

Great Girl Gathering Camporee

EVENT INFORMATION

Who: Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors

What: A Great Girl Gathering Teen Camporee

When: Friday May 15-17, 2020

Where: Girl Scout Camp Aquasco

Cost: \$50 per girl | \$40 per adult. See below for more information about financial assistance. Full payment is due at time of registration.

Registration Opens: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM (Midnight between Monday and Tuesday)

Financial Assistance:

- The financial aid request survey will be available prior to registration in early November.
- To apply for financial assistance, please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CamporeeFA>. Requests MUST be submitted at least FIVE business days prior to registering. Financial assistance requests are reviewed weekly.
- You will receive an email containing a financial aid code to use when registering only after your request has been reviewed and approved.
- If you have more than one girl/adult request please complete a separate request for each attendee.
- For questions about financial assistance, please contact Customer Care at 202-237-1670 or customercare@gscnc.org

Campsite Assignment

- The Camporee is a large-scale tent camping event, and campsites will be assigned based on troop size.
- Campsite space will be limited as campsites will be right next to each other.
- Smaller troops will likely be paired together to share a campsite. Groups of individual girls will share a campsite.

Tents

- Campers should try to borrow tents from friends, family, or other troops.
- Equipment Center Tent Rentals: Tents from the Equipment Center are now available for rent on a first come, first served basis. The Equipment Center will deliver rented tents to the Camporee.

Camp Latrines: The camp latrines will be available for use, as well as a number of portable bathrooms

Water Usage: Campers will draw water from sources located around camp and bring it back to their campsite to use

Food Service and Meals

- There will be no on-site cooking done at the Camporee. Troops will not have the ability to cook or store food at their campsites.
- Meals and snacks for all attendees will be prepared offsite and distributed from a central location in camp.
- The menu will be provided in early spring.

Dietary Restrictions

- We will provide vegetarian and gluten free options. We will also be prepared to accommodate common food allergies, such as nuts and dairy.
- Campers can communicate any food restrictions through the Attendance Survey sent in mid-winter. If we are unable to accommodate a request, you will be notified prior to the event.

Camp Program

- Girl Scouts will have the opportunity to take part in high adventure and outdoor-themed activities during the day on Saturday, as well as longtime favorite Girl Scout activities.
- Campers must register for some high adventure activities prior to attending as a part of the Attendance Survey.
- Saturday night activities will include a traditional Girl Scout campfire with songs, skits and s'mores.

What to Bring & What Not To Bring

- Campers should pack light and limit their gear to a minimum, due to the restraints of tent camping, transportation, and carrying their own gear to their campsite. Remember, the Camporee is only for two nights!
- A gear list will be available to registered attendees before the event.

Attending as a Troop

- Troops attending will need to have both a first aider and a Cookout/Campout qualified volunteer attend, as well as additional adults needed to cover the girl/adult camping ratio for their troop. These adults must be registered Girl Scout volunteers who have been background screened, and at least one of the adults must be female. The camping ratios, as outlined on page 14 of Volunteer Essentials, are as follows:
 - Girl Scout Cadettes – two adults for 20 girls, plus one more adult for every additional 10 girls.
 - Girl Scout Seniors & Ambassadors – two adults for 24 girls, plus one more adult for every additional 12 girls.
- Troops can bring one additional adult over the girl/adult ratio if needed for transportation purposes. Council reserves the right to cancel registration for any troop that registers more than one additional adult. Extra adult registration will take away spots for girls who want to attend.

Attending as an Individual Girl or as a Parent/Daughter Pair

- A limited number of spaces for individual girls (those not attending with a troop) and parent/daughter pairs will be available.
- Individual girls and girls in parent/daughter pairs will be grouped together to form a “troop” for the weekend, and parents in parent/daughter pairs will act as the “troop’s” adult supervision for the weekend.
- Parents in parent/daughter pairs need to be registered members of Girl Scouts. Parents should also indicate if they are a first aider or Cookout/Campout qualified volunteer on the Attendance Survey that will be sent this winter.
- If a lone girl would like to attend with a different troop than she is a member of, her parent should register her and she will be able to convey that information on the attendance survey. Similarly, if girls from an area teen group want to attend as a group, their parents should register them and they will be able to convey that information on the attendance survey.

Transportation Plan

- There are two options for transportation: *parking at an assigned location and taking a shuttle to camp or being dropped off and picked up directly at Camp Aquasco.*
- Campers choosing to drive and park will be assigned to park at Camp Winona or another location within a 10-mile radius of Camp Aquasco. Shuttle vehicles will pick up campers and their gear from offsite parking locations and transport them to Camp Aquasco.
- Once at camp, campers will carry their gear to their campsite.

