



In My Camping Era!

2025 Camphlet



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girl scouts 
of northern illinois



In My Camping Era!

Girl Scout summer camps are a special place for Girl Scouts of all ages! When you come to Camp Dean, Camp McCormick, or Mary Ann Beebe Center, you join a family who stands by you, encourages you, and cheers you on! You have camp counselors, Program Aides, Counselors-in-Training (CITs), and friends who like you for your true self. They remind you that you are brave, strong, and you can do this! You can ride that horse, climb that wall, and hit that target. Girl Scout camp is a place to go on adventures, develop new skills, build new relationships, and strengthen existing ones. Camp is where you need to be!

Benefits of Summer Camp

If you're one of our former campers, you know all the positive effects Girl Scout camps offer campers. Here at Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois (GSNI), we structure our summer camp programming to provide campers with the opportunity to:

- ▶ Make true friends
- ▶ Explore nature
- ▶ Learn social skills
- ▶ Solve problems
- ▶ Think critically
- ▶ Choose challenges
- ▶ Gain independence
- ▶ Develop lifelong skills
- ▶ Unplug from technology
- ▶ Gain resiliency
- ▶ Experience success
- ▶ Spend their days being active

Important Dates:

- ▶ **December 1, 2024**
Counselor-in-Training applications open
- ▶ **December 1, 2024**
Summer camp registration opens
 - Campership applications open
- ▶ **March 1, 2025**
Campership applications close
- ▶ **April 1, 2025**
Early registration discount ends
- ▶ **May 15, 2025** Final camp payment due
- ▶ **June 8, 2025**
First day of summer camp!



Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois Belonging Statement

Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois draws inspiration from our Girl Scout Promise and Law in our Belonging Statement. Being a member of Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois means you are part of a community of diverse races, ethnicities, gender identities, sexual orientations, abilities, and religions. We commit to providing an equitable and accessible Girl Scout Leadership Experience to all Girl Scouts in our council. We are champions for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access.

These are our promises to you:

- ▶ We will listen and seek to understand from **diverse voices and experiences**. We will act on what we have learned.
- ▶ We will offer a **culture of welcoming and belonging** to all members, potential members, and community partners of Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois.
- ▶ We will provide **brave and safe spaces** for Girl Scouts to participate with us. Members can expect to be themselves in a secure and respectful environment.
- ▶ We will incorporate **the principles of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility** at all levels of our movement.
- ▶ We believe every member (youth and adult) of Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois should have **respect and acceptance** in our organization.
- ▶ We commit to a journey of being an **anti-racist and anti-oppressive** organization.
- ▶ We **welcome** you to join us in our movement and mission.



You belong here.

A Land Acknowledgement

is an expression of gratitude and way of recognizing the lasting relationship between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional homelands since time immemorial.

The Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois (GSNI) acknowledges that our Camps and Resource Centers are located on the ancestral lands of many Native Nations including the Fox & Sauk, Meskwaki, Peoria, Kickapoo, Ho-chunk and the Potawatomi.

GSNI is dedicated to the preservation of traditional lands. We seek to support Native American heritage by paying our respects to Indigenous peoples and are committed to honor their connection and care for the Land.



Camp Registration Information

Registration for all summer camps will be on a first-come, first-served basis, beginning December 1, 2024. Registrations are received in a variety of ways, including:

- ▶ **Online on Active Camp and Class Manager**
Scan the QR code to register.
- ▶ **In-person at any GSNI Resource Center**



Registration will be confirmed via email from Active Camp and Class Manager once registration is received and payment of deposit is complete.

Camp and Class Manager Communications

Don't miss our camp updates and emails! All our important camp communications come directly from Active Camp and Class Manager.

This is particularly important so we can communicate any last-minute event updates via email, send camp newsletters and updates, and send confirmations for individual camp sessions via email.

Please be sure to check your Spam/Junk folders or Promotional Folders regularly. If you do not receive your confirmation email two days before your camp session begins, reach out to us at Customer Care.

Girl Scout Membership

Girl Scout membership is required for participation for all sleepaway and day campers. All family campers must have at least one registered Girl Scout in attendance. Troop camping is only open to Girl Scout troops. Campers from Girl Scout councils outside of GSNI are welcome to attend!

Current non-Girl Scouts can register as Juliettes by visiting www.girlscoutsni.org and clicking "Join!" (<https://www.girlscoutsni.org/en/get-involved/join.html>). Complete all information and at the "Ways to Participate" screen, search the word "camp" in the Troop # field, and select "Individually Registered Member." If a friend is outside of GSNI's council jurisdiction, or if registration assistance is needed, please contact Customer Care.

Program Age Requirements

Summer camp programs reflect ages and grades for the 2025–2026 school year. Please register your camper for the grade they will be entering in Fall 2025. Camp programs are structured around the grade levels for which they are advertised, and we ask you to please refrain from registering for programs for which your camper does not qualify. All day campers must complete kindergarten before attending, and all sleepaway campers must be entering appropriate grades for their camping program. Family camps are open to all ages.



Customer Care

1-844-476-4463

customercare@girlscoutsni.org

Deposit

A \$100 deposit is required for each youth camp session at the time of registration (overnight camps, day camp, CIT). Camp deposits ensure your place for the camp session and must be paid to register. Camp deposit is included in overall camp fees and will be automatically included if paid in full at time of registration. This is done via credit card on Active Camp and Class Manager. Financial Assistance (Camperships) or e-codes (Cookie Dough/S'more Dough/Cashew Cash) cannot be used as deposits but can be used to offset the remaining camp balance.

Paying for Camp

Camp is an amazing adventure for Girl Scouts! We want to make sure any interested camper can attend camp at GSNI and offer several ways to offset the cost of camp:

- ▶ If you register by April 1, 2025, you can save \$25 on camp registrations!
- ▶ You can use GSNI vouchers/e-codes toward any council-sponsored camp session. However, these cannot be used toward the initial \$100 non-refundable deposit or adult camper fees. Vouchers/e-codes include Cookie Dough, Cashew Cash, and S'more Dough earned through the Girl Scout Fall Product and Cookie Programs.
- ▶ Gift cards purchased through GSNI's Resource Centers can be gifted to campers and used towards camp.
- ▶ A limited number of Camperships are also available. Please see our Camperships section.

Camperships

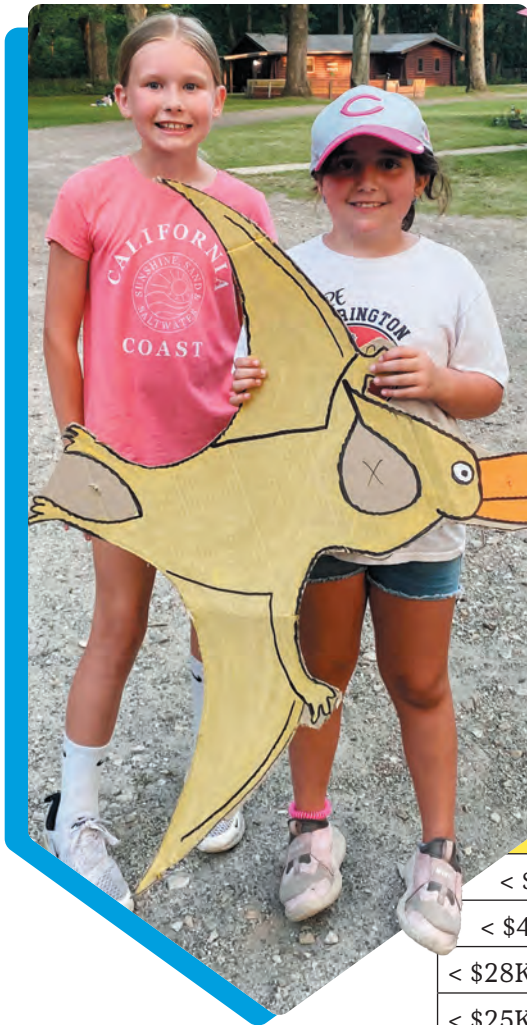
If your Girl Scout would love to attend camp but doesn't have the resources to do so, we may be able to help! Families can apply for Camperships by paying the initial \$100 deposit for camp and submitting a Campership application. Applications open December 1, 2024, and can be completed once initial registration is made. Campership applications are due by March 1, 2025, and awards are granted after March 15, 2025. We recommend you send in the application as soon as you submit your online registration.

Camperships are awarded based on household size and income. All families requesting financial assistance must first register their camper and pay the \$100 deposit before an application can be considered complete. Financial assistance is available only to registered members of GSNI. Campership applications will not



Balance Due

All balances for youth and family camp programs are due by **May 15, 2025**. By registering under a payment plan, **Active Camp and Class Manager will automatically withdraw any remaining fees under the payment plan on, May 15, 2025**. Payment plans may be set up to automatically withdraw money at your convenience or the remaining balance on May 15, 2025. To help offset a large fee collected at once, troop camp payment plans will allow for a portion to be collected at the beginning of each month.



be processed without a paid deposit and completed registration form. All campers who apply for Camperships must participate in GSNI's Fall Product and Cookie Programs and should apply product rewards (Cookie Dough, Cashew Cash, or S'more Dough) towards their camp fees.

