

# Summer Camp

# 2025

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## Guide to Camp

Day Camp at  
Cathy Novinger Girl Scout  
Leadership Center

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# A Day in the Life

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Every day at camp brings a new adventure!

After check-in, girls will be split into groups based on age level which will allow girls to develop friendships and work on activities suited to their level.

Activity blocks will be filled with programming such as traditional camp activities, badge work, and fun thematic activities. This includes songs, skits, water games, splash pad, cooking, crafts, rock wall, and more.

To keep camp life varied, we don't always follow the same schedule. We strive for a balance of structured activity and supervised free-play that encourages friendship building, creativity, and imagination.

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## Daily Schedule

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Early Check-in *additional fee
8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Check-in
8:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Morning activities + Outdoor games
11:30 a.m.	Lunch
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Choice Activity
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Afternoon activities + snack
4:00-4:30 p.m.	Kapers and cleanup
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Check-out
5:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Late Check-out *additional fee

# Themes and Fun

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Each week at camp is different! To see the descriptions of each week at camp and to register, visit our website!

Week 1— Camp Games

\*PA/CIT Training

Week 6— Fantasy and Fairytale

\*PA/CIT Training

Week 2— Popstar

\*PA/CIT Training

Week 7— Robotic Renegade

Week 3— Camp Cookin’

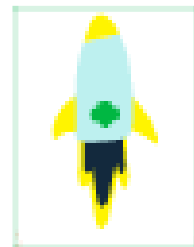
Week 8— Movie Madness

Week 4—Trashin’ Fashion

Week 9— Holidays at Camp

Week 5—Kitchen Science

(Half-week)



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## **Give your week an extra kick of fun by taking part in these theme days:**

Monday: Colorful Socks and Themed All Camp

Tuesday: Trading Post and Tie-dye—Bring your own shirt to tie-dye, and cash for the store

Wednesday: Camp Shirt day (all camp shirts welcome) and Creation Station

Thursday: Talent Show! Dress up for your talent

Friday: Tie-dye Shirt Day—show off your camp fashion and Camp Trivia and Closing Campfire



# Lunch

**Campers need to bring their lunch to camp everyday.** All campers should have a lunch bag/box that has their name on it and should be reasonably durable as it will be coming back and forth each day. We will be storing our lunches in the shade during program times; however, please provide cold packs for your camper's lunch if needed. Camper's lunches will not be placed inside of refrigerators. Don't forget to pack utensils that your camper may need.

## Dietary Needs

Please make sure your camper's health history is complete on CampDoc to help us prepare for any dietary needs. We often enjoy cooking activities during camp!

## Snacks

Girls are offered one snack each afternoon. We also enjoy creating snacks during camp!

## Peanuts

Girl Scouts of South Carolina camps are all peanut free facilities; please make sure your camper's lunch is safe for everyone.

## Hungry Campers!

Campers tend to be way hungrier with all the exciting physical activity! Please try to pack a little bit extra for your camper's lunch. When campers arrive, they should have had a healthy, substantial breakfast (campers may also bring breakfast to enjoy between 7:30 - 8:00 a.m., if arriving for early drop-off).

## Water, Juice, & Soda

All campers need a full, reusable water bottle everyday.  
Durable, insulated, and with a carry strap is best.

During lunch, campers can enjoy juice pouches and boxes, however, we ask that you do not pack powder packets for water bottles.

We also ask that you do not pack soda. We need to keep your camper properly hydrated as much as possible.

# Facilities

The Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center located in the heart of Columbia features state of the art equipment and facilities for our campers to experience. The center features:

**Healthy Living Kitchen:** Enjoy preparing healthy and fun dishes in our indoor and outdoor cooking spaces!

**Outdoor Activity Courtyard:** Play, dance, jump rope, draw with chalk, and have fun with our huge courtyard!

**STEM Lab:** Try your hand at some exciting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) projects in this lab equipped with all you need to make a robot, design a tower, and solve a problem.

**Art Studio:** Packed with all the supplies you will need to create something amazing. Enjoy your time in the studio with a counselor-led project or some free creativity time.

