

November 2024 Newsletter

What's in this month's issue:

- Fall Product Dates
- 2025 Cookies dates
- Program Activities and Links
- Important Troop Information
- Upcoming Fund Raisers
- Council Properties
- Career Opportunities
- Council Store Hours
- And so much more!

Council Holiday Closure Thanksgiving

Wednesday, Nov. 27 -
Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024



November is a time for gratitude, and we're deeply **THANKFUL** for our incredible volunteers! We want to extend our warmest thanks to each of you for another fantastic year of Girl Scouting. Your commitment makes it possible for our girls to enjoy the full Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts!



Veterans Day is a US federal holiday honoring military veterans who served our country. It is observed on November 11th annually. Here are some ways you and your Girl Scouts can recognize this special day:

- Participate, in Girl Scout uniform, in local parades or ceremonies
- Participate in the placing of flags at a local veterans cemetery
- Visit a veteran in your community, capture their story and share it with others
- Get together and write cards to mail veterans overseas and in VA hospitals

Product Program

FALL PRODUCT DATES

November

- Sunday, Nov. 10, 2024 - Online Direct ship sales end (magazines, bark boxes and tumblers)
- Monday, Nov. 11, 2024 - Recommended girl money due to troops
- Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024 - Final day to enter recognition submissions
- Wednesday, Nov. 13, 2024 - Delinquency Report due to info@gsdsw.org
- Sunday, Nov. 17, 2024 - Girl moves/removes can resume



COOKIE DATES

November

- Monday, Nov. 11, 2024 - Mandatory Training for Service Unit Cookie Chair
Las Cruces Program Center, 6:00-7:00 PM MT
- Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024 - Mandatory Training for Service Unit Cookie Chair
Midland Program Center, 6:00-7:00 PM CT
- Wednesday November 13, 2024 – Mandatory Training for Service Unit Cookie Chair
Carlsbad Program Center, 6:00-7:00 PM MT
- Wednesday November 13, 2024 – Mandatory Training for Service Unit Cookie Chair
El Paso Program Center, 6:00-7:00 PM MT
- Thursday, Nov. 14, 2024 – Mandatory Training for Service Unit Cookie Chair
Live Zoom Training, 6:00-7:00 PM MT / 7:00-8:00 PM CT

December

- Sunday, Dec. 1, 2024 – Last Day for girl moves/removes in Salesforce

We are looking for Council Cookie Cupboard:

- El Paso - helpers
Email info@gsdsw.org for more information.



Council will support any Service Unit wanting to host their own Cookie College. Service Units have had increasing success with hosting cookie rallies in the past few years. Council will be able to provide advertising on council website, links to all the ABC cookie rally information and activities, answer questions, and other support as available. Questions, contact info@gsdsw.org Attn: Cookie College

Program



Looking for Volunteers!

If you would like to expand your volunteerism with the Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest we are looking for members for the Silver and Gold Award Committees.

If you would like more information or to volunteer please send an email to info@gsdsw.org.

Ceremony of Honors

Please join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our girls and volunteers at our annual Ceremony of Honors.
Saturday, December 14, 2024

El Paso location

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM MST

St Mark's Church

5005 Love Rd.

El Paso, TX 79922

RSVP - <https://bit.ly/COH2024EP>

Odessa location

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM CST

Odessa Girl Scout Program Center

5217 N. Dixie

Odessa, TX 79762

RSVP - <https://bit.ly/COH2024OD>

November Monthly Challenge is a Photo Scavenger Hunt!



Girl Scout Silver Award Reminder



In order for Cadettes to earn the Silver Award, please follow these steps:

- Complete the GSUSA Silver Award training in gsLearn (girls/troop leader/parents/caregivers)
- Girl(s) complete the Silver Award Proposal Submission online - <https://bit.ly/SilverAwardProposal>
- Once the Silver Award committee approves the proposal the girl(s) can start working on their project.
- After the project is complete the girl(s) submit the Final Report online - <https://bit.ly/SilverFinalReport2024-25>

Engagement

DID YOU KNOW?

When marking a girl or adult as "not returning" by a troop leader, they will not automatically be removed from the troop roster.

To request a move or removal of individuals, please email info@gsdsw.org.

Renew Your Membership

Get your troop ready for Back to Troop



Important Troop Forms

- Bank Account Request
- Emergency Procedures
- Health History
- Opportunity Fund Application
- Safety Activity Checkpoints
- Trip and High-Risk Activity Form
- Troop Disbandment Checklist
- Troop Disband Form
- Volunteer Essentials



Tip of the month



THE QUIET SIGN

When you want to quiet your troop, simply, raise your right hand high with an open palm. As girls see your sign, they stop talking and also raise their hands. A great way to silence a group without shouting.