Camperships are only available for active registered GSNI youth members. Adult Girl Scout members and members of other Girl Scout councils do not qualify.

Extra adventures, day camp overnights, Camper Care Kits, CIT programs, troop camps, and family camps are not covered by Camperships. Due to third party activity fees, camp sessions related to horses or adventure camp will not be eligible for full-ride camperships and instead offered as a discount on the total camp session cost. Due to optional add-on status, Camper Care Kits, prepaid Trading Post accounts, and day camp overnight fees will not be covered by or refunded through camperships.

Campers can only apply for financial assistance once per the 2025 season for overall registration, not individual sessions. If you wish to receive financial assistance for multiple sessions, one amount will be allotted across multiple sessions.

For more information or to apply for a campership, please visit www.girlscoutsni.org/camperships.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE 2-3	
< \$75,150 Gross annual income	Partial 25% camp scholarship
< \$47K Gross annual income	Partial 50% camp scholarship
< \$28K Gross annual income	Partial 75% camp scholarship
< \$25K gross annual income	Full scholarship
HOUSEHOLD SIZE 4-5	
< \$90K Gross annual income	Partial 25% camp scholarship
< \$56K Gross annual income	Partial 50% camp scholarship
< \$40K Gross annual income	Partial 75% camp scholarship
< \$30K Gross annual income	Full scholarship
HOUSEHOLD SIZE 6-7	
< \$104K Gross annual income	Partial 25% camp scholarship
< \$65K Gross annual income	Partial 50% camp scholarship
< \$45K Gross annual income	Partial 75% camp scholarship
< \$35K Gross annual income	Full scholarship

Cancellation Policy

If a session or event does not meet the minimum registration as of the deadline date, GSNI reserves the right to cancel. Notice will be made by email. Families will receive the opportunity to enroll in a different camp session with no additional cost for the transfer.

Refunds

Camp registration deposits and family and troop camp fees are non-refundable. Camper Care Kits are nonrefundable and can be retrieved after camp at your local GSNI Resource Center. Prepaid trading post accounts are nonrefundable, and any unused funds will be donated back to camp.

A full refund, including deposit, is made only if a camper cannot be placed in a different session if it is necessary for GSNI to cancel their current session. No refunds will be made for campers arriving late, leaving early, attending only part of the program, for those who fail to attend, or for campers who violate camp policies and rules and are sent home.

If you must cancel your camp registration, contact Customer Care to request registration cancellation. Cancelled registrations that come in before the registration deadline will qualify for partial refund of camp fees minus \$100 deposit and optional Camper Care Kits or prepaid Trading Post account funds. A refund is not guaranteed if request comes in after camp session registration has closed.

After camp ends, partial refunds may be considered on a case-by-case basis and only in the case of extenuating family circumstances or medical reasons supported by a doctor's statement. Any authorized refunds will be issued starting in September 2025.

Additional Session Registrations

Did your camper attend their first week of camp and absolutely love it? We are thrilled we could create a thrilling and memorable experience for your Girl Scout!

We would like to remind parents and families that once we hit May of 2025, our summer camp program, regarding scheduling staff and ordering equipment and food, are set and purchased. Camp registration will begin to close four weeks prior to each camp session's first day. To ensure everything is set in place and not forgotten or lost during the summer, all camp registration will end June 7, 2025. Camp registrations can NOT be opened once closed, as this will

affect pre-ordered supplies and staffing. Capacities listed after registration close date do not reflect availability to take registration.

If you believe your camper will want to attend multiple camp sessions, we strongly recommend registering for more than one camp session. Additional camp registrations cannot be taken once registration closes.



Customer Care

1-844-476-4463

customercare@girlscoutsni.org

Camp Belonging Culture, Accessibility, and Accommodations

The goal of our camps is to provide a successful experience for all, so everyone feels comfortable being their authentic self. GSNI commits to providing an equitable and accessible Girl Scout Leadership Experience to all Girl Scouts in our council. We welcome and support all youth and adults to help better prepare campers, families, and staff for some of the unique questions, concerns, and opportunities for inclusion that come up in camp space. We are champions for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access.

Help Us Help Your Camper. Your camper is important to us! Our camp staff, caregivers, and campers themselves must work together to identify accommodations that can be made to meet the needs of every youth participant, focusing on their strengths, gifts, and assets. We are dedicated to meeting each child's needs and accommodations to set them up for success. GSNI commits to actively building a sense of belonging for all our participants. We strive to be an inclusive community—one that provides equitable access for all, including those who require additional physical, mental, social, or emotional support.

Providing access is part of our goal, and we use a combination of accommodations and accessibility to create a culture of inclusion. Camp leads will assist in all ways possible for campers with special requests or needs and will work directly with camp staff to ensure all accommodations are met during each camp session.

Please note that camp staff are not professionals in medical, educational, or social work fields. This is where family involvement is key! Please share all information that will assist our staff in ensuring your camper thrives at summer camp prior to their arrival at camp. This allows our camp staff to prepare all necessary accommodation for your camper's first day and complete camp session.

Managing Dietary Needs and Allergies at Camp

GSNI will do its best to accommodate all special dietary needs and allergies. The first step is clear communication between families and staff to accommodate special dietary needs and allergies. Caregivers of campers should communicate with Customer Care about campers with any special dietary needs, allergies, or health concerns. This helps camp staff and family to develop an appropriate treatment plan and make every effort to accommodate those needs.

Every camper will be provided with meals at camp, and camp staff will make all accommodations necessary for all dietary needs and restrictions. Please notify us through camper registration. You may elaborate, if necessary, by emailing before the camp session, so kitchen staff can order and prepare for meals. Families do not need to provide their own alternative meals but are welcome to bring your camper's favorite brands, snacks, or meals, if desired. We encourage you to share your camper's favorite dietary-friendly brands, so we can ensure there is something they like to eat!



**GSNI
Council-Led
Summer
Camp
Information**



Customer Care

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customercare@girlscoutsni.org



At Camp Dean and Camp McCormick, our focus is on providing homecooked meals that are camper friendly and favorites for kids. Not all meals and scheduled menus may appear to reflect every dietary need, but alternatives will be provided for campers who need them. GSNI summer camp kitchens are allergy conscious and will prepare alternative meals separate from mainstream meals to prevent cross contamination. GSNI summer camp kitchens are not 100% allergy-free, and we do not have dedicated allergy-free supplies.

Traditions

Traditions play an important role and connect a sense of history to Girl Scouts. GSNI continues to review traditions and rituals that could be offensive or othering. We are making a concentrated effort to create a culture of inclusion and holding ourselves accountable along the way. We are fortunate that we can provide campers a safe space and can expect a welcoming environment where they can see themselves. Our overall focus of our programming is learning, growing, fun, outdoor experience, and encouragement. We are welcoming to all.

Accommodation and Accessibly

GSNI is committed to providing accommodations for individuals of all abilities to engage in our outdoor experience. Our commitment is to embrace inclusivity and ensure accessibility and support to participants with diverse intellectual and physical abilities, as this will foster a more welcoming environment. It is our responsibility to strive towards an all-encompassing environment and prioritize inclusive, welcoming, and sensitive support to all individuals, so they may fully participate. GSNI will continue to provide support no matter the diversity of a camper's abilities. To ensure inclusion of youth of all abilities within outdoor experience and to assess any needs and accommodations, please contact Customer Care.

Belonging and Inclusion

GSNI camps strive to serve all campers seeking the excitement of outdoor experiences and education. We center the voices and experiences of all gender-expansive youth and adults and welcome all campers and staff who identify

with the Girl Scout experience. This can and does include equal-opportunity employment for all camp staff, as well as all family members and registered adult troop leaders, regardless of ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, economic status, and diverse backgrounds.



Thank You

We hope our camps reflect a community of inclusion where campers' families are excited to join in and raise each other up! We look forward to seeing your camper at camp this summer.

Camper Paperwork

To provide the best experience for your camper, all families must complete additional registration paperwork. All our camper paperwork for the session, including information about the camp, health histories, and waivers are included in the camper confirmation packet. Our camp confirmation packet is included within the receipt of your registration and can be accessed immediately after registration. Please check your camp registration receipt for a link to the digital camper confirmation packet.

All camper paperwork will be collected at the check-in table on the first day of the camp session. Incomplete or missing paperwork at check-in will result in delays or your camper being turned away. All camper paperwork must be printed and brought in hard copy form to camp. Only our activity waiver is collected digitally though SmartWaiver. A link to all camp paperwork can be found in the receipt of your registration.

Campers of all ages must have a current health history on file to participate in summer camps. This is mandatory. Please note:

► **Doctor's Physical Requirements for Day/Sleepaway Campers Only:**

Campers attending camp without an adult (day camp, sleepaway camp, horse camp, adventure camp, CIT) **MUST** complete our camper's health history forms which must be signed by your child's physician and accompanied by a copy of a recent physical. A current school or sports physical completed within the last 24 months of camp attendance is accepted. Campers who do not have the form signed by a pediatrician and attached physical will be turned away.

