

What Can A Cookie Do?

The Girl Scout Cookie Activity is a tradition that dates back to as early as 1917, when Girl Scouts began selling home-baked cookies to help earn money for their troop and community. Since then the Girl Scout Cookie Activity has grown into a highly successful program that helps girls learn and practice important leadership skills while earning money for their troop and council activities.

Girl Scouts of Central Illinois wants to thank you for being part of this activity. Without your efforts and the efforts of the girls, GSCI could not adequately fund the programs we offer in our council's jurisdiction. We look forward to a great program activity. With your assistance, we know we can reach our goal.

The Girl Scout Cookie Activity is the leading entrepreneurial program for girls in the country and helps support them directly through troop proceeds, council-sponsored activities, program offerings, and financial assistance. The Girl Scout Cookie Activity also indirectly supports leader training and program materials for troops as well as the maintenance of council-owned properties.

Things to Know

- Every registered Girl Scout is eligible to participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Activity.
- ABC Bakers is our cookie distributor for this year's cookie activity. We will be selling eight delicious varieties of cookies.
- This year's cookie varieties are Caramel deLites, Peanut Butter Patties, Shortbread, Thin Mints, Lemonades, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Thanks-A-Lot, and Shout Outs!

- The cost of cookies is \$4.00 per box.
- Girls must be registered Girl Scouts to participate in this activity. All troop leaders and troop cookie coordinators must also be registered Girl Scouts.
- Participating in the Girl Scout Cookie Activity is a simple, fast, and easy way to add to troop proceeds.

Additionally, ABC Bakers has supplied us with a variety of materials that will make this a great learning experience. These materials will teach girls about and goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Participating in the Girl Scout Cookie Activity is an opportunity for your girls to begin learning important life lessons such as self-reliance and responsibility.



Important Dates

Cookie Order Taking	January 13 - February 5, 2012
Cookie Order Placement by	February 13, 2012
Cookie Service Area Delivery	March 5 - 9, 2012
Girls Deliver Cookies	March 6 - 21, 2012
Money from Girls	March 23, 2012
Troop Funds in Troop Account	March 26, 2012
Outstanding Balance Forms, Parent Permission Forms, and Receipt Books Due to Service Center by	March 26, 2012

Girl Scouts of Central Illinois

3020 Baker Drive, Springfield, IL 62703 Ph: 877-231-1446 Fax: 217-523-8321
www.girlscouts-gsci.org

Bloomington Service Center
(800) 777-1912

Champaign Service Center
(800) 328-5112

Decatur Service Center
(800) 791-9319

Peoria Service Center
(800) 640-8671

Quincy Service Center
(877) 477-4757

Springfield Service Center
(877) 231-1446

General Information & Guidelines

Please be sure to read the Troop Cookie Coordinator Guide for comprehensive information about the Girl Scout Cookie Activity.

Who is eligible to participate in this activity?

All registered Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts are eligible to participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Activity if they owe no money to the troop or the council and if they have a signed parent permission form turned in to the troop leader before the activity begins. A troop leader has the right to deem a girl ineligible to participate in the activity if she does not meet the requirements.

Troops may participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Activity when:

- the current registration for all girls participating in the activity has been turned in to the council
- the troop owes no money to the council
- the troop financial report is on file with the council
- the troop leader has been trained on the cookie activity

What guidelines must be followed when participating in the activity?

Council guidelines regarding product program activity must be followed at all times. This is for your safety as well as for the girls.

How to handle girls who sell early

The Girl Scout Law says that a Girl Scout's honor is to be trusted. We strongly recommend that leaders emphasize fairness, honor, and honesty as part of their training for the activity. After all, these values should be emphasized in all Girl Scout activities. We recommend that girls' order forms not be distributed until the last possible time before the order period begins.

Can cookies be returned if not sold?

Unfortunately, cookies cannot be returned if they are not sold. The council cannot accept returns on unsold products for many reasons. Troops are responsible for all the cookies they order. If troops find that they have ordered more than they can sell, they should call you. You may be able to guide them to another troop who may need additional cookies.

Troop Proceeds and Troop Bonus

Each troop will receive \$.50 per box of cookies. A troop bonus of \$50 will be given to troops whose members sell an average of 150 boxes per girl selling (with a minimum of 750 boxes sold) and have established a troop checking account which is ACH ready.

Troop Orders

All troops will place their orders online at the ABC Cookie website at www.abcsnap.com. This is a fast, easy, and convenient way to place the troop order. Each troop cookie coordinator will be given instructions and a username and password to place orders online.

Girl Recognitions and Cookie Dough

Girls will receive \$.23 per box in Cookie Dough for every box they sell. Cookie Dough will be distributed on a Girl Scout Cookie Dough gift card. Every girl who participates in the Girl Scout Cookie Activity and sells cookies will receive a Girl Scout Cookie Dough card. Cookie Dough may be used for events and activities (resident camp, day camp, one-day events, and bus trips), membership registration, cookie recognitions, and merchandise in the council shops. **Cookie Dough will expire on September 22, 2012.** Along with Cookie Dough, girls will receive cookie recognitions - please refer to the Troop Cookie Coordinator Guide for details.

Shortages and Damage

If you should have any shortages or damaged cookies during your delivery pick-up, please contact your service center immediately. Arrangements will be made to fill any shortages and replace the damaged products.

Emergency Procedures

As in the case of any emergency occurring during a Girl Scout activity, follow the Council Emergency Procedures as outlined in the *Volunteer Essentials*.

In the event of complaints involving cookies (foreign particles in the cookies, damaged boxes, or any other complaint), the following procedures apply:

- Contact your service center immediately.
- Arrangements will be made to retrieve the cookies and box as promptly as possible after the complaint is received. This will be done by the service center or may be requested of the troop cookie coordinator, troop leader, service area manager, or other adult close to the situation. The box and cookies should be retrieved as undisturbed as possible.
- Refer all calls from the media to the service center. (All public statements should be made by the designated council spokesperson.)
- When appropriate, ask the party involved to make comments in writing to the council.
- Offer the customer a replacement box of cookies.

Questions?

If you have any questions regarding the 2012 Girl Scout Cookie Activity, please contact your local service center.