A GIRL SCOUT TRADITION

A long-time Girl Scout tradition, the Quiet Sign is a great way to get your girls attention. When you want to quiet your troop, stop talking and raise your hand high with an open palm. As girls see your sign, they should also stop talking and raise their hand. Each finger represents a letter in the word QUIET. When the "hand goes up, the mouth goes shut." It's a great way to silence your group without shouting. Whether it's a room full of girls or at events with 200 plus adult participants, the Quiet Sign works like magic!



REMINDER: If you meet at a Council property please update your Troop/SU meeting agreements for the new year.

Resource Development

Cookies and Cocktails

Saturday, January 18, 2025
Las Cruces Convention Center

6 PM - 10 PM

\$ 40 per person

\$ 300 table of 8

Sponsorships Available

Bartender & Mixologist Competition
Both non-alcoholic and alcoholic options

Come vote for your favorite drink,
enjoy appetizers, silent auction items,
and dance to West Texas Band.



bit.ly/2025cookiesandcocktails



girlscouts
of the desert southwest
southern new mexico
& west texas

girlscouts
of the desert southwest
southern new mexico
& west texas

Saturday, April 12, 2025

33rd Annual

Women of Distinction

Save the Date

Honoring Amazing Women in the Permian Basin
Dinner, Live and Silent Auctions, Cocktail Attire

Petroleum Club

501 W. Wall Street, Midland, TX 79701

6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

girlscouts

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southern new mexico
& west texas

2nd Annual
Cookie Classic
GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, February 28, 2025

Lone Star Golf Club

1510 Hawkins Blvd.

El Paso, TX 79925

CitiBank Community Rewards Voting

VOTE HERE EVERY HOUR

- Individuals may vote in each market
- Monday, Nov. 4, 2024 - Friday, Dec. 6, 2024
- One vote per hour per email address
- Top 5 in each category (in no particular order) are updated regularly
- Open to everyone, not just City Bank customers
- Must be 18 years or older
- No systematic voting or software-assisted programs



Council Properties

Council Property Building Rental / Usage

All property / building rentals and usage must follow the process below:

- Submit request to info@gsdsw.org.
- Complete the rental agreement and submit it to info@gsdsw.org.
- Once approved and placed on our property calendar you will receive an email with further instructions.
- No rental/usage of GSDSW properties/buildings are approved without going through the complete process.
- If you are found to be using GSDSW property/buildings without council approval all future rentals/usage will be denied.



- If you rent or use any of GSDSW's buildings, you are responsible for checking all areas to ensure they are clean.
- Be sure you are wiping tables down to remove crayon/glue/etc., sweeping or vacuuming, and make sure trash is put in the trash cans and clean recyclables are tossed in the recycling bins.
- Please make sure that there is no trash in the recycling bins.
- Painting and messy projects should be done over tile or outside. Do not do these projects on carpet or on chairs with fabric covers.
- Please check the restrooms to be sure toilets are flushed before you leave. It has been found that the toilets are not being flushed or are being stuffed with toilet paper.
- If after your rental or usage it is found that a cleaning crew or plumber needs to be brought in, you will be financially responsible and future usage will be denied.

If you are interested in using or renting Camp Mitre Peak or any of our program centers for troop/service unit meetings or an event, contact us at info@gsdsw.org.

Camp Mitre Peak, Alpine, TX
Carlsbad, NM
Deming, NM
El Paso, TX
Fort Stockton, TX
Hobbs, NM

Las Cruces, NM
Midland, TX
Odessa, TX
Roswell, NM
Silver City, NM
White Spur Hut, El Paso, TX**

** Currently the White Spur Hut is not available for use for an undetermined amount of time. There has been a significant water leak at the building and it is flooded. This will require more than a simple repair. We will provide you with updates as we get them.

Around the Council

Girl Scouts of the Desert

Southwest

Career Opportunities

Staff Accountant - El Paso

Customer Engagement Specialist - El Paso, Hobbs, Odessa and Roswell

Program Specialist - Midland

Product Program Specialist - El Paso and Midland

Interested candidates should email careers@gdsdw.org with resumes and cover letter.

Las Cruces Mobile Shop Availability

- Monthly during the Service Unit Meeting
- Third Saturday of each month from
- 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

If your service unit is organizing an event and you would like to have the GSDSW Mobile Store present, please complete and submit [this request form](#) at least one month before the event.

Retail Shops

Council Shop Hours*

El Paso

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM MDT

(Closed for lunch 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)

1st Saturday of each month 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM MDT

Las Cruces

Monthly during the Service Unit Meeting

3rd Saturday of each month from

11:00 AM MT - 2:00 PM MT

Midland

Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CDT

1st & 3rd Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CDT

Odessa

Wednesday and Friday 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CDT

2nd & 4th Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CDT

For locations, [click here](#).

Shop orders will be placed on the second Thursday of each month for special orders and items not in stock.

*Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