- All vaccinations required by schools will be required for campers and must be attached with camper's physical. If you have a vaccination exception for medical reasons only, please reach out to camp staff at customercare@girlscoutsni.org.



Customer Care

1-844-476-4463

customercare@girlscoutsni.org

Choose Your Adventure

As a youth driven organization, we encourage campers to participate in as many camp activities as they wish. Camp is for campers! Each unit and camper will decide together on activities, pack-out meals, and how the schedule for their week will look. Each week is unique to the campers' wishes! While we have rough outlines of

key activities each day, it is up to the individual campers to plan that session and create the schedule for their camp session.

All preplanned schedules for the camp session are subject to change based on inclement weather, staffing needs, and activity availability. Schedules may also change based on the camper's interests and involvement.

Camper's Choice is a block of time where many camp activities are open at once, giving campers the ability to choose without worrying about what the overall unit wants to do. It is a time at camp when they can interact with other campers outside of those in their unit and make friends with other campers attending the same session. Activities vary each session but may include an activity of the following categories:

- ▶ **Aquatic activities**—swimming, water games, mud pit/creek stomping (Camp Dean), slip-and-slide (Camp McCormick), canoes, and kayaks (Camp Dean)
- ▶ **Arts and crafts**—a variety of badge-related skills, theme-specific crafts, friendship bracelets and lanyards, and other traditional outdoor/camp crafts
- ▶ **Climbing-facilitated activities**—crate stacking, mobile rock wall, and high ropes course (Camp McCormick)
- ▶ **Target sports**—archery, sling shots, and air rifles
- ▶ **Outdoor skill development**—Compass/orienteering/geocaching, knot tying, outdoor safety, knife safety, and shelter building
- ▶ **Games**—Gaga ball, yard games, group games such as relays, and parachutes
- ▶ **Nature/environmental activities**—nature hikes, geocaching, environmental science lessons, and Leave No Trace
- ▶ **Badgework/themed-based activities**—based on Girl Scouts of the USA badge content and program, tailored for each Girl Scout level in attendance. Themed activities are based around GSUSA badges and the interests of campers.

Please note: At summer camp, we strive for a positive and fun experience for all. Campers have the choice to choose their challenge or activity. All camp activities are presented and offered to campers, and it is up to the camper's discretion how they wish to participate. Campers will not be forced to participate in any activity should they choose not to.

Camp activities may vary based on staffing, program availability, and weather conditions, and pre-scheduled activities are subject to change.

Sleepaway campers also have Me Time—a down time in their beds daily where they can rest, write home, read, take a mindful breather, or tidy up their belongings. Both Camper's Choice and Me Time are supervised by camp staff but allow campers to pick their own activity.

Camp Age Requirements

Camp programs rely on progression. Each activity is broken into levels ranging from easy to challenging with the idea that campers will progress through the stages over many years attending summer camp as well as reflecting the age and development of campers.

Summer camp programs reflect ages and grades for the 2025–2026 school year. Please register your camper for the grade they will be entering for Fall 2025. Camp programs are structured around grade levels for which they are advertised,



and we ask you to please refrain from registering your camper for an event for which they do not meet the age requirement, either too young or too old. All campers must enter appropriate grades for their camp program, which is listed in program description. Family and troop camps are open to all ages. However, to participate in most camp activities, GSNI requires participants to be at least five years old.

Weather

Camp happens rain or shine, cold or heat! Part of Girl Scout camp life includes learning how to be prepared for the outdoors, including wearing cool clothing or rain gear, drinking water to stay hydrated, and wearing sunscreen and hats. There are no refunds for cancellations or no-shows due to weather.

At our summer camps, staff always monitor the weather. If severe weather develops during the camp day or evening, appropriate measures will be taken. Indoor shelter is available for all campers and staff.

The safety of your campers and camp staff is of utmost importance. Therefore, we implement the following communication methods to keep everyone informed of actions taken during inclement weather.

If severe weather such as tornadoes, hail, damaging winds, excessive heat, etc. are expected, the Program and Property team or Camp Director will post information on the camp's Facebook and Rallyhood pages. This will include details on our processes for taking shelter should we need to access it.

When camp staff take action to move regular programming indoors or take shelter, the Camp Director will contact the Director of Program or Chief Property and Program Officer. The Program and Property team will send out updated posts on the camp's Facebook and Rallyhood pages with details on the situation. Once the inclement weather has passed, the Program and Property team Director will post on social media with the "all clear."

Our camp staff, including our Camp Director, need to be 100% focused on keeping campers and staff safe. Therefore, we need to let them do so and not have their attention taken away to answer emails, phone calls, or social media posts.

Living in the Outdoors

Campers and staff live in groups called units, which are collections of sleeping cabins or tents in an outdoor setting. Sleeping arrangements may include platform



tents, Adirondacks, or sleeping cabins with latrine bathrooms within the unit. Staff members sleep in units in separate accommodations from the campers. Day campers attending the week's Thursday overnight will reside in one of the camp's lodges. Camp's lodges are single, large room structures where camp staff sleep separately but in the same room as campers.

All campers will spend most of their day outdoors including in outdoor shelters (summer kitchens, platform tents, sleeping cabins) for facilitated/outdoor activities, crafts and nature activities, sleeping, and Me Time. Meals are well-balanced with choices for healthy alternatives and served family-style in the dining hall. Campers will also cook meals outdoors with their units. We remind campers and families that all campers (unless attending day camp overnight) will be sleeping outdoors and should prepare for sessions accordingly.

All locations are in rustic environments and while some parts of camp are ADA accessible, not all parts are. In addition to the physical environment, camp is often a busy and loud place. At times, it may be overwhelming for kids who are neurodivergent or have sensory issues. We will gladly talk through what to expect at camp with you and your child and can discuss accommodations to set them up for success. If you have any questions or concerns about the accessibility of our camp properties due to physical, mental, social, or emotional needs of your camper, please contact Customer Care.

We do not allow cell phones at camp. One of the biggest benefits of coming to camp is the opportunity for campers to be independent for a short period of time. We want the campers to truly engage in their camp experience and enjoy their time outdoors with their new camp friends! The break from electronics that camp provides is also one of the most unique things about our environment. Here at camp, we sit around campfires talking with each other, building personal face-to-face relationships with peers and adults. There are no video games, computers, or cell phones to get in the way of building relationships. After a few days, most of us don't miss our cell phones at all!

Technology has advanced over the years, and cell phones will not be accepted as cameras or digital reading materials for camp. Partially using a cell phone brings forth confusion of use and the potential for the phone to be lost, stolen, broken, or used inappropriately. "Sneaking" a cell phone into camp may result in your camper feeling they cannot turn to their counselors or camp administration for help, which will in turn break their confidence in self-independence and in asking others for help. Importantly, it also promotes that your camper does not need to follow our camp rules set forth by camp administration and staff. If a camper has a cell phone at our sleepaway or day camps, it will be confiscated by administrative staff for the item's protection and returned to the camper's guardian at check-out.

Communication with your child and knowing how your child is doing are both very important. We encourage you to write lots of letters to your child at camp, and they may write letters to you. If you must contact camp, the camp's cell phone number will be released with your camp session's newsletter. You are also free to



Customer Care

1-844-476-4463

customercare@girlscoutsni.org

email Customer Care during the camp season. *Please remember camp staff do not have regular access to camp Facebook and Rallyhood Camp pages and cannot receive messages through Facebook or Rallyhood.* Thank you in your support in keeping our summer camps cell phone free!

Trading Post

The Trading Post refers to our camp store. Ease the hustle and bustle of packing for summer camp by pre-paying for Trading Post! This eliminates giving your camper cash to carry around camp.

Parents/Guardians: You can pre-pay for your camper to have Trading Post money to spend on camp merchandise during their camp stay in \$10, \$20, and up to \$50 allotments. Any unused money in your camper's Trading Post account will be directed to our Campership Assistance program (not refunded) to increase access for future Girl Scouts to attend Girl Scout camp.

Families may also leave money (cash or checks) or Cookie Dough/Cashew Cash/S'more Dough with the Trading Post for their campers to shop.

The Trading Post schedule is pre-scheduled based on GSNI staff availability and is subject to change when needed. The Trading Post is available during most check-out times for families to shop. The Trading Post will be available once during troop and family weekends for weekend campers to shop.

Items sold include camp apparel, camping supplies (mess kits, flashlights, water bottles), stationery, stuffed animals, fun patches (not Girl Scout badges), and novelty mementos.

Camper Care Package

Surprise your Girl Scout when arriving at summer camp with a special Summer 2025 Camper Care Kit! They will be distributed upon arrival at camp to give them even more to do during their camp stay.

New in 2025—Camper Care Kits are included with registration.

Bring a Friend!

Is your Girl Scout thinking about coming to camp but hesitant about not knowing anyone? Your camper can bring a friend who is willing to become a Girl Scout! The friend must sign up to be a Juliette (individually registered member of Girl Scouts), and they can join your Girl Scout at camp! Siblings, friends, or “buddies” can request to be in the same cabin or tent. Please see Girl Scout Membership section for how to register as a Juliette.

