Action Needed ☐ Register here by noon on October 16
Join Girl Scouts and their families for the next installment of Scout Bracketology as we follow the 2026 IIHF Women's World Championship. Across three live Zoom sessions, participants will learn how tournament brackets work, make predictions, analyze matchups, and follow the journey of ten national teams competing for a world title.	
Along the way, we'll explore the fascinating science and innovation behind the game. Discover how ice conditions affect performance, why hockey equipment is designed the way it is, how players generate incredible speed and power, and how data helps teams make decisions during competition. Through fun challenges, prediction activities, and hands-on demonstrations using everyday materials, participants will see how science, technology, engineering, and problem-solving play an important role in the sport.	
Who else should get this information: Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts, & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Me & My Scout at Camp Elliott Barker | October 10-11

Cost: \$40 per girl, \$45 per leader	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on September 25
Step into the enchanted woods at Camp Elliott Barker for a weekend filled with Forest Magic. Wander sun-dappled trails, craft woodland keepsakes, learn outdoor skills, and share campfire stories under starry skies.	
A cozy, wonder-filled retreat designed to help pairs reconnect and experience the magic of the mountains together. Now open to all Girl Scouts and their special gal!	
Who else should get this information: Troop Leadership & Girl Scout Caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Daisy Petal Series | October 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29

Cost: \$20	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on September 18
Join Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails for a special five-part Virtual Daisy Petal Series designed just for Kindergarten and 1st grade girls!	
Over five fun and interactive Zoom sessions, Daisies will explore the Girl Scout Law, make new friends, and earn all their Daisy petals.	
Each week, girls will discover new ways to be courageous, kind, and helpful while completing activities that bring the Daisy petals to life.	
Whether your Daisy is brand-new to Girl Scouts or continuing her journey, this series is a fun and welcoming way to grow in sisterhood and spirit.	
Who else should get this information: Daisy Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Helping Hands, Living Heritage | October 3

Cost: FREE	Action Needed ☐ Register here by 12:00 p.m. on September 18
Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors are invited to volunteer at El Rancho de las Golondrinas' Annual Harvest Festival in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.	
Through service, girls will earn a Volunteer Patch and complete steps towards the GSNMT Hispanic Heritage Patch and the GSUSA Hispanic Heritage Patch while participating in a memorable, hands-on community event rooted in New Mexico's Hispanic history.	
Who else should get this information: Junior, Cadette, Senior & Ambassador Troop Leadership, Girl Scouts & their caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Membership

Don't Let Your Program Credits Expire!

Program credits earned during the 2025-2026 year have been extended! You now have until September 30, 2026 to use them.	Action Needed ☐ Don't miss out—check out the events calendar, find an experience you'll enjoy, and register today!
Who else should get this message: All Caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Activity Notification Reminder

As the new troop year gets underway, please remember to submit an Activity Notification for any troop events that take place outside of your regular meeting time or location.	Action Needed ☐ Review Safety Activity Checkpoints & Submit Activity Notifications for your planned activities.
Submitting an Activity Notification helps ensure that you and your troop are covered under GSUSA insurance.	
Before planning any outings or activities, be sure to review the Safety Activity Checkpoints to make sure your plans meet all applicable safety requirements.	
Here's to a safe, successful, and fun troop year!	
Who else should get this message: All Caregivers Contact: Customer Care	

Bank Statements

Bank Statements are due!	Action Needed ☐ Please email statements to Customer Care
June, July, and August 2026 are due by September 30 to your membership staff person.	
Who else should get this message: Troop and Service Unit Leadership Contact: Customer Care	

Volunteers

Bronze & Silver Awards Deadline is September 30th

Is your Girl Scout working on the Bronze or Silver Award? Did she just start 6th or 9th grade?	Action Needed ☐ Reach out to Customer Care for more information on earning Girl Scouts' Highest Awards!
September 30th is the deadline for last year's 5th graders to submit their Bronze Award Final Report AND for last year's 8th graders to submit their Silver Award Final Report.	
Please email these to customercare@nmgirlscouts.org .	
Ready to start on your Bronze, Silver, or Gold Awards? Find the training on the last day of each month to register for and download the self-led training.	
Who else should get this message: Troop and Service Unit Leadership 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
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Back to school is the perfect time to stock up on Girl Scout and school essentials!

