



Girl Scouts.
of Connecticut

Helpful Hints

Program Department Newsletter
March 2010

Register by April 1 for Summer Camp and Save!

The camp brochure has been mailed to homes across the state and the [expanded descriptions are posted online](#) at www.gsofct.org. Check out your favorite programs and some great photos! You can find a registration form in the back of your brochure. Fill it out and be one of the first campers to get her spot! You can also register [online](#) by selecting your camp in the activities drop-down menu. Horseback riding and adventure programs fill quickly so don't wait! Register and pay in full by April 1 and receive \$15 off each day camp registration and \$30 off each resident camp registration. Sign up today!

Planning Tips for Girl Scout Daisy Community Garden Take Action Project

Your Girl Scout Daisy Troop might want to consider using their Daisy friends and family members to create a list of possible community garden and open space locations. Garden locations for their Take Action project might include schools, town/city, hospitals, nursing homes, Girl Scout properties or playgrounds. Discuss which community areas might benefit from a simple beautification project such as a planting/growing gift, an indoor herb garden or primrose plantings. Together they can think about and help with an age-appropriate garden space in their community.

Mark your calendars!

Join us for regional kickoffs and see what is new for the 2011 Girl Scout year, and pick up your Troop's Program Book. Kick offs will be held at 5 locations between August 28-September 2, 2010. Be sure to have you Troop represented.

Stop Junk Mail and Save a Tree

Nearly 100 million trees get used for junk mail each year in the U.S. Go to www.stopjunkmail.org and download your free stop junk mail kit complete with sample letters and further links where your stop mail requests can be made to help in the effort. Before starting, either individually at home or as a troop weigh a week's worth of junk mail. Start your notification campaign. After a period of time, see how effective your campaign was and weigh another week of junk mail. Any change? Remember – every 115 lbs of junk mail equals one tree. Now take that week's weight reduction and figure how many trees were saved in a year by a small number of people!



Wicky – Wacky Walkaways

Ingredients

Pudding
Ice cream cones (flat bottomed)
Sprinkles, nuts, chocolate chips, coconut, etc

Assemble

Spoon pudding into cone (you can alternate between vanilla and chocolate for a swirl)
Garnish with your favorite topping
Walk – away & enjoy!

Product Sales

Reminder – Make sure that your Troop receives their cookie incentives during the month of May!

Lilly Pad Leap

Play this indoors or out, all you need is newspaper!

Set out various news papers folded into squares and tell kids they are the Lilly Pads! Have the kids run around until you shout "here comes the hungry fish!"

Girls have to jump on a lily pad to be safe. When the fish says "no food here I guess" the girls know it's safe to come off their lily pad. Next, take away one of the newspapers, keep doing this until you are down to the last newspaper. Any frog that gets caught or falls off the safe spot becomes a fish and helps catch the others. Visit this website for other game ideas!

<http://www.indianchild.com/outdoorgames.htm>



New uses for old magazines

Go to *How About Orange* for tutorials on Do-it-Yourself projects using discarded magazines. Once on the site, search recycled magazine coasters and gift bows from magazine pages. Both are made from cutting the magazine pages into strips. The bows are stapled or taped; the coasters are woven. Also try gift bags from envelopes.

<http://howaboutorange.blogspot.com>.



Save the Date

Save the Date for the 10th Annual Girl Scout Night at Pilot Pen Tuesday, August 24th @ 5:30 p.m. There will be a private meet and greet with a professional player for all Girl Scouts, followed by great tennis on the Stadium Court at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$9.00. For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Matt Fraenza 203-781-5811.

Spring has Sprung

Pondering Ponds: A perfect patch program for the spring! Girls of all age levels will enjoy learning about Pond life, water cycles and what they can do to help protect these elements of nature.

Follow the link for more information.

http://www.gsofct.org/pdf/membership/formLibrary/Pondering_Ponds_Patch.pdf.pdf

Put a Program Box In Your Troop Plans!

With the Girl Scout year in full swing, Leaders have so much on their minds from cookies to trips to programs to badges. So, instead of running ragged trying to juggle everything together, consider reserving a Program in a Box and have your Troop meeting planned for you. The Programs in a Box are a simple yet effective way to work towards a badge or learn something new.

The Programs in a Box offer a stress free way for leaders to begin their Girl Scouting year. The boxes can be rented for a small fee of \$10 and may be kept for up to four weeks.

Each box focuses on a theme and contains activities that can be used to earn a wide array of badges and patches. The boxes contain most of the materials the troop will need to complete each activity. Program Boxes offer a wide range of topics for all age levels to explore everything from Science to Art, as well as a wide range of other activities.

Encourage Troops to think of the various ways a box can fit into their plans or plan ahead for the school year and reserve early.

Boxes can be rented for \$10 and can be shipped (for an additional \$12) or picked up at the North Haven Service Center. Each box can be rented for up to 4 weeks. Reservations need to be in the office at least 2 weeks prior to rental date. For a reservation form or more information about Programs in a Box, contact Alyss Langello in the Program Department at 203-239-2922 or 1-800-922-2770 ext. 3350, or by email Alangello@gsofct.org.

Let us know!

What did you think about this edition of Helpful Hints? We'd love to hear your feedback, requests, and any other comments you would like to share! Contact Angela Silva at asilva@gsofct.org