Girl Scout sisters from other councils around the country are welcome to attend our camp programs!





Program Changes

Although rare, GSNI, for a variety of reasons, may occasionally cancel a camp session. If this occurs, you can expect the entire camp fee, including the deposit, to be refunded. Other times, certain activities described in the camp sessions must be suspended or changed due to circumstances beyond our control, such as inclement weather, equipment availability, and staffing. In these situations, we may provide alternate program options. Under circumstances of this type, refunds should not be expected.

All preplanned schedules for the camp session are subject to change based on inclement weather, staffing needs, and activity availability. Schedules may also change based on the camper's interests and involvement. Preplanned menus are subject to change based on camper food allergies and food supply shortages.

Girl Scouts are always prepared. This means flexibility and the ability to adjust their plans is a skill set Girl Scouts learn everywhere, including camp. Girl Scouts should come to camp with a rough schedule of what is happening when but be willing to move things around a bit as the session progresses to meet the needs of the group. Meal preparation often takes longer than expected, especially when campers grill their own pie-iron pizzas. Sometimes curiosity is sparked by a frog they just caught, and everyone will want to play with it for an hour, even if it wasn't on the schedule. Camp counselors are trained to keep campers entertained and engaged with all activities that spark their interest.

Limited Capacities at Camp

Registering early and on time not only assists in ordering equipment, food, and supplies but provides GSNI's Program team with the knowledge and planning for hiring and scheduling summer camp staff for the week. Camp registrations may be kept at a low capacity until we can ensure the proper number of staff-per-camper ratio.

Due to the rare chance of cancellations or space opening, camp registrations will not collect a waitlist. If your desired camp session is full, we highly encourage registering for a different camp session to ensure your camper can attend camp in some capacity. Neither camp staff nor GSNI Customer Care will collect or monitor a camp waitlist, and once a camp is full, we anticipate it remaining full.

Customer Care

1-844-476-4463

customercare@girlscoutsni.org

Camp Service Days **FREE EVENT**

Enjoy a day outdoors and take pride in your local camp by assisting our Camp Rangers in preparing the property for the summer season! You might spruce up buildings, prepare our facilitated activity fields, organize camp outdoor cooking supplies, garden, and more! Camp Rangers will work with groups to ensure everyone has a task that is age-focused and helps prepare camp for the upcoming busy season.

Spring 2025

Mary Ann Beebe Center	April 6, 2025	9 a.m.–12 p.m.
Camp Dean	April 12, 2025	9 a.m.–12 p.m.
Camp McCormick	April 13, 2025	9 a.m.–12 p.m.



Camp Open House **FREE EVENT**

Join us at our Camp Open Houses! Everyone is welcome to tour the camp and get a peek at where Girl Scouts sleep, eat, and play games with new friends. This is the perfect opportunity to show camp off to new troop members and families as well as see the property for upcoming summer camp sessions.

Our Camp Rangers and Outdoor Program Manager will be available to answer questions, talk about what a day at camp is like, and ensure your camper is excited and prepared for the summer experience! Wear comfortable shoes and take a self-guided tour around our camp properties. Register online at www.girlscoutsni.org/activities.

Spring 2025

Mary Ann Beebe Center	April 6, 2025	1–3 p.m.
Camp Dean	April 12, 2025	1–3 p.m.
Camp McCormick	April 13, 2025	1–3 p.m.



Volunteer-Led Camps

Service units around GSNI manage their own day camp programs close to home! All volunteer-led camp information, registration, and updates are handled by the volunteers directing the programs. We encourage anyone interested in their local camps to reach out to these volunteers directly.

Customer Care
1-844-476-4463
customercare@girlscoutsni.org



GSNI Summer Camp Program

WEEK	DATES	CAMP DEAN DAY CAMPS	CAMP DEAN OVERNIGHT CAMPS	CAMP DEAN HORSE CAMPS	CAMP MCCORMICK DAY CAMP	CAMP MCCORMICK OVERNIGHT CAMPS	CAMP MCCORMICK ADVENTURE CAMPS
1	June 8–13, 2025				Journey Across the Stars DAY CAMP	Journey Across the Stars SLEEPAWAY CAMP	
2	June 15–20, 2025				Skills for Life DAY CAMP	Skills for Life MINI CAMP 2A Skills for Life MINI CAMP 2B	The Ultimate McCormick Adventure ADVENTURE CAMP
3	June 22–27, 2025				Beyond the Curtain DAY CAMP	Beyond the Curtain SLEEPAWAY CAMP	
4	July 6–11, 2025	Around the World DAY CAMP	Around the World MINI CAMP 4A Around the World MINI CAMP 4B				
5	July 13–18, 2025	Girl Scouts Through the Ages DAY CAMP	Girl Scouts Through the Ages SLEEPAWAY CAMP	Horse Trekking WEEK 5			
6	July 20–25, 2025	Camp Wars DAY CAMP	Camp Wars MINI CAMP 6A Camp Wars MINI CAMP 6B	Horsin' Around 6A Horsin' Around 6B			
7	July 27– August 1, 2025	Camp Relaxation DAY CAMP	Camp Relaxation SLEEPAWAY CAMP				

WEEK	DATES	COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING CAMP—SESSION	COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING CAMP—LOCATION
Week 2–3	June 15–27, 2025	Counselor in Training 1	Camp McCormick
Week 4–5	July 6–18, 2025	Counselor in Training 1	Camp Dean
Weeks 6–7	July 20– August 1, 2025	Counselor in Training 2	Camp Dean



Summer Camp Themes



Around the World

Embark on a global adventure! Discover the rich cultures and diverse traditions of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from every corner of the globe. Immerse yourself in the spirit of international friendship and sisterhood as we explore together, learning and growing through each new experience. Campers will earn progress towards the Citizenship badge series.

Beyond the Curtain

Join us for an enchanting week where the magic of theatre comes to life! Campers will explore the world of performance through interactive workshops in acting, set design, and stagecraft. Each day, participants will dive into various aspects of theatre, from improvisation to storytelling, culminating in a captivating end-of-camp showcase. With fun-filled activities like costume creation, puppet making, and set building, campers will build confidence, creativity, and teamwork skills. Whether you're a budding actress or just love the stage, come step beyond the curtain and discover your inner star! Campers will earn progress towards their Art, Life Skills and STEM badge series.



Camp Relaxation

Unwind and recharge in this session, where campers focus on self-care and well-being. Discover activities that promote relaxation and mindfulness, such as yoga sessions, nature walks, and guided meditation. Learn techniques for stress relief, like journaling, deep breathing exercises, and creating calming crafts. Embrace the tranquility of the outdoors while fostering a supportive environment of self-discovery and friendship. Join us as we prioritize mental and emotional wellness, empowering Girl Scouts with lifelong skills to nurture themselves and others. Campers will earn progress towards the Health badge series.



Camp Wars

Welcome to Camp Wars, where campers dive into friendly competition and teamwork! Engage in exciting challenges and games that test skills like teamwork, strategy, and creativity. From relay races to scavenger hunts and obstacle courses, every moment is an opportunity for fun and bonding. Join us for an action-packed camp experience where friendships are forged, victories celebrated, and memories made. Get ready to bring your A-game and conquer Camp Wars with other Girl Scouts! Campers will earn progress towards the Outdoor and Health badge series.

Girl Scouts Through the Ages

Travel through time, inspired by vintage Girl Scout badges! Explore the unique badges and activities from different decades, from the adventurous 1920s to the innovative 1960s and beyond. Discover skills that have stood the test of time. Dive into the history of Girl Scouting and celebrate the evolution of empowerment and leadership among Girl Scouts. Campers will earn progress towards the Life Skills badge series.

Journey Across the Stars

Embark on an exciting space adventure! Explore the universe through stargazing, rocket building, and space-themed crafts. Learn about planets, stars, and galaxies with fun activities and educational sessions. Join us for an adventure where campers can dream big, reach for the stars, and discover the wonders of space! Campers will earn progress towards the Space Science badge series.

Skills for Life

Welcome to Skills for Life where you learn essential skills for life's adventures! Explore activities that teach practical skills like cooking, budgeting, first aid, and teamwork. From outdoor survival techniques to communication and leadership development, campers will gain confidence and readiness for any challenge. Join us as we empower Girl Scouts to thrive and succeed in life, equipped with the skills and knowledge they need to make a positive impact in their communities and beyond. Campers will earn progress towards the Life Skills badge series.

The Ultimate McCormick Adventure

Get ready for the ultimate adventure with Girl Scouts! Explore thrilling challenges that test your skills and bravery, from outdoor expeditions to exciting activities. Join us for an adrenaline-filled journey where you'll make new friends, conquer challenges, and create memories to last a lifetime. It's time to unleash your inner adventurer and embark on an unforgettable Girl Scout experience! Campers will earn progress towards the Outdoor badge series.

www.facebook.com/GSNICampDean
46W253 Camp Dean Rd., Big Rock, IL 60511

Camp Dean is 160 acres of woods and grasslands. Welch Creek runs through the middle of camp and is one of the finest creeks in the state for wildlife. Explore its secrets on a hike and don't forget your camera. There is a large hill in the middle of the prairie offering fantastic views of the night sky, as well as some great sledding. Try your hand at fishing or other water activities on our 2.25-acre pond. Camp Dean is located just west of Aurora in the southeast area of our council.