The La Tienda Shop has **memory books, notepads** and other fun and practical school essentials; we've got you covered!

Stop by the Girl Scout La Tienda Shop this September Promo to find items that will help your Girl Scout stay organized, inspired, and ready for a fantastic school year.

Who else should get this message: Troop leadership, adult volunteers, and Girl Scout caregivers
Contact: [Customer Care](#)

La Tienda Closed for Inventory September 18-30

We'll reopen and be back to regular shopping on October 1! Need something before the closure?	Action Needed ☐ Contact us with your La Tienda needs
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And if you're joining us for **Honoring Our Roots, Growing Our Future: 110 Years of Girl Scouts** on September 26, we'll have your order ready for pickup at the event!

Shop before the store closes: www.nmgirlscouts.org/shop

Who else should get this message: Troop leadership, adult volunteers, and Girl Scout caregivers
Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Product Program

Fall Product Q & A Sessions

Do you have questions about the Fall Product Program? Are you a Troop Chair who would like more information or is unsure about parts of the program? Join the Product Program Team for a MagNut Q&A Session. You can log on at any time during the Zoom session and do not need to stay for the whole session. Jump on, get your question answered, and jump off.	Action Needed ☐ Click here to jump on any Zoom session if you have questions or concerns. The passcode is Fall2026
The next session is Saturday, September 12th from 9 am to 10:30 am and Tuesday, September 15th from 6 pm to 7:30 pm. No registration is required.	
Who else should get this message: Troop Fall Product Chairs & Troop Leadership Contact: Product Program Team	

Maximize Your Troop's Fall Product Program Proceeds!

Great news! For the 2026 Fall Product Program, troops can choose <i>extra proceeds instead of rewards!</i>	Action Needed ☐ Click here for more information.
That means your troop could earn 18% of total sales —more funds for fun activities and adventures you decide together. And don't worry—Girl Scouts still get all the awesome patches they earn, including theme, specialty, and personalized patches. Talk with your troop and see if this option is the right fit for you!	
Who else should get this message: Fall Product Program Troop Chairs Contact: Product Program Team	

Community Announcements

Annual Catholic Scouting Mass

All Catholic Scouts and their families are invited to attend the Annual Catholic Scouting Mass at Risen Savior in Albuquerque on Saturday September 19, 2026.	Action Needed ☐ Register Here
During the Mass, awards that have been earned by Catholic Scouts over the past year will be conferred, followed by light refreshments. Scouts are invited to stay to attend the annual Catholic Scouting Retreat to earn additional patches and begin working on awards for conferral in 2027.	
Who else should get this message: Girl Scouts & Their Caregivers	

Service Opportunity: Women's Circle of Wishes High Tea

Troop 10711 would like to invite 7-8 senior and/or cadette Girl Scouts to join us as we serve tea and finger foods at the Make-A-Wish New Mexico Women's Circle of Wishes High Tea on Sunday, September 20th 10:30am-1:30pm. This is a special service opportunity and a wonderful chance for Girl Scouts to serve their community.	Action Needed ☐ Interested girls or troop leaders can contact Kaisi Ingersoll at (505)249-5814 or ingersollkaisi@gmail.com for more useful information and to coordinate participation.
practice hospitality and leadership skills, and be part of an event supporting Make-A-Wish and its mission of bringing hope and joy to children and their families.	
We look forward to making this a great service experience for Girl Scouts while helping make this event special for the guests and supporting an amazing cause.	

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
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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

September 9, 2026	August 31, 2026
- Leader Daughter Weekend at Camp Elliott Barker - Daisy Petal Series - Helping Hands, Living Heritage - Don't Let Your Program Credit Expire - Activity Notification Reminder - Don't Miss Out! Registration Closes September 11 at Noon! 20% Off All Planning Supplies - Fall Product Q & A Sessions - Maximize Your Troop's Fall Product Program Proceeds - Boots & Bows Dance	- Girl Scouts Love State Parks: Deadline Extended! - Hiking Adventure: Albuquerque - LEGO Club: Brick City - Welcome to a New Girl Scout Year - Bank Statements - Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange

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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