**Girl's Only Lounge:** Hang with the girls or watch a movie. Take some time to relax with your new BFFs.

**Climbing Wall:** Climb to the top and enjoy the view! Safely try your hand at rock climbing and rappelling.

**Large Multipurpose Activity Room:** With enough space to spread out, this room can do it all. Enjoy yoga, dance parties, games, and more in this space.

**Splash pad:** Cool down in the heat of the summer with this outdoor water feature!





# Check-In and Check-Out

To ensure safety of all staff, campers, and caregivers, we ask that all individuals stay in their vehicle during check in and out. To make this process as quick as possible, please have children ready with their belongings. More specific details about arrival and departure procedures are listed below.



## Arrival

Approach the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center from Gervais and Williams Street (just past the McDonald's). Pull into the gated driveway on the Northern side of the property. The gates (**red star**) will be open from 7:30 –8:30 a.m. Please remain in your car during the check-in process. **If arriving before 8:00 a.m., you will need to purchase our early drop-off option. Regular check-in starts at 8:00 a.m.**



Any campers being dropped off later than 8:30 a.m. will need to be walked in by an adult through our Lobby. The Front desk will let us know that you have arrived.

## Departure

Pick-up follows the same flow of traffic from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. **If arriving after 5:00 p.m., you will need to purchase our late pick-up option. Regular pick-in ends at 5:00 p.m. The caregiver picking up will need to be listed on the pick-up authorization form and will need to present a photo I.D.** Please check to make sure your camper has all their belongings before leaving each day.

**Please note that our offices are closed on Mondays, Tuesday-Thursday from 1:30-2:30 p.m., and Fridays at 1:30 p.m. The Camp Director will need to be notified about ALL late drop-offs and early pick-ups that are outside of normal drop-off and pick-up hours.**

# All things Medical

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Be sure to thoroughly fill out your camper's medical history forms on CampDoc. This allows our staff to prepare for any needs your camper may have. During check-in or beforehand, please address any medical concerns with our Camp Director.

## Medications

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Please bring all of your camper's medicine that they may need during the day with you to check-in each morning. Medication is defined as any substance a person takes/uses to maintain her health. **Safety standards require that all medications are in their original containers with labels indicating the camper's name, dosage, and administration instructions. Please be sure to put these in a Ziploc bag with camper's full name on it.**

All non-rescue medications are kept by our onsite staff and are administered according to the instructions written on the label by the physician. If your camper requires a specific type of food with her medication, please provide it, but remember that camp is a peanut-free environment.

Camp provides all as-needed medications listed on the Approved Medications form on CampDocs. Please do not bring these OTC medications to camp with you unless your camper requires them on a set schedule.

In the event your camper needs any as needed medications during the day, their primary caregiver will be contacted before administering them.

**If your camper requires a rescue medication such as an inhaler or epi-pen, please provide TWO.** Rescue medication will be noted by the Camp Director but should be taken directly to the counselor during check-in. The rescue medication is carried by her counselor.

## Special Needs and Concerns

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It is our hope to be able to remain inclusive and to serve all girls wishing to attend camp. In many cases accommodations can be made, but each camper must be able to function safely in the adult-to-camper ratios listed in our Safety Activity Checkpoints. Providing a safe and positive experience to all campers is extremely important to us. We reserve the right to make decisions about participation based on the extent of the girl's special needs and our ability to meet those needs in a camp setting. Please contact the Camp Director if you have any questions or concerns about your girl attending camp.





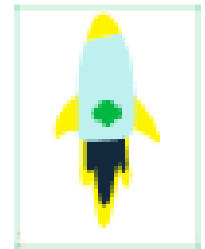
# Program Aides and Counselors in Training

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Rising 7th-12th grade Girl Scouts, are welcome to join the CNGSLC Day Camp to practice their leadership skills. These Program Aides (PAs) and Counselors in Training (CITs) will spend their days leading crafts, games, songs, and more.

PAs and CITs are encouraged to sharpen their leadership skills by leading group activities, such as our weekly Camp Games on Wednesdays. We know that our PAs and CITs will get better at being leaders by actually leading—we want them to facilitate activities that they are confident in, and even try new things!

