



Camp Hawthorne Ridge

Camp Confirmation Packet:
Resident Camp





Dear Camp Hawthorne Ridge camper,

I am so excited to welcome you to Camp Hawthorne Ridge this upcoming summer. The camp staff and I are proud of the planning and preparation for the many fun and exciting activities and programs we have this season. We are thrilled that you will be joining us to go on many adventures, make new friends (and keep the old), and make incredible memories that you will carry throughout your lifetime.

Camp Hawthorne Ridge is a magical place where a Girl Scout can be her authentic and empowered self. This confirmation packet is intended to be read by you, the Girl Scout attending camp, and has been designed to effectively prepare you for your time at camp. If you have an adult helping you plan, pack, or do anything else to prepare for camp—read this together.

This confirmation packet includes important information that you will need to review before you arrive at Camp Hawthorne Ridge. Please be sure to read it in its entirety to fully prepare you for your camp adventure!

New in 2022—our forms and paperwork are going digital! You will be sent the needed forms after your registration is processed. These forms are so important because they help us understand who you are, what you do and do not like, and what you're most excited for at camp. In the event you forget to submit a form, there will be copies available to complete at check-in. *These forms are required.*

We are looking forward to a fantastic summer at Camp Hawthorne Ridge and we are excited for you to join in the fun.

See you at camp!

Forest

Camp Hawthorne Ridge Camp Director

E: scapilongo@gswpa.org

T: 800-248-3355

Camp Phone: 412-999-4149

7755 Hawthorne Ridge Road

Girard, PA 16417

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Getting Ready for Camp!

Preparation Checklist

There are many ways to prepare for the adventure of summer camp! Here are a few of our best tips and tricks to ensure you have the maximum amount of fun at Camp Hawthorne Ridge:

- Read and review this confirmation packet in its entirety – a Girl Scout is always prepared! This confirmation packet is intended for you, the Girl Scout, to read and review.
- Have conversations with your friends, family, troop leader, and others who can help you prepare for your upcoming adventure!
- Have a camping practice run to get prepared! Here are some fun activities to try out:
 - Pack an overnight bag (remember all the essentials—see our “Packing List” below).
 - Have a sleepover or slumber party with a fellow Girl Scout, friend, or family member.
 - Practice setting up a tent, making your bed, and/or preparing your sleep space.
 - Keep a journal handy if you would like to document your adventure!
 - Enjoy a campfire dessert—s’mores are a camp staple!

Packing List

Clothing

- 7 T-shirts
- 7 changes of underwear
- 7 pairs of socks
- 1 pair long socks
- 2 sweatshirts
- 1 pair sweatpants
- 5 pairs of shorts
- 1 pair long pants/jeans
- 1 swimsuit
- 1 beach towel
- 2 pairs closed-toed shoes (NO open-toe shoes are allowed at camp!)
- 1 pair of shower shoes
- 1 pair water shoes or crocs
- 5 pairs of pajamas
- Rain jacket
- Hat

Personal Care

- Hair care products
- Soap/body wash
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Menstrual supplies
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Shower caddy

Linens

- Set of twin sheets
- Sleeping bag
- Blanket
- Pillow
- 1-2 bath towels
- 3 washcloths
- Laundry bag

Additional Items

- Reusable water bottle
- Backpack or slingback
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- Envelopes (**pre-addressed and stamped**)
- Day pack or backpack for daily use

Optional Items

- Sunglasses
- Disposable camera
- Journal
- Toiletry container/carrier
- Playing cards or other game(s)

Items to Leave at Home

- Camp has a policy of no electronic equipment. This includes cell phones, electronic games, iPod/MP3 players, laptops/iPads, etc.
- Illegal drugs and/or drug paraphernalia, tobacco products and/or vaping devices, alcohol, knives, guns, or any weapon, fireworks or explosives, matches, lighters, or candles.

