Welcome Back Campers!
Dear Girl Scout Family,

Congratulations to all the Girl Scouts that bridged last week. I was filled with joy as photos flooded our social media. Truly, bridging is that defining moment when a girl becomes aware of her achievements and is ready for new adventures and responsibilities. We at Girl Scouts Nation’s Capital are very proud of you!

Speaking of a new adventure, have you heard of the Girl Scouts Love the Outdoors Challenge? Each Girl Scout will earn a brand-new patch while safely exploring up to 50 summer activities. Some of these activities include writing an elected official about an outdoor issue in your community, learning the seven principles of Leave No Trace, and making your very own obstacle course! To learn more about this challenge, click here.

In the spirit of outdoor exploration, I am thrilled to announce that we welcomed our first sleep-away campers to Camp Potomac Woods this week! Our staff joyously awaited their arrival, ready to safely deliver high-quality and fun programming. Though camp may look a little different this year, we are sure each Girl Scout will have a transformative experience. Campers will return on Sunday, June 20, 2021, to Camp May Flather, and on Monday, June 21, 2021, our first day camps begin.

Additional outdoor opportunities to explore with your Girl Scout includes:

- **Bee a Friend to Pollinators and STEM Careers for Juniors and Cadettes** this virtual program shares best practices to build a habitat for local pollinators. Instructor Ms. Wixted of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources will dissect a flower and deep dive into all things pollination.

- Enjoy arts and crafts outside as an Outdoor Art Maker. This outdoor adventure encourages girls to use their imagination to search for inspiration for their crafts.

- Register for July’s **Badge in a Bag**! Our new badge in a bag program is simple; register, receive your box in the mail, and have fun! July’s box contents include an orienteering compass, instructions, activities, craft supplies, and of course, the badge itself! But the fun does not end there. Join us every week in July for a virtual "check-in" as we will learn about trail hiking, practice our outdoor skills, and do fun crafts together.

Together let us ensure that every Girl Scout explores the outdoors this summer. Outdoor exploration promotes healthy social and emotional development. If you need additional resources, visit our website to discover more programming opportunities. In closing, we also want to wish you safe travels as you experience the many delights of summer. Girl Scouts are Green – get outdoors and explore!

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Lidia Soto-Harmon
Chief Executive Officer

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