Our PAs and CITs will have plenty of time in their schedule to participate in their own fun, from rock wall to art. We encourage our PAs and CITs to be their own unique selves, and to be great role models for our younger girls at camp.



## Not trained on PA or CIT yet?

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There are three weeks of training for Program Aides and Counselors in Training. Our Girl Scouts will receive training during their time at day camp, as well as get hands-on instructions on how to be successful leaders.

After girls have gone through the hands-on training session, they are welcome to join Day Camp for the remainder of the summer to practice their leadership skills!

### **All PAs and CITs should bring the following items:**

- ☐ Willingness to learn and work
- ☐ Kindness and care for younger campers
- ☐ A lanyard for your camp name-tag
- ☐ Full backpack (no tiny string bags)
- ☐ Wrist watch
- ☐ Assorted pens they may want to use (or we will provide basic blue or black pens!)

# Oh, What to Bring!

Having the right items with you makes camp so much more fun! Campers are encouraged to wear play clothes—we'll get messy! All shorts should be at an appropriate length and shirts must be long enough to cover the midriff. Shirts should also have at least short capped sleeves, no tank tops or spaghetti straps, please.

## Mandatory Items:

- ☐ **Socks and full lace up, comfortable tennis shoes**- We will be rock climbing and playing outdoor games! We don't want any shoes left behind! Crocs DO NOT count as closed-toed shoes.
- ☐ **Day Backpack**- Full straps is best and with enough room for everything!
- ☐ **Durable water bottle** - While insulated types are a little more expensive, they tend to keep water colder long which will keep your camper drinking! They also tend to be more durable. A carry strap is a good addition to keep your camper's hands free to explore.
- ☐ **Lunch in separate lunch bag/box**- Durable, temperature controlled lunch container will help your camper's sandwich stay cool! Remember to add an ice pack and some reusable silverware if needed. **Please remember we are a peanut free camp.**
- ☐ Sunscreen (SPF 30+)
- ☐ Bug spray
- ☐ Bathing suit
- ☐ Beach Towel
- ☐ Plastic bag for wet clothes
- ☐ Water shoes or caged sandals for water activities: Old tennis shoes work well or Keens/Crocs with full toed cage and back strap.

## Optional Items:

- ☐ Hat
- ☐ Sunglasses
- ☐ Brush/comb, hair ties
- ☐ Disposable camera
- ☐ Bandana - Necessary for campfires to keep hair back!
- ☐ Rain coat or poncho

## Please do not bring:

- \* Electronics or other technology
- \* Cell phones
- \* Stuffed Animals or dolls
- \* Gum or Candy
- \* Soda
- \* Expensive items
- \* Matches or candles
- \* Pocket knives
- \* Irreplaceable items
- \* Personal sports equipment

**Please remember to label all items. Camp staff are not responsible for lost items, but will make every effort to get missing items back to you.**

# Oh, What to Bring - overnight edition!

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Having the right items with you makes camp overnights so much more fun! Please make sure to label all items with camper first and last name! Everything needs to be able to fit into one overnight bag.

Camp Cookin' Overnight: June 19, 2025

Trashin' Fashion Overnight: June 26, 2025

Robotic Renegade Overnight: July 17, 2025

Movie Madness Overnight: July 24, 2025

## **Mandatory Items:**

- ☐ Clothes for Friday—shorts and t-shirt, as well as undergarments
- ☐ Pajamas
- ☐ Sleeping bag and/or sheets and blanket
- ☐ Pillow and one stuffed animal
- ☐ Toiletry items
  - ☐ Shampoo and conditioner
  - ☐ Toothbrush and toothpaste
  - ☐ Facewash and deodorant
  - ☐ Towel and washcloth
  - ☐ Hairbrush and hair ties
  - ☐ Other toiletry items
- ☐ Socks or slippers for evening
- ☐ Evening/morning medication

## **Suggested items:**

- ☐ Book or quiet evening activity
- ☐ SWAPS for other campers
- ☐ Nightlight

## **Please do not bring:**

- \* Electronics or other technology
- \* Cell phones
- \* Gum or Candy
- \* Soda
- \* Expensive items
- \* Matches or candles
- \* Pocket knives
- \* Irreplaceable items
- \* Personal sports equipment

**Please remember to label all items. Camp staff are not responsible for lost items, but will make every effort to get missing items back to you.**

# Trading Post

Camp has a special store called the Trading Post! This shop is open to campers on Tuesdays, where they can explore and purchase fun Girl Scout items from water bottles to hair ties, to the 2025 Camp Shirt!

