

SERVICE PROJECT PLANNING GUIDE

Congratulations! Just by deciding that you want to complete a service project, you've already taken the first step on your journey towards helping others. But what to do now? There are many ways to provide service. If you're not sure where to begin, this five step planning guide can help your troop succeed in your efforts to make the world a better place.



A FEW IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED:

- Clean up a local watershed
- Collect food or books
- Knit scarves
- Plant trees
- Make blankets for a shelter
- Run a Try-It program for Brownies
- Share health information
- Maintain a hiking trail
- Visit people in nursing homes
- Make cards for deployed troops
- Sort cans at a food kitchen
- Work in a museum



STEP 1. DECIDE WHAT TO DO

First, think about the challenge you would like to take on: Is your troop concerned about hunger in your community? Do you worry about pollution and litter? Do you want to help animals? Do you want to provide companionship for older people? Do you want to support our troops? Do you want to provide service to GSCNC?

If your service project is related to a subject your troop is passionate about, the experience will be even more rewarding.

STEP 2. CREATE A PLAN OF ACTION

Once your troop identifies an area that you would like to focus on, you can start planning your actions and solutions. This is a good time to refer to the state and local agencies to see what organizations in your community need help. You can find a list of these agencies online at <http://www.gscnc.org/program/programopportunities/service/servicelistings.htm>

STEP 2 CONT.

As you create your project plan, answer the following questions:

- What will you do?
- How much time will it take?
- Will it cost money? If so, how will you fundraise?
- Who will need to help?
- Is the project too big? Can you work with another troop to divide it into smaller parts?
- What special skills are needed to complete the project?
- Do you need to get any special permission? Remember to check with GSCNC as well as any organizations you are partnering with.

STEP 3. CARRY IT OUT

Once you have planned your service project, carry it out!

STEP 4. EVALUATE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

After your good deed is done, take some time to think about what you accomplished and how your troop worked to "Make the World a Better Place."

Also think about how well you were able to implement your plan of action, what worked and what didn't, and how you can improve your planning for your next service project!

STEP 5. RECOGNIZE AND TRACK YOUR SERVICE

Troop leaders can report troop accomplishments by contacting the GSCNC Public Relations department at prinfo@gscnc.org.

Want to show your service hours on your vest or sash? Troops can track their service hours using the Isadora Inchworm patch program. For more information about Isadora, please visit <http://www.gscnc.org/pdf/patches/ISADORA%20Inchworm.pdf>



**NOT SURE YOUR
TROOP IS READY
TO COMPLETE
YOUR OWN PRO-
JECT START TO
FINISH?**

Consider participating in a service opportunity through GSCNC or an outside organization. These are events or activities that are already planned for your troop, all you have to do is come help out!

Listings are posted on the service opportunities webpage at <http://www.gscnc.org/program/programopportunities/service/index.htm>