

# Water Drop Patch Requirements

The Water Drop Patch Project inspires Girl Scouts to learn about water quality and to take action in their communities to protect and restore local water resources, including their local rivers, lakes, streams, wetlands and ground water. The project supports the Girl Scout Leadership Experience by promoting the following goals for girls:

- Discover — Explore the natural world to learn about watersheds and water pollution
- Connect — Use skills and knowledge to work with others to educate our communities about the need to protect the nation's valuable water resources
- Take Action — Make a difference by doing your part to keep water clean

**Complete the number of activities as required below by grade level. Complete and submit the evaluation on page three.**

## Grade Level Activity Requirements

**Brownies:** Complete any 4 of the Activities for All Ages

**Juniors:** Complete any 5 of the Activities for All Ages

**Cadettes:** Complete any 6 of the Activities for All Ages

**Seniors:** Complete any 7 of the Activities for All Ages

**Ambassadors:** Complete 2 Ambassador only Activities plus any 5 of the Activities for All Ages



## Activities for All Ages



Find out what different plants and animals live in your watershed. The Chesapeake Bay, for example, is home to more than 27,000 species of plants and animals. How many kinds of wildlife can you identify (e.g., crabs, oysters, waterfowl and fish)? Why are underwater bay grasses important?



Go on a hike with your troop or group and follow a local creek or stream. Where does the stream drain? What does it pick up along the way? What happens when it rains? How does the stream change? What insects, birds, plants or aquatic life do you observe? Use a United States Geological Survey (USGS) map or draw your own to illustrate your local watershed. USGS topographic maps can be obtained by calling (888) ASK-USGS or online at [www.topomaps.usgs.gov](http://www.topomaps.usgs.gov). Share with others what you have learned.



Create an attractive wall mural for your school or community with messages about clean water. Some ideas for themes might be “We all live downstream,” “What is a watershed?” “Where does my drinking water come from?” or “The Wonders of Wetlands.” You might take a look at a poster series developed by the USGS at [www.water.usgs.gov/outreach/OutReach.html](http://www.water.usgs.gov/outreach/OutReach.html) for some ideas. Display your mural where others in your community can see it!



Visit a local aquarium or a natural history museum to see specimens of aquatic life. Share your experiences with your troop or group and family. Consider visiting one of Coastal America's Coastal Ecosystems Learning centers if there is one near you. Check out Coastal America's online at

[www.coastalamerica.gov](http://www.coastalamerica.gov) or call (202) 401-9928. Find out how Coastal America, a partnership of eleven federal agencies and the Executive Office of the President, is helping to protect the manatee, the whooping crane, salmon and the right whale.



Visit a local wastewater treatment plant or water filtration plant to see how wastewater is treated or drinking water is purified. Look at the treated water as it is being discharged into your river, stream or estuary. Is it clear? Does it stink?



Participate in a special activity during May to celebrate American Wetlands Month. For wetlands ideas, see the list below or visit [www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/awm).



Identify one or two women working in water resource protection and invite them to come to speak to your troop or group about their careers. Before they come to speak, help the girls develop a list of questions that they may want to ask. Another idea is to ask the girls if they have any particular water careers that they'd like to hear about and then try and find speakers from those fields.



Organize a Storm Drain Marking Project in your neighborhood. Produce and distribute a flyer or door hanger for local households to make them aware of your project and to remind them that storm drains dump directly into your local water body. Guidelines for the project are on pages 15–18 in the Water Drop Manual.



Go on a stream, wetlands or lake walk and make observations and assessments of water body conditions. See “Stream Walk Project,” pages 19–33 in the Water Drop Manual for details, assessment forms, and further information.

## **Ambassadors Only Activities**



Find a watershed group in your community and volunteer to help with a project. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed Web site ([www.epa.gov/adopt](http://www.epa.gov/adopt)) to search for an organization active in your watershed. Consider applying for a Five Star Wetlands Restoration Grant with four other community partners. Visit [www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star).



Construct a rain garden. Help your community deal with storm water pollution by doing your part. Be sure to tell community members about your efforts and explain to them what a difference it can make. See pages 43–45 in the Water Drop Manual for more information on developing a plan and executing the project.



Produce a video or public service announcement that highlights the importance of watershed protection. Illustrate ways that Girl Scouts and others can get involved in protecting your local stream, river, wetland, lake or estuary. Share your video with your friends, fellow students and community. Consider posting it on You Tube or another video-sharing Web site. If the production quality is good, explore other ways to broadcast it, including your local television station or community cable network. Also consider broadcasting the audio portion on a local radio station

# Water Drop Patch Program Evaluation and Patch Sheet



Leader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Troop Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please print clearly*

**Grade Level:** (please circle all that apply)

Daisy      Brownie      Junior      Cadette      Senior      Ambassador

Number of girls who participated: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of adults who participated: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Center:**

Decatur      Champaign      Springfield      Quincy      Peoria      Bloomington      Peru

Are you able to pick up your patches at your local service center?      YES      NO

Number of patches needed: \_\_\_\_\_ (FREE)

1. What was the girls' favorite part of the patch program?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What are three things girls learned from the patch program?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Which requirements were completed?

Complete and return to:  
GSCI- Peoria Service Center c/o Water Drop  
1103 W. Lake Ave, Peoria IL 61614  
Or E-mail to: [Knolan@girlscouts-gsci.org](mailto:Knolan@girlscouts-gsci.org)  
(Please allow 2-3 weeks for patch delivery)