At Camp Dean, campers sleep in "sleeping cabins"— a small, enclosed one-room house. Each cabin can fit up to 8 campers in provided bunk beds. There is light within the cabin but no other electricity. All sleepaway, family/troop, horse, and CIT campers sleep in the outdoor sleeping cabins.

A "unit" refers to a large clearing or space that houses a collection of sleeping cabins. Each unit offers 6 outdoor sleeping cabins. Compostable latrines, cooking fire pits, and summer kitchens/pavilions are in every unit.



Camp Dean



Things to Do at Camp Dean:

- ▶ Archery and foam archery
- ▶ Slingshots
- ▶ Gaga ball
- ▶ Swimming in outdoor pool
- ▶ Canoes and kayaks at on-site pond
- ▶ Creek stomping and mud pit
- ▶ Sound garden and natural playground
- ▶ Crate stacking (4th grade and up)
- ▶ Air rifles (10 years and older)
- ▶ Axe throwing (12 years and older)
- ▶ Trail hiking and geocaching
- ▶ Fishing
- ▶ Outdoor cooking (pack-outs)
- ▶ Hammock Village
- ▶ Arts and crafts
- ▶ Goat Hunt
- ▶ Animal encounters with our friendly pet goats!



Camp Dean Day Camp ENTERING GRADES 1-5

5 Day-Only Camp Session | Price Level \$250/session
(\$225 before April 1, 2025)

Drop-off each day of session: 9 a.m.
Pick-up each day of session: 4 p.m.

Has your Daisy, Brownie, or Junior been looking forward to camp all school year? Is your camper ready to go on an adventure and develop independence but still loves the thought of being home at night? Day camp may be a great choice!

Each camp session offers exciting, themed activities for the week in addition to popular camp activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, nature exploration, and more. Our trained, fun, energetic staff will guide your camper through all the activities we can pack in a day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If your camper decides they love camp as much as we think they will, you can choose to have a sleepover experience on Thursday, as well! The additional fee is \$75.

Day camp Thursday overnight campers stay in a lodge at Camp Dean. Campers will sleep in single-room lodges—McCleary-Shaff Lodge and Charlie’s Lodge. Camp staff sleep in the same room. Bunk beds and bathrooms are inside lodges. Lodges do have A/C and can be cold at night.

Tentative Schedule

- 9 a.m. Check-in
- 9-9:30 a.m. Settling into camp, group games
- 9:30-11:45 a.m. Themed/badge activities and facilitated/ outdoor activities
- 12-1 p.m. Lunch in dining hall
- 1-1:15 p.m. Kapers (camp chores)
- 1:30-3 p.m. Aquatic activities (swimming, water games)
- 3-4 p.m. Outdoor skills, activities, and games
- 4-4:15 p.m. Check-out

WEEK	DATES	THEME	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
4	July 7-11, 2025	Around the World	CDDAYWK4
5	July 14-18, 2025	Girl Scouts Through the Ages	CDDayWk5
6	July 21-25, 2025	Camp Wars	CDDayWk6
7	July 26-August 1, 2025	Camp Relaxation	CDDayWk7



Customer Care
1-844-476-4463
customer care@girlscoutsni.org

Camp Dean Sleepaway Camp **ENTERING GRADES 2-12**

This is the chance for your Girl Scout to have an amazing time this summer! Our overnight or “sleepaway” camps offer many ways for your Girl Scout to not only gain independence but to try new skills, make new friends, and create memories of a lifetime. Trained camp staff will provide plenty of opportunities for campers to participate in our theme week activities and other popular camp activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, cooking over a campfire, and more!

Your camper will stay overnight in the camp’s sleeping cabins and explore camp during the day. Girl Scouts can choose between a 3-day/2-night Mini Camp and a 6-day/5-night session. Girl Scouts will be placed in age-appropriate units and cabins and can specify during registration if they wish to bunk with a friend, sibling, or buddy.

Drop-off on first day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.

Pick-up on last day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.

Sleepaway Mini Camp Half Week 3-day/2-night Mini Camp

Price Level \$450/session (\$425 before April 1, 2025)

Entering Grades 2–8

DATE	SESSION (WEEK)	THEME	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
July 6–8, 2025	4A	Around the World	CDOWK4A
July 9–11, 2025	4B	Around the World	CDOWK4B
July 20–22, 2025	6A	Camp Wars	CDOWK6A
July 23–25, 2025	6B	Camp Wars	CDOWK6B

Sleepaway Camp Full Week 6-day/5-night Week-Camp

Price Level \$625/session (\$600 before April 1, 2025)

Entering Grades 3–12; age restrictions apply per session

DATE	SESSION (WEEK)	THEME	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
July 13–18, 2025	5	Girl Scouts Through the Ages	CDOWK5
July 27–August 1, 2025	7	Camp Relaxation	CDOWK7



Horsin’ Around Mini Camp ENTERING GRADES 4–9
46W253 Camp Dean Rd., Big Rock | Tower Hill Stables, Hampshire, IL

Attention all horse lovers! Would you like to travel to a stable and learn all about horses? This camp is for you! Our trained camp staff and equestrian experts at Tower Hill Stables are ready for you. Saddle up and let’s go! We can’t wait for you to meet the horses! While we wait for our trip, you will have the opportunity to try out all the camp activities Camp Dean has to offer.

This session is for horseback riding beginners. Riding sessions will include an outing to Tower Hill Stables for a 45-minute riding lesson around an indoor arena. Campers will also learn horse etiquette and how to care for and groom a horse. Campers will be transported by camp staff to a professional equestrian facility vetted by GSNI. During this mini camp session, campers will earn their Girl Scout Junior Horseback Riding badge!

Drop-off on first day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.
Pick-up on last day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.

Horsin’ Around Camp 3-day/2-night Mini Camp
Price Level \$550/session (\$525 before April 1, 2025)

DATES	SESSION (WEEK)	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
July 20–22, 2025	6A	CDHWk6A
July 23–25, 2025	6B	CDHWk6B



Horse Trekkers ENTERING GRADES 6–12
46W253 Camp Dean Rd., Big Rock | Millbrook Trail Rides, Millbrook

Are you an avid horse lover and already experienced in traditional English style riding? Do you want an extra adventure to expand on your current horseback riding skills? Horse Trekkers is our week-long horse adventure camp! You will expand your skillset by learning to maneuver horses around obstacle courses in order to build up to a trail ride! You’ll also have opportunities for traditional camping activities such as crate stacking, canoeing, or archery.

Drop-off on first day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.
Pick-up on last day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.

Horse Trekkers Camp 6-day/5-night Camp
Price Level \$675/session (\$650 before April 1, 2025)

DATES	SESSION (WEEK)	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
July 13–18, 2025	5	CDHWk5



www.facebook.com/GSNICampMcCormick
9995 N. Girl Scout Rd., Stillman Valley, IL 61084

Camp McCormick is nearly 400 acres of pristine wilderness and open prairies stretching along almost two miles of Rock River frontage. You can hike miles of manicured trails while enjoying the plush scenery and ample wildlife.

At Camp McCormick, overnight campers stay in platform tents. These tents have a wood floor off the ground, a roof over their heads, and canvas walls. Each tent holds four campers in single beds. Camp McCormick also has the option of Adirondacks, which holds six campers in bunk beds.

To ensure all campers have an enjoyable and memorable experience at Camp McCormick, campers may now choose to spend an evening in Friendship Center. Campers attending mini overnight camps may spend both nights in Friendship Center with the opportunity to try an outdoor unit on their second evening if they choose. All week-long overnight campers will spend Thursday evening indoors in Friendship Center for one final all-camp sleepover together.

A “unit” refers to a large clearing or space that houses a collection of cabins or tents. Each unit offers between 7–8 tents or up to 3 Adirondacks. Compostable latrines, cooking fire pits, and summer kitchens/pavilions are in every unit.



**Camp
McCormick**

Things to Do at Camp McCormick:

- ▶ Archery and foam archery
- ▶ Slingshots
- ▶ Gaga ball
- ▶ Swimming in indoor pool
- ▶ Crate stacking
- ▶ High ropes course (4th grade and older)
- ▶ Natural playground
- ▶ Air rifles (10 years and older)
- ▶ Trail hiking and geocaching
- ▶ Axe Throwing (12 years and older)
- ▶ Outdoor cooking (pack-outs)
- ▶ Hammock Village
- ▶ Arts and crafts
- ▶ Gnome Hunt



Camp McCormick Day Camp ENTERING GRADES 3-8

5 Day-Only Camp Session

Price Level \$250/session (\$225 before April 1, 2025)

Drop-off each day of session: 9 a.m.

Pick-up each day of session: 4 p.m.



