

Memorial Services Policy

As our mission states: “Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.” The Girl Scout camping experience especially provides Girl Scouts and volunteers with an opportunity to explore leadership, build skills, make memories, and develop an appreciation for nature. Many develop a strong connection with the experience and often desire to return to a camp to reflect on the life of a loved one who has passed away.

In recognition of the special connection that Girl Scouts and volunteers have developed with Girl Scouting and/or camping, Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania welcomes families and friends to celebrate the life and mourn the loss of a loved one at our camps. Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania members, their families, and the public are welcome to conduct memorial services for loved ones at any of our camps. Our camps can serve as a beautiful backdrop that pays special tribute to a loved one’s appreciation of nature and country. Here is a sample of a simple [“Our Last Friendship Circle”](#) ceremony that shows the love and respect from one Girl Scout to another during a memorial service.

Even though some national parks and national forest lands permit the scattering of ashes, as Girl Scouts, we ask that we all leave nothing but footprints behind at our campgrounds, including no markers and no identification tags. Therefore, Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania prohibits the spreading of cremated remains or the installation of memorial plaques on any of its camp properties.

Information regarding the facilities and amenities at each of Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania’s camps and our online reservation system can be found on our [camp reservations page](#). Donations to memorialize the loss of a loved one can be made on our [donations page](#).