Arriving at Camp

- All campers must arrive at their assigned location within one of two arrival windows, which you can indicate on the Attendance Survey: Friday evening from 6-9 PM (preferred) or Saturday morning from 7-9 AM

Preparing for the Camporee

- All adults and girls must be registered Girl Scouts at least 24 hours prior to registering for the Camporee. Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors are the only Girl Scout levels eligible to attend. For help registering as a Girl Scout, call 202-237-1670 or visit www.gscnc.org.
- Attendance Survey – The link to complete the attendance survey will be sent out this winter. This survey will collect more detailed information about each troop’s/individual girl’s/parent and daughter pair’s attendance, including any dietary restrictions, high adventure signups, etc. One adult per troop, parents of individual girls, and parents of parent/daughter pairs will need to complete an attendance survey.
- Outdoor Skills Day – After campers register for the Camporee, they are eligible to attend an optional free Outdoor Skills Day event. These will be held at different Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital camps on spring Sunday afternoons and will help prepare campers to attend the Camporee. Outdoor Skills Days attendees will learn about and practice setting up, caring for, and striking a tent, along with other skills needed for the Camporee weekend. The Outdoor Skills Days will also serve as an opportunity to get questions answered about attending the event.
- Aquasco Teen Encampment – This weekend camping event for Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors will be held on April 24-26th, 2020 at Camp Aquasco, a few weeks before the Camporee. The focus of the Aquasco Teen Encampment is “Honing Your Primitive Camping Skills”, and the encampment program will prepare Girl Scouts for the Camporee. The Aquasco Teen Encampment is open to all Girl Scout Cadettes and up, even if they are not attending the Camporee. For those attendees also registered for the Camporee, the encampment will give troops the opportunity to become familiar with the primitive side of Camp Aquasco and tent camping on the site. Registration opens on November 1st, 2019.

Camporee Preparation Timeline

October 2019

- Mark the Camporee date on your calendar, and discuss attending with your troop.
- Secure volunteer commitments from the first aider and Cookout/Campout volunteer for the Camporee weekend.
- Decide on your transportation plan – will your group drive to a nearby parking lot and take the shuttle to camp OR will your group be dropped off/picked up at Camp Aquasco?

Early November 2019

- Optional: register for the spring Aquasco Teen Encampment – registration opens on November 1st, 2019.
- Prepare for Camporee Registration at 12 AM on Tuesday, November 19th, 2020.
 - Ensure all adults and girls are registered Girl Scouts at least 24 hours prior to registering for the Camporee. Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors are the only Girl Scout levels eligible to attend. For help registering as a Girl Scout, call 202-237-1670 or visit www.gscnc.org.
 - Figure out which girls in the troop will be attending and make sure they are all in the troop leader's My Troop account so the troop leader can register them when registration opens. Alternatively, if you're a parent registering an individual girl or both you and your daughter, ensure that she appears in your family account and that you are listed as the Guardian 1 for her. For assistance with this process, please contact registration@gscnc.org or 202-237-1670 well in advance of registration.
 - If applicable, submit request for financial aid through the financial aid survey at least 5 business days prior to registration opening.
- Finalize your transportation plan.
- Register for the Camporee! *Please keep in mind that we expect a high volume of registrants in the system attempting to register, and spaces may fill up very quickly.* Also, remember that registration will open at midnight, and there will not be staff available to assist with registration issues until after 8:30 – 9 AM on Tuesday morning. Full payment is due at time of registration.

Winter

- Sign up for an optional free Outdoor Skills Day event in the spring.
- Receive, fill out, and submit Attendance Survey to convey needed information to planning committee. This survey will collect more detailed information about each troop's/individual girl's/parent and daughter pair's attendance, including any dietary restrictions, high adventure signups, etc. One adult per troop, parents of individual girls, and parents of parent/daughter pairs will need to complete an attendance survey.
- Receive and read over initial information email in full – it will contain additional information on transportation, check-in, schedule, meals, and other information.

March/April 2020

- Attend the Outdoor Skills Day you registered for.
- Attend the Aquasco Teen Encampment, if registered.
- Practice skills and prepare campers for attending event.

Late April/Early May 2020

- Receive final details about the event.

May 15-17th, 2020

- Attend the Camporee and have an amazing time!