Is your Brownie, Junior, or Cadette interested in trying out Camp McCormick? Is your camper ready to go on an adventure and develop independence but still loves the thought of being home at night? Day camp may be a great choice!

Each camp session offers exciting, themed activities for the week in addition to popular camp activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, nature exploration, and more. Our trained, fun, energetic staff will guide your camper through all the activities we can pack in a day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

If your camper decides they loves camp as much as we think they will, you can choose to have a sleepover experience on Thursday, as well! Additional fee is \$75.

Day camp Thursday overnight campers stay in a lodge at Camp McCormick. Campers will sleep in single-room Troophouse Lodge. Camp staff sleep in the same room. Campers sleep with mattresses on the floor, and latrines are nearby outside. Lodges do have A/C and can be cold at night.

Tentative Schedule

9 a.m.	Check-in
9-9:30 a.m.	Settling into camp, group games
9:30-11:45 a.m.	Themed/badge activities and facilitated/outdoor activities
12-1 p.m.	Lunch in dining hall
1-1:15 p.m.	Kapers (camp chores)
1:30-3 p.m.	Aquatic activities (swimming, water games)
3-4 p.m.	Outdoor skills, activities, and games
4-4:15 p.m.	Check-out



WEEK	DATES	THEME	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
1	June 9-13, 2025	Journey Across the Stars	CMCDayWk1
2	June 16-20, 2025	Skills for Life	CMCDAYWK2
3	June 23-27, 2025	Beyond the Curtain	CDDAYWK3

Customer Care

1-844-476-4463

customer@girlscoutsni.org



Camp McCormick Sleepaway Camp **ENTERING GRADES 3-12**

This is the chance for your Girl Scout to have the best summer yet! Our summer camps offer so many ways for your Girl Scout to not only gain independence, but to try new skills, make new friends, and create memories of a lifetime. Trained camp staff will provide plenty of opportunities for campers to participate in our new theme week activities and other popular camp activities such as swimming, arts and crafts, cooking over a campfire, and hiking!

Campers can choose between a 3-day/2-night Mini Camp and a 6-day/5-night session. Girl Scouts will be placed in age-appropriate zones of the indoor sleeping space and tents or Adirondacks for outdoor sleeping space.

Drop-off on first day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.

Pick-up on last day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.

Sleepaway Mini Camp 3-day/2-night Mini Camp

Price Level \$450/session (\$425 before April 1, 2025)

Entering Grades 2-8



WEEK	DATES	THEME	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
2A	June 15–17, 2025	Skills for Life	CMCOWk2A
2B	June 18–20, 2025	Skills for Life	CMCOWK2B

Sleepaway Camp Full Week 6-day/5-night Camp

Price Level \$625/session (\$600 before April 1, 2025)

Entering Grades 4-12

WEEK	DATES	THEME	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
1	June 8–13, 2025	Journey Across the Stars	CMCOWk1
3	June 22–27, 2025	Beyond the Curtain	CMCOWK3

Camp McCormick Adventure Camp

ENTERING GRADES 7-12

9995 N. Girl Scout Rd, Stillman Valley
Rocktown Adventures, Rockford
Tower Hill Stables, Hampshire IL

Spend a week at Camp McCormick for a unique outdoor adventure! This camp will focus on the Trailblazer badges and give campers an introduction to backpacking, high adventure, horseback riding, and more. Pack a bag and explore the trails of Camp McCormick for the perfect spot to sleep under the stars—be it in a tent, hammock, or the Adirondacks!

Campers will spend time honing their outdoor skills, from outdoor cooking to knot tying and more. Participate in all our climbing facilitated activities like crate stacking and the New Horizons High Ropes Course. Campers will also go on off-site excursions: canoeing or kayaking around Rock Cut State Park and a horseback trail ride at Tower Hill Stables!

Campers will travel to a new sleeping unit each day and spend at least one night primitive (tent) camping. They will have more outdoor cooking opportunities and travel off-site to different activities.

NOTE: Due to third-party stable requirements for trail ride participants, all participants must be at least 12 years old on the first day of camp session.

Adventure Camp Full Week 6-day/5-night Week-Camp

Price Level \$675/session (\$650 before April 1, 2025)

Entering Grades 7-12—Campers must be 12 years of age on day of first session.

WEEK	DATES	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
2	June 15-20, 2025	CMCAWk2



Counselor-in-Training Program

ENTERING GRADES 9-12

Camp McCormick, Stillman Valley | Camp Dean, Big Rock

Check-in Sundays: 3-3:30 p.m.

Check-out Fridays: 4-4:30 p.m.

Girl Scout camp is the perfect place to take on leadership roles and become role models for younger campers! Since Girl Scouts is a premiere leadership organization, Girl Scout camp provides unlimited options to hone leadership skills. The Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program is a great way to learn about leadership, group dynamics, outdoor skills, program planning, and more!

The CIT program is designed so campers participate in leadership training and apply those new skills with younger campers in the same week. In addition, CITs receive additional activity training such as ceremonies, outdoor skills, fire building, and more. Activities completed during the CIT program fulfill requirements towards earning the Counselor-in-Training Award. Sessions can be attended without earning the award.

For more information or to apply, please visit www.girlscoutsni.org/CIT. Applications can be submitted any time after December 1, 2024.

Please do NOT register for these sessions until you have received approval from GSNI.



**Camp
Leadership**



Counselor-in-Training I ENTERING GRADES 9-11

Camp McCormick, Stillman Valley | Camp Dean, Big Rock

Do you want the opportunity to advance your leadership and outdoor skills? If so, CIT I is for you! You'll spend two weeks, including the weekend, with us to develop your skills as an outdoor leader. Not only will you help trained staff develop camp activities, but you will also implement them with younger campers. You'll be shaping your leadership skills for the future! Program Aide Basic and Program Aide Outdoor Trainings are recommended but not required, as we will assess your skills prior to the first day of camp and fill in the gaps to ensure you're up to speed!

Counselor-in-Training I 13-day/12-night 2-Week Camp

Price Level \$275/session (\$250 before April 1, 2025)

Drop-off on first day of session: 3-3:30 p.m.

Pick-up on last day of session: 4-4:30 p.m.

Note: CIT program attendees are expected to stay during the middle weekend.

WEEK	DATES	CAMP LOCATION	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
2-3	June 15-27, 2025	Camp McCormick	CMCCIT1
4-5	July 6-18, 2025	Camp Dean	CDCIT1

Counselor-in-Training II ENTERING GRADES 11-12

Camp Dean, Big Rock

You're almost there! Now's the time to pull together all the camp development and leadership skills you developed over the years. Join us at Camp Dean or Camp McCormick—CITs will come together to plan activities for an upcoming weekend camp session based on your specialties and interests. You will also engage with camp administrative staff to see the behind the scenes on developing camp programming.

The CIT program is designed so Girl Scouts participate in leadership training and apply those new skills with younger campers in the same week. In addition, CITs receive additional activity training such as ceremonies, outdoor skills, fire building, and more. Activities completed during the CIT program fulfill requirements towards earning the CIT I or CIT II Award. If Girl Scouts want to earn CIT Awards, they must attend and complete CIT I before CIT II. Sessions can be attended without earning of the award.

Counselor-in-Training II 13-day/12-night 2-Week Camp
Price Level \$275/session (\$250 before April 1, 2025)

Drop-off on first day of session: 3–3:30 p.m.
Pick-up on last day of session: 4–4:30 p.m.
Note: CIT program attendees are expected to stay during the middle weekend.



WEEK	DATES	CAMP LOCATION	CAMP AND CLASS MANAGER EVENT CODE
6–7	July 20–August 1, 2025	Camp Dean	CDCIT2



Customer Care
1-844-476-4463
customer@girlscoutsni.org



Summer Camp Staff

Do you or someone you know want to make a difference in campers' lives at our summer camps? Do you have the enthusiasm to present your best self, a great attitude, and dedication to providing challenges, learning experiences, and a summer our campers will never forget? Critical to the success of summer camp is finding and hiring the right staff! Staff members can be high school graduates, college students, teachers, stay-at-home parents, retired persons, and so much more!

We are looking for summer staff with passion, drive, grit, amazing personalities, and willingness to learn Girl Scout songs, traditions, and leadership skills! Our paid training may include outdoor skills such as cooking, fire building, archery, crate stacking, small watercraft, lifeguarding, and more. Imagine what your resume could look like by the end of summer!

GSNI is an equal opportunity employer, including our summer camp programs. Applicants are encouraged to apply without regard to ethnic background, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Our staff embraces a wide range of lived experiences. It is important to us that our staff reflect the diverse groups of campers we serve. We believe our campers should have the benefit of a wide variety of role models. If you have a passion for sharing the outdoor experience, our camps may be for you!

To learn more and view all our summer camp positions, visit www.girlscoutsni.org/campstaff. Staff must be 18 years old prior to the first day of training.





FAQs

For General Summer Camp Programming:

Do I need to pick up my camper myself? How do I add an additional authorized pickup?