Got Cookie Dough? Girls can use their Cookie Dough they earned from the Girl Scout Cookie Program in our Trading Post!

Want to know how much Cookie Dough your girl has? Check your email for a confirmation following the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Additionally, you can call or email Customer Care and they can confirm your total amount available.

**More information will be available early Spring 2025 for specific details around our camp shirt and other fun, special items that will be available for purchase.**

## Camp T-shirts coming soon!

Every summer, our camp has a new Camp T-shirt. We rep ours with pride throughout the year!



There is no expectation for any girl to purchase items at the Trading Post.

Our Girlz Gear shop is open year round—the fun doesn't end when summer camp ends! Check out our website for store hours.

**Trading Post happens on the same day as Tie-dye! Monday nights are a good time to pack your girls shirt for tie-dye as well as any cash in a zip-lock bag with her name clearly written on it!**

# S'more Information

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**What paperwork do we need to bring?** Most paperwork is completed online ahead of time using CampDocs. If you have trouble completing or uploading a form, please bring it to check-in. If paperwork is not completed prior to the start of camp, or provided at check-in, your camper will not be allowed to stay at camp until paperwork is completed.

**Can I bring my pet to check-in/check-out (out of the vehicle)?** No. Family pets are not allowed on any camp property, including during camp check-in and pick-up.

**Where can I smoke on property during check-in/check-out?** Smoking is not permitted on any camp property by staff or visitors.

**What if my camper is homesick?** Our counselors are all trained to help campers with the adjustment to camp life. Generally, girls are comfortable within a couple days. However, if your camper is excessively homesick, team members will call home.

**What if my camper doesn't know any other girls at camp?** Your child will make new friends at camp! Our camp staff are trained to lead games and activities that allow the girls to get to know each other, work together, and share their individual personalities with the whole group! With their counselor's guidance, your camper will have a blast with her new friends!

**Can my camper bring electronics to camp?** Cellphones, televisions, iPods, radios or game devices (anything with a screen) are not allowed at camp.

**What happens if the weather is bad?** Weather is closely monitored by the Camp Director. Our staff is trained to carry out emergency procedures in the event of a weather-related emergency at camp. Depending on the type and severity of the weather situation, certain camp activities may be canceled or postponed in order to ensure the safety of our campers and staff.

**Is there anything we can't bring to camp?** Electronic devices, pocket knives, cash, expensive clothing or other expensive items.

**Can I visit camp to see my camper?** Visitors are not allowed during the day.

# S'more Information

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**Who are your staff members?** The majority of our counselors are college students and many are former campers. ALL have completed our staff trainings. All of our staff members are trained in First-Aid and CPR.

**Do you background check your staff?** Yes. All of our staff members pass applications, interviews, reference checks, drug and criminal background checks before the start of every summer.

**How will I know my camper is being supervised properly?** Camp staff members are specially trained to focus on each camper's well-being and safety. Supervision not only includes making sure girls are safe during activities, but also that they are drinking water, applying sunscreen, and that healthy relationships are growing in their group. Girl Scouts place a high priority on safety and train staff in all aspects of camp life - from leading activities to cooking or using the fire pit. Our goal is to carefully prepare and plan for each camp experience with your camper in mind.

**What number do I call if I need to reach camp for an Emergency during my camper's session?** Please call the front desk at 800-849-4475. Remember that while we do check messages frequently, we spend most of our time out in camp with the girls, so it may take us a little bit to check your message and get back to you.

**Please note that our front office operates on normal business hours and different procedures will need to be followed if the front office is not available. Refer to page 6 for more information.**

We are eager to share this summer with our amazing campers. Let us know if you have any additional questions by contacting [Customercare@gssc-mm.org](mailto:Customercare@gssc-mm.org).