Needed Forms

New in 2022—our forms and paperwork are going digital! You will be sent the needed forms after your registration is processed. These forms are vital to providing the best possible camp experience. In the event you forget to submit a form, there will be copies available to complete at check-in. *These forms are required.*

Camper Code of Conduct and Camp Information Form

This is an acknowledgment that your adult gives permission for you to attend resident camp. This form allows you to disclose any health needs, medication needs, dietary needs, etc. This form also acknowledges your safety at camp. This form is an acknowledgment that you will abide by the Girl Scout Law and Girl Scout Promise during your time at camp. Failure to abide by the Camper Code of Conduct may result in dismissal from activities or camp.

Health History Form

This form provides the camp director and healthcare manager with any crucial medical information to ensure you have a safe experience at camp as well as any needed information in the event of an emergency.

Camper Information Sheet

This form is vital to a great camp experience! This form is shared with your unit leader and counselors for them to better understand you, your interests, former camping experiences, and your hopes for your time at camp.

Camper Check-In/Check-Out Form

This form indicates who is allowed to pick you up at check-out. This form should be filled out by your adult. **The name(s) on this form must match the photo I.D. shown to the camp director at check-out. You will not be released to any individual not listed on this form.**

Camp Procedures

Check-In and Check-Out Procedures

Check-In

Check-in time is 2 p.m. for all campers. Early arrivals will be queued at the front gate until check-in time.

Upon your arrival at Camp Hawthorne Ridge, you will follow the main circle and stop at Thompson Hall. There, you will check in with both the camp director and camp healthcare manager.

At the check-in stop, you will do the following:

1. Greet Forest, the Camp Hawthorne Ridge camp director. She will verify your name and camp session, check your forms, communicate your unit and unit leader for the week, and be available for any questions you may have.
2. Meet our camp healthcare manager to complete your health check and to check in any medications and/or discuss any medical needs, communicate and confirm any food allergies, and ask any questions you may have regarding health management or dietary needs. (*Health checks are to ensure the health and safety of our Girl Scouts and include a temperature check, scalp check for lice, and a check for hand, foot, and mouth disease.*)
3. Once your health check is complete, your adult may drive you and your luggage to your assigned unit.
4. You will then be greeted by a camp staff member from your unit who can answer any questions you may have and help you meet new friends. Once the luggage is unloaded, this is your time to say goodbye to your adult!

Check-Out

1. Your adult will check in with the camp director at Thompson Hall. There, they will present photo I.D. (**This I.D. MUST match the name(s) you have listed on your camper check-out form.**)
2. They will also receive any left-over trading post money you have not spent.
3. After checking in at Thompson Hall, they will drive to the unit you were staying at for the week to pick up you and your belongings.

Living Accommodations

You will find out your living unit at check-in. Living units are determined by enrollment numbers, camp session activities, and any other needed accommodations. At Camp Hawthorne Ridge, we have the following living accommodations:

- Athodanac Cabins
 - Rustic cabins accommodate up to eight Girl Scouts.
 - Four composting toilets are available for use, and showers are nearby at the pool shower house.
 - The rustic cabin unit has a pavilion and fire ring that you will utilize throughout the week.
- Platform Tents at Beechwood and Tanglewood
 - Platform tents are large canvas tents that accommodate four Girl Scouts.
 - Each platform tent unit has four composting toilets available for use, and showers are nearby at the pool shower house.
 - Each platform tent unit has a pavilion and fire ring that you will utilize throughout the week.
 - Platform tents do not have electricity. We recommend packing fairy lights or other battery-powered lights to decorate the tent or lodge.
- Perry, Daisy, and Curtze Lodge
 - Lodges include bunk beds and accommodate anywhere from 15-34 Girl Scouts.
 - Lodges include flush toilets and shower facilities.

Emergency Procedures

Camp Hawthorne Ridge has a comprehensive and extensive Emergency Action Procedure Plan that includes emergencies such as inclement weather/flooding, fire, missing camper, etc. A copy of this plan is available to review at check-in if desired.

Inclement weather such as thunderstorms does sometimes occur during camp. During a thunderstorm, all campers will be indoors until the storm passes and there is no thunder or lightning for 30 minutes consecutively.