Active Camp and Class Manager does ask for an individual to be listed as

an approved pick-up person, but each camper will complete a paper pick-up release form for each camp session listing who (in addition to you) is allowed to pick them up and who is not. This additional form confirms for camp staff who can pick up in an emergency or on carpool days with other campers while maintaining the camper's safety.

Campers do not need to be picked up by their primary guardian, so grandparents, troop leaders, or trusted family friends may be listed on pick-up list. **All campers must be picked up by an adult over the age of 18.**

For safety, teenage campers, friends, and siblings will NOT be allowed to pick up any campers or release themselves. CITs/teen campers are also not allowed to drive themselves to/from camp for their session. An adult over the age of 18 is required to be present for pick-up and drop-off for all teenage campers.

Where is the camp paperwork packet?

Camp paperwork is available immediately after you register! Within the receipt, there will be a link in the confirmation message including the camper paperwork packet and waivers for the week. We highly encourage reviewing and completing paperwork as soon as you register as a doctor's signature and physical is required on health history paperwork!

Do I need to have my doctor complete my camper's health paperwork?

Our camper health histories require a recent physical and a signature by your doctor. Physicals must not be older than two years and can be school, sports, or standard physicals. A copy of school-required vaccinations must be attached as well.

Your camper's doctor must sign off on the health history this summer before attending camp. If these forms are not present during camp check-in, your camper will not be allowed to attend their camp session.

Please note: these health forms are not required for troop and family weekend campers.

Can I leave early or arrive late?

Yes, there is no change in price for leaving early or arriving late. Please notify camp staff via email or camp cell phone beforehand so arrangements for you and your camper can be made.

What if my camper needs medication while at camp?

During check-in, adults can leave medication with our healthcare staff in the health center. Campers will be called during mealtimes and before bedtime to visit the health center to take all medications. Day campers attending Thursday night overnights may bring nighttime medication during Thursday drop-off to be left with our healthcare staff.

Medication is distributed during mealtimes and immediately before bedtime each day. If your camper needs medication at a specific time, you must communicate this with camp staff during the health check at check-in each time your camper arrives for a camp session. A new medication log will also be required for each camp session if the camper is attending multiple camp sessions.

Per health department code, all medications, vitamins, allergy care, and creams/lotions must be in original bottles, and prescription medications must be prescribed to camper. Campers who need to administer shots must be able to do so themselves. Refrigeration for medication is available.

How do I get ahold of my camper during their stay? Can they bring a cell phone?

We do not allow cell phones at camp. We want the campers to truly engage in their camp experience and enjoy their time outdoors with their new camp friends! If a camper has a cell phone at our sleepaway or day camps, it will be confiscated by administrative staff for the item's protection and returned to the camper's guardian at check-out.

If you must contact camp, the camp's cell phone number will be released with your camp session's newsletter. You are also free to email customercare@girlscoutsni.org during the camp season.

Please remember camp staff do not have regular access to camp Rallyhood, Facebook pages and cannot receive messages through Facebook and Rallyhood.

For family and troop camps: adults and groups are free to keep their cell phones for emergencies or home-related needs, but we strongly encourage engaging with your youth campers during your stay.

What if my camper gets homesick?

It is not uncommon for campers to experience some homesickness while away at camp. Homesickness typically disappears within the first two days at camp as campers adjust to new people and routine.

Staff are trained to work through this with your camper, and they'll be there for your camper 24/7. If homesickness persists, camp staff will call home with your camper and discuss options with you about continuing the camp program.

We encourage families to foster independence during the school year to ease campers into staying overnight at camp. You are also welcome to write your camper letters, send a personal comfort item, or pack a gift for them.

Can I mail letters to my camper?

While we accept snail-mail for campers, our camps are located in rural areas and mail can sometimes be unreliable. We encourage any family member to

pre-write letters to their campers and drop them off at the check-in table before leaving during check-in. Mail from campers will be saved

and given to parents at check-out. Camper mail that arrives after camper has gone home will be returned via the Post Office.



Can my camper bunk with a “buddy”/friend/sibling?

All campers are assigned to tents or cabins (site specific) before their arrival at camp. During registration, you will be asked to provide a buddy’s name if your camper is coming with friends. Buddies who requested each other will be bunked together, and additional friends will be bunked based on the capacity of the tent/cabin.

Please note: siblings in different levels of Girl Scouting (example: a Brownie and a Cadette) may be in separate cabins/tents due to bunking campers within their appropriate age range but will see each other regularly for meals, all-camp activities, etc.

Camp is all about meeting new friends. Programs will take place to assist campers in meeting and getting to know other campers and staff at camp.

How do I obtain pictures from camp?

Camp administrative staff will have cameras and take pictures of every unit and camper as the week progresses. At the end of the session, camp staff will try to upload some pictures to the camp’s individual session’s Rallyhood pages, a private photo sharing site. Due to technology and internet restraints at camp, photo uploads may be delayed. All photos will be uploaded by the end of the summer.

Where do I find out about lost and found?

Lost and left-behind items are collected each day. Staff will do their best to reunite owners with their belongings daily. Lost and found items will be displayed during pick-up at the check-out table. However, please understand that reuniting with all lost items is not always possible.

Please write your camper’s full name on everything of importance—if it’s left behind, we’ll make every effort to contact you by phone or email. All lost and found items left at the end of the summer will be posted on the camp’s Facebook and Rallyhood pages. Any item not claimed by September 1 will be donated.

GSNI is not responsible for loss, theft, or damage to personal belongings, money, or items left at camp.

Are all camp staff women?

GSNI is an equal opportunity employer, including our summer camp programs. Applicants are encouraged to apply without regard to ethnic background, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation. Our



staff reflect a wide range of lived experiences. It is important to us that our staff reflect the diverse groups of campers we serve. We believe that our campers should have the benefit of a diverse group of role models.

For GSNI’s Sleepaway Camp

What is my camper’s schedule?

Campers will come together to decide what they want to do at camp. Their opportunities range from facilitated outdoor activities, outdoor skill development, aquatic activities, games, arts and crafts, badgework, and more. Schedule and activities will vary by week and by unit as campers plan out their time themselves.

My camper wants to attend the full week of the mini camps. Can they stay overnight during Tuesday night between the two sessions?

We do not offer overnights during Tuesday nights between mini camp sessions. This night off allows for mandatory staff breaks as well as cleaning/sanitation and preparation between campers. If you camper wishes to attend for a full week, there are many full week camp sessions to attend.

For GSNI's Day Camp

Is there transportation to and from day camp?

GSNI does not offer transportation services to Camp Dean or Camp McCormick. All campers must provide their own transportation.

My day camper is a picky eater. Can they bring their own lunch?

Hot lunches for all-day campers are provided by camp staff each day. If your camper wishes to bring a sack lunch, they are more than welcome. Microwaves are not available at camp.

Are there early/late hours for day campers?

We do not provide before or after care for day campers. All campers must arrive between check-in times and leave by check-out time each day.

Camp Jargons

Camp Staff Nicknames

During staff training, each camp staff member may choose a “camp name.” Camp counselor is a unique position between older siblings and authority figure. Camp names allow staff to create a memorable relationship with your camper distinguished from that of teachers, other authority figures, or even yourself. Camp names add to the magic of Girl Scout camp tradition that has been passed down for generations, beginning with Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low.

All Camp

This is a time when every camp session comes together for a large group activity. This can include camp-wide games, singing around the campfire, special guest presentations, and more. These activities are planned by our program team.

Grace/Thanks

Before each meal, campers come together to say thank you to the cooks and everyone helping prepare the meal. This is in line with Girl Scout traditions that many troops follow. Camp Thanks (formally “Grace”) does not tie in any religious affiliation, prayers, or versus. Common Thanks include songs of thankfulness towards camp cooks, silent personal reflection, or other unique camp songs about mealtime.

Camper's Choice

As a camper-driven program, we encourage campers to participate in as many camp activities as they can. Camper's Choice is a block where many camp activities are open at once, giving campers the ability to choose without worrying about what the overall unit wants to do. Activities vary each session but will include one of the following: aquatic activity, arts and crafts, archery, or crate stacking, badgework, outdoor skill development, games, themed-based activities, and nature/environmental activities.

Kapers

Each unit and each camper are requested to partake in kapers, or camp chores, each day. This is to ensure we leave every place better than we found it and promote responsibility and care towards our camp property and equipment. Campers gain a sense of pride in their units and camp and do their best to care for their home away from home.

Kapers last no more than 15 minutes and include activities like hopping (setting the tables) in the dining hall, cleaning the dining hall, cleaning the pool house, serving as color guards for flag ceremonies, collecting sticks for campfires, caring for the camp gardens, and more.

Cleaning buildings, such as the dining hall and pool house, involves quickly removing trash or lost-and-found items from sitting in these spaces. Campers assist in sweeping, mopping, wiping down counters,





sinks, toilet seats, and tables. Each unit works as a team to leave the building better than they found it, and many hands make the work go quickly. Campers never handle chemicals. Camp provides use of sanitation wipes while cleaning.

