



March 15, 2020

Dear Girl Scout Families,

At Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast (GSWISE), there is nothing we take more seriously than the safety and well-being of our girls, volunteers, and council staff. We continue to encourage all girls, families, and volunteers to follow safety and health protocols recommended by federal, state, county, and local municipalities. GSWISE will continue to take all possible and appropriate measures to ensure girls continue to have a safe, fun, one-of-a-kind experience at Girl Scouts.

GSWISE is aware of the recent cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) here in southeast Wisconsin and are currently working to evaluate this rapidly evolving situation to ensure our girls, volunteers, and council staff are prepared with information and official guidance needed to stay safe during all Girl Scout activities. Here is what you need to know:

GSWISE Resource Centers and Business Operations

At this time, all Girl Scout offices and resources will remain open normal business hours.

GSWISE Events and Training

All GSWISE Events and Trainings will be canceled until Monday, April 6. If you were registered for one of these events, refunds will be processed.

The Girl Scouts Cookie Program

At this time, all Girl Scout Cookie Program activities will continue as planned. Additional updates include:

- The Girl Scout Cookie Program will now extend until April 30 for those troops that want additional selling time.
- Upcoming ACH withdrawal (25%) on March 18 will continue as planned.
- Final ACH withdrawal (remaining amount) will be delayed until May 1.
- Please appropriately assess your upcoming cookie needs as GSWISE will not be accepting cookie returns at this time.
- Options to decrease your cookie inventory:
 - Post your unsold cookies on the Online Cookie Cupboard. Troops looking for cookies will be directed there before picking up from the council.
 - Sell online! All girls have the opportunity to set up an online selling account and email customers.



- Email out to troop families what you have left and have them ask their customers if anyone needs a refill after their initial order.
- Cookie swaps can be done at any cookie cupboard, so you have more popular selling varieties.
- Stay tuned for further details regarding updates to placing recognition orders and recognition pick-up.

Girl Scout Camp and Troop Camping

Both Girl Scout Summer Camp and current Troop Camping will continue as scheduled.

Girl Scout Travel

If you have a Girl Scout trip planned, ensure to take every suggested precaution recommended by the CDC and U.S. Department of State in conjunction with all of the Travel/Trip guidelines in the GSWISE Safety Activity Checkpoints.

Next Steps

We will continue to closely monitor official local, county, state, and federal guidance, and will be prepared to disseminate new, relevant information to our members and their families as it becomes available.

Please remember that the best protection is self-protection and self-monitoring, especially in this flu season. For additional information, including resources for how you can talk to your girl about COVID-19, please review this FAQ and/or visit the links below:

- [How to Talk to Your Girl About Coronavirus](#)
 - Help Her Be Happy and Healthy (Raising Awesome Girls Blog) created by the Girl Scouts has also created a way to talk to girls not by avoiding the topic, but by tackling it head-on.
- [Wisconsin Department of Health Services - Coronavirus](#)
- [Milwaukee, Waukesha, Racine, Kenosha, Washington, Ozaukee, Walworth County Websites](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control - Coronavirus](#)
- [World Health Organization - Coronavirus](#)

If you have additional questions, email customercare@gswise.org, or call 800-565-4475.