If you have a personal or family emergency occur during your time at camp, your adult can contact the camp director. At this time, an action plan can be made that includes talking about the emergency, arranging pick-up (if needed), and any other needs. The camp director for Camp Hawthorne Ridge, Forest, can be reached at:

Stephanie 'Forest' Capilongo

E: scapilongo@gswpa.org

T: 412-999-4149

During business hours (Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m.-noon), you may also call our customer care line at (800) 248-3355 and they can patch you through directly.

Dietary Needs

If you have any dietary restrictions or any additional dietary needs that are not listed on your registration, please reach out to the camp director prior to your arrival. Meals consist of balanced options and alternatives (salad bar, peanut butter and jelly, etc.). Vegetarian options are available at each meal and vegan options can be made available with advance notice.

Please refrain from bringing additional snacks or food to camp or packing them in your luggage. This is to prevent wildlife from intruding in your living space. Any food packed or brought will be locked away inside our Dining Hall and returned at check-out. No snacks will be returned at check-out.

Celebrating Birthdays at Camp

If you will be celebrating a birthday during your time at camp, a special treat from our camp staff will be provided for you and your unit to celebrate! Please remind camp staff at check-in about your upcoming birthday while at camp.

Electronics at Camp

Camp has a policy of **no electronic equipment**. This includes cell phones, electronic games, iPod/MP3 players, laptops/iPads, hair dryers, etc. Electronic use during resident camp greatly contributes to homesickness and thus affects your camping experience.

Camp Hawthorne Ridge and Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania cannot be held responsible for items lost or stolen at camp. In addition, Camp Hawthorne Ridge does not have secure places for these items to be charged or stored. Any electronic devices will be confiscated, locked in the office, and returned to your adult at check-out.

Lost and Found

Please label all items packed for camp with your name. Any lost and found items from the week will be on display at check-out. Lost and found will be stored at camp until the conclusion of the camp season—August 30, 2022—with every effort to reunite lost items with campers. After this date, lost and found items will be donated or discarded.

Mail

Adults—mail is an important part of resident camp and campers look forward to receiving notes and letters from their friends and family. You may either leave mail at check-in (labeled with your camper's name and the day you would like them to receive it), or you can mail it ahead of time to camp. Do not include any food in any care packages or mail! **Please be sure to send items approximately two weeks prior to your Girl Scout's camp session to ensure their arrival time.**

Address mail to:
Camper Name
Camper Session
Camp Hawthorne Ridge
7755 Hawthorne Ridge Road
Girard, PA 16417

Swim Check

During your first visit to the swimming pool, you will participate in a “swim check.” During the swim check, you are asked to swim across the pool and tread water. This determines if you can freely swim in the deep end of the pool. If you do not pass the swim check, that is okay! You can swim freely in the shallow end of the pool. Camp Hawthorne Ridge always has a lifeguard on duty.

Photos of and Updates

Photos will be taken during camp of you participating in various camp activities. These photos will be uploaded to the Rallyhood page throughout the week. (Your adult will receive an email invitation to this page). Updates and fun tidbits about your unit and session will also be shared on Rallyhood. Due to extremely limited internet service and a busy schedule, Forest does her best to upload photos and updates as often as possible.

Trading Post

Camp Hawthorne Ridge has a camp store, which we call the Trading Post. You will visit the Trading Post at least once during your stay at camp.

The Trading Post has items like camp T-shirts, sweatshirts, ice cream, stickers, playing cards, etc. that range in price from \$3 to \$40.

Adding money to your trading post account is optional. We recommend about \$25/week. You will need to bring cash to check-in. Forest will place it in an envelope with your name, lock it in the office, and any unused money will be returned to you at check-out.

Travel Programs

If you are attending a travel program for the week, you will receive a separate confirmation packet detailing a packing list, what to bring, itinerary, lodging, and emergency contact numbers.

Additional Questions

If you have additional questions regarding your time at camp, you can visit our [FAQ page](#).

COVID-19 Policies

Please view our [COVID-19 Plans & Procedures](#) on our website for all the latest policies. As we get closer to camp, we will reach out with any specifics for your session.