Swim and Tip Test

Swim and tip tests are performed by certified lifeguards prior to allowing campers to partake in some aquatic activities, including entering the deep end of the pool or entering canoe/kayaks. Campers who pass the swim test (swim one lap of the pool's length and tread water for one minute) will be given a colored swim cap or band to indicate permission to swim in the deep end. These swim caps/bands are worn every time a camper is swimming in the pool.

The tip test teaches campers how to reenter their canoe from the water if they fall out while in the pond.

Campers are guided by lifeguards in the pool before entering the pond to ensure each camper's competency in the task in case of emergency.

These tests are conducted in the beginning of each session based on if campers wish to utilize aquatic activities during their time at camp. These tests are optional for campers but required to go on canoes/kayaks or swim in the deep end. To promote the safety of all campers, swim and tip test are conducted each summer regardless of camper's previous status and experience with our pools. Status of passing is up to camp staff trained lifeguards.

Pack-outs

Campers will cook out in their units over a campfire at least once during their session. Campers collaborate with their unit to create a menu involving appetizers, main course, and dessert. Camp staff instructs campers on fire building and cooking techniques during this time. For pack-outs, campers will need their own mess kits (plastic plate, bowl, cup, and utensils) and a dunk bag for washing. Mess kits can be purchased at the Trading Post.

Trading Post

The Trading Post refers to our camp store. Families can leave money (cash, credit card numbers) and Cookie Dough/Cashew Cash/S'more Dough with the Trading Post for their campers to shop throughout the week. The Trading Post is also available during check-in and check-out for families to shop. Items sold include camp apparel, camping supplies (mess kits, flashlights, water bottles), stationery, stuffed animals, fun patches (not badges), and novelty mementos.



How do you know if your camper (and you) are ready for camp? What kind of camp—day only, overnight, or leadership? If your camper (and you) aren't ready for camp, you may want to wait. We'd LOVE to have you here, but we want to make sure it's an enjoyable experience for everyone.

Here are some questions to think about:

- ▶ Has your camper stayed overnight anywhere other than home?
How did that experience go? For you? Was your child sad, lonely, or homesick? Were they excited and want to go back?
- ▶ Can your camper perform the following tasks without your guidance—hair washing, teeth brushing, shower taking, sunscreen and bug spray application?
- ▶ Can your child keep track of belongings, such as a backpack and water bottle?
- ▶ Would your camper be comfortable walking with a buddy at night to the bathroom?
- ▶ Will your child be okay staying in a tent or cabin with new friends?
- ▶ Will your camper be afraid of camp critters such as spiders or other insects?
- ▶ Will your child try camp food that may not have been offered at home?
- ▶ Does your camper make friends easily and settle well into new environments?
- ▶ Is your child excited to go to camp even if attending without current friends?
- ▶ Will your child be okay staying at camp overnight without having communication with you? Will YOU be okay with that?



**Is Your
Camper
Ready for
Camp?**

Camp Readiness Survey

CIRCLE YOUR ANSWER	DAY CAMP
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I'm okay with staying with a buddy everywhere I go.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I can follow directions from camp staff.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am willing to make new friends and have fun without my family around.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I can ask camp staff for help if I need it.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I have a good attitude and try new things like new foods and activities!
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am responsible for my own possessions like my backpack and water bottle.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am able to put on sunscreen and bug spray by myself. I drink water with and without reminders.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am willing to help with camp kapers (chores).

16 points or less. NOT QUITE READY? *We understand! Camp has plenty of troop and family events where kids don't need to visit camp alone. Visit our website to find activities your family and troop can do together!*

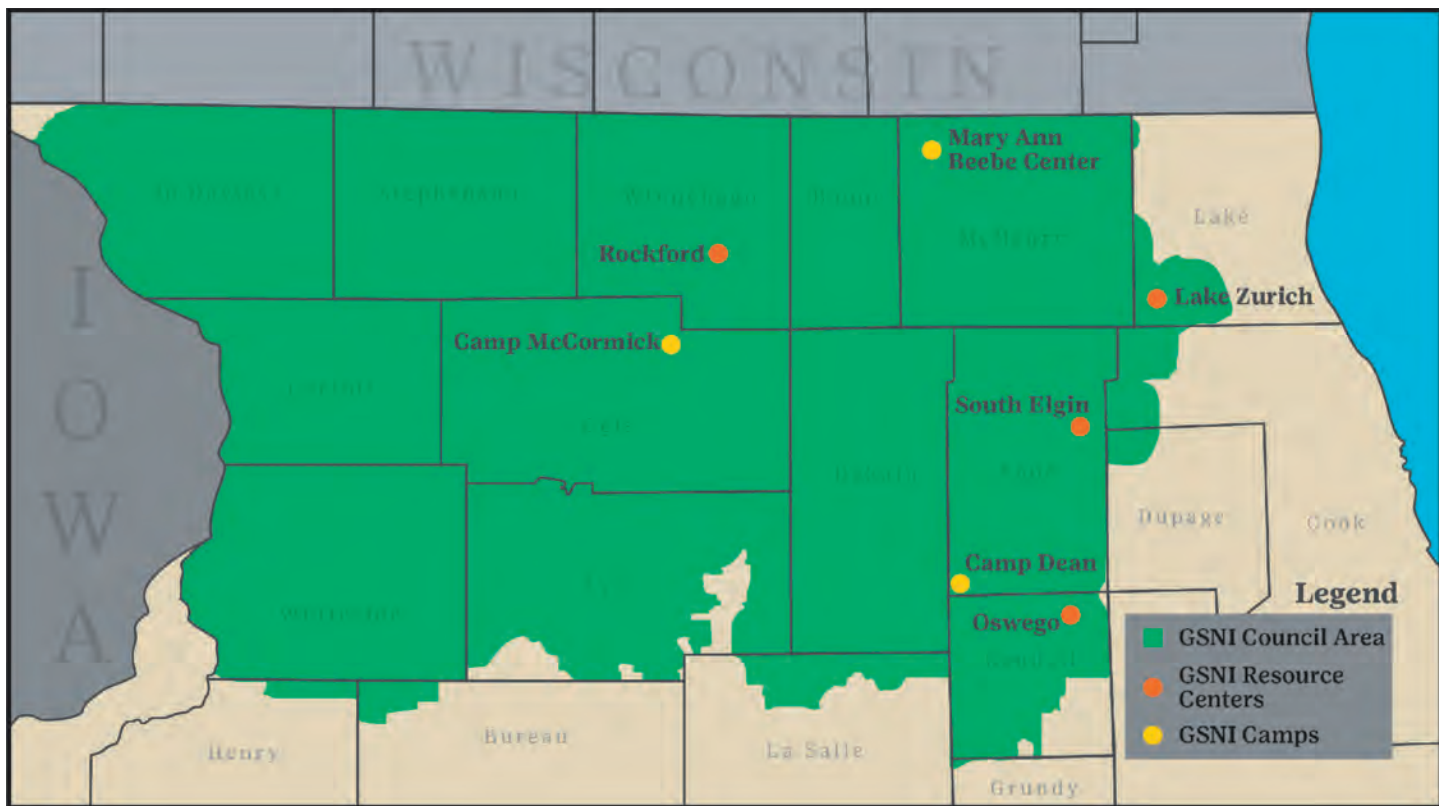
CIRCLE YOUR ANSWER	MINI-CAMP
	All of the above, plus:
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I have stayed overnight at a friend's house and/or outdoors at least one night.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am comfortable leaving my tent/cabin with a buddy at night to use the bathroom.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am able to take a shower, brush my hair, brush and floss my teeth, and stay hydrated (drink water) with and without reminders.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am able to "think ahead" and anticipate consequences of my actions.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I can follow all directions given by camp staff and maintain self-discipline at all times.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I can be away from my family without contact for two nights and three days.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I'm okay with staying overnight in a tent or cabin without adults, knowing they will be in another tent or cabin nearby.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I can make my own bed and keep my sleeping and activity areas cleaned up with little or no reminders.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am ready to be a part of a team with a cooperative spirit!

16 points or less. **NOT QUITE READY?** *This summer, a day camp might be ideal! Spend time this summer preparing for a mini-overnight camp next summer!*

CIRCLE YOUR ANSWER	FULL WEEK CAMP (6-DAY/5-NIGHT)
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am able to be away from my family and home for six nights.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I can pack, organize, and complete tasks without an adult to help.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	I am a self-starter, responsible, reliable, and conscientious of others in the group.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes 3 points <input type="checkbox"/> Maybe 2 points <input type="checkbox"/> No Way 1 point	Without exception, I can independently follow all rules!

16 points or less. **NOT QUITE READY?** *This summer, an overnight minicamp might be ideal! Spend time this summer preparing for a longer overnight camp next summer!*

More than 17 points? You're ready!
We can't wait to see you at camp this summer!



girl scouts of northern illinois

Camp Dean
46W253 Camp Dean Rd.
Big Rock, IL 60511

Camp McCormick
9995 N. Girl Scout Rd.
Stillman Valley, IL 61084

Mary Ann Beebe Center
17501 Streit Rd.
Harvard, IL 60033

www.girlscoutsni.org/campandoutdoors

Customer Care
1-844-476-4463
customercare@girlscoutsni.org