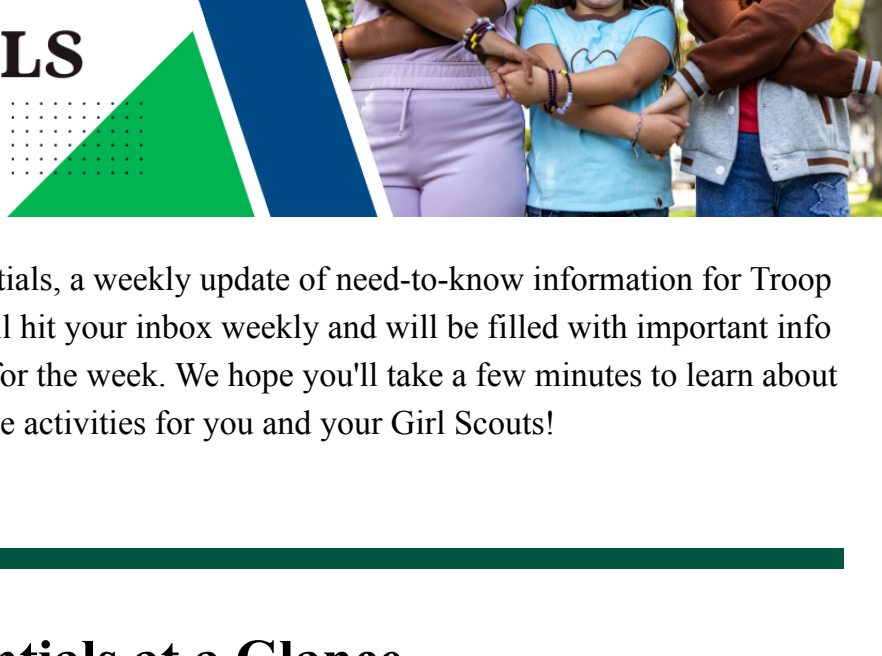


September 21, 2026



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](#)

[Program](#)

- Birds & Reptiles & Mammals, Oh My: Exploring NM Wildlife
- Pokemon Training
- Media Stars

[Membership](#)

[Volunteers](#)

[Fund Development](#)

[La Tienda](#)

[Product Program](#)

[Community Announcements](#)

- Adventure Awaits: Mexico 2027

[Previously Shared News](#)

This Week's Deadlines

Closes September 25

- [Survive & Thrive](#) (Virtual)
- [Me & My Scout Weekend](#) (Camp Elliott Barker)
- [Dice & Card League](#) (Albuquerque)
- [First Aid & CPR Training](#) (Albuquerque)

Closes September 30

- [S'more to Learn: Troop Organizations & Meetings](#) (Virtual)

Program

Birds & Reptiles & Mammals, Oh My: Exploring NM Wildlife | November 7

Cost: \$10 per Girl Scout, \$5 per adult

Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors – join GSNMT for an afternoon at the New Mexico Wildlife Center in Española on November 7th from 1-2 PM.

Through a guided tour, you will get to meet the wildlife of New Mexico while learning about animal rehabilitation and conservation.

The tour will last an hour, but girls are welcome to stay on-site afterwards to observe their favorite animal, eat a snack, or visit the gift shop. Girls will receive a special New Mexico Wildlife patch at the end of this program.

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

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ [Register here](#) by 12:00 p.m. on October 23

Calling all Girl Scout Trainers! Become an official Pokémon Trainer in this fun virtual Girl Scout adventure.

During this interactive experience, Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors will complete creative challenges to restore the Pokémon Trainer Academy after Team Rocket scrambles the system.

Girls will complete all requirements for one of the following badges:

- Daisy Outdoor Art Maker
- Brownie Inventor
- Junior Playing the Past

This high-energy virtual experience combines art, STEM, creativity, history, movement, and teamwork. Simple household supplies are needed, and badges will be mailed after the program.

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

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ [Register here](#) by 12:00 p.m. on October 16

Media Stars | October 29

Cost: FREE

Ready for your close-up? We're excited to invite Girl Scouts of all ages to participate in our Media Stars content recording sessions.

The October 29 session will take place in Albuquerque, with the exact location shared before the event. Space is limited to 12 participants, so sign up early for your chance to shine on camera! Participants should wear Girl Scout gear and bring their vest or sash for filming.

Parents, caregivers, and troop leaders are welcome to stay during the session, and we occasionally seek adult participants as well. Whether you're in front of the camera or helping behind the scenes, we'd love to have you be part of the experience.

Lights, camera, action! Join us and help inspire future Girl Scouts by sharing the fun, friendship, and leadership that make Girl Scouting unforgettable.

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

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ [Register here](#) by noon on October 23

Spooktacular Trunks & Treats | October 24

Cost: FREE

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](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ [Sign Up Here](#) to decorate a trunk!

Membership

Last Call for Chile Awards!

Chile Award submissions close on September 30, 2026!

The Chile Award nomination forms are available on our [website](#)!

- **Troop volunteers and Juliette caregivers** may submit nominations for the **Chile Award**.
- **Service Unit Volunteers** may submit nominations for the **Service Unit Ristra Award**.

All award submission forms are **due by September 30, 2026**.

Who else should get this message: All Caregivers

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ Submit your Chile Award Form today!

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?

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 customer care@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](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ Reach out to [Customer Care](#) for more information on earning Girl Scouts' Highest Awards!

La Tienda News & Promotions

La Tienda Hours This Week

La Tienda is CLOSED this week for Inventory

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

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Action Needed

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

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?

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

Contact: [Customer Care](#)

Action Needed

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

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.

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](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ [Click here to jump on any Zoom session](#) if you have questions or concerns. The passcode is Fall2026

Maximize Your Troop's Fall Product Program Proceeds!

Great news! For the 2026 Fall Product Program, troops can choose *extra proceeds instead of rewards!*

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](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ [Click here for more information.](#)

Community Announcements

Adventure Awaits: Mexico 2027!

Calling all Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors! Travel Troop 02020 is gearing up for an unforgettable international adventure to **Nuestra Cabaña, the Girl Scout World Centre in Cuernavaca, Mexico**, in July 2027.

We'll be attending the spectacular **Firefly Session**, where Girl Scouts from around the world come together for friendship, cultural exchange, leadership, and adventure. Join us for an informational Zoom meeting on **September 24 at 6:30 p.m.** to learn more about this once-in-a-lifetime experience and how you can be part of the journey!

[Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

Meeting ID 777 4774 8708

Passcode Cabana

Action Needed

- ☐ Questions? Please contact Nancy Wiggins at headcookie@aol.com

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?

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](#)

Action Needed

- ☐ [Contact us](#)

Previously Shared News

September 14, 2026

- Last Chance: Girl Member of the Board of Directors Application
- Panem Project: Survive & Thrive
- Girl Scouts of Panem: The Hunger Games Movie
- Spooktacular Trunks & Treats
- Bracketology: Hockey
- Closure for Inventory
- Annual Catholic Scouting Mass

September 9, 2026

- Me & My Scout Weekend
- 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

Visit the [Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails website](#) for more information and upcoming events.

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