

Camp Hawthorne Ridge

Camp Confirmation Packet:
Troop/Family Camp



Dear Camp Hawthorne Ridge camper,

We are so excited to welcome you to Camp Hawthorne Ridge this summer for a troop/family camp program. We 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 try new things, make new friends (and keep the old), and make incredible memories that you will carry throughout your lifetime.

This confirmation packet is intended to be read by you, the Girl Scout attending a troop/family camp at Camp Hawthorne Ridge 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 packet 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 for your camp adventure!

Back again—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 any dietary and medical needs you may have and other information for your time 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.*

See you at camp!

Camp Hawthorne Ridge Staff

E: customercare@gswpa.org

T: 800-248-3355

Camp Phone: 412-463-1748

7755 Hawthorne Ridge Rd

Girard, PA 16417

Getting Ready for Camp!

Packing List5
Needed Forms 6

Camp Procedures

Check-In and Check-Out Procedures 7
Living Accommodations9
Emergency Procedures 9
Menu 10
Dietary Needs 11
Celebrating Birthdays 11
Electronics at Camp 11
Mail11
Trading Post 11
Adult Responsibilities of Campers 12

Getting Ready for Camp!

Packing List

Girl Scouts—you should pack (or assist in packing) your own bag(s) for camp to know where all your belongings are located when you arrive. You are responsible for your luggage during your time at camp. We recommend labeling all clothing and accessories to mitigate lost and found.

The following packing list is a general guideline for a traditional troop/family camp. If you are attending a travel camp session, an individualized packing list will be made available to you.

Clothing

- 4 T-Shirts
- 4 changes of underwear
- 4 pairs of socks
- 1 pair of long socks
- 1 sweatshirt
- 3 pairs of shorts
- 1 pair of long pants/jeans
- 1-2 swimsuit(s)
- 1 beach towel
- 1 pair closed-toe shoes (NO open-toe shoes are allowed at camp!)
- 1 pair of shower shoes
- 1 pair water shoes or crocs
- 3 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
- 2 washcloths
- Laundry bag

Additional Items

- Reusable water bottle
- Backpack or slingback
- Flashlight
- Extra batteries
- Day pack or backpack for daily use
- Bag for wet items

Optional Items

- Sunglasses
- Disposable camera
- Journal
- Toiletry container/carrier
- Playing cards or other games(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

You will be sent the needed forms after your registration is processed. These forms will be filled out through CampDoc. In the event you forget to submit a form, there will be copies available to complete at check-in. *These forms are required.*

Camp Information and Code of Conduct Form

This is an acknowledgment that your adult gives permission for you to attend 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. You will provide any information about allergies, medication you take, etc.

Camp Procedures

Check-In and Check-Out Procedures

Check-In

Check-in time for troop/family camp is at 6 p.m. 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 the camp staff. **At this time, please leave all luggage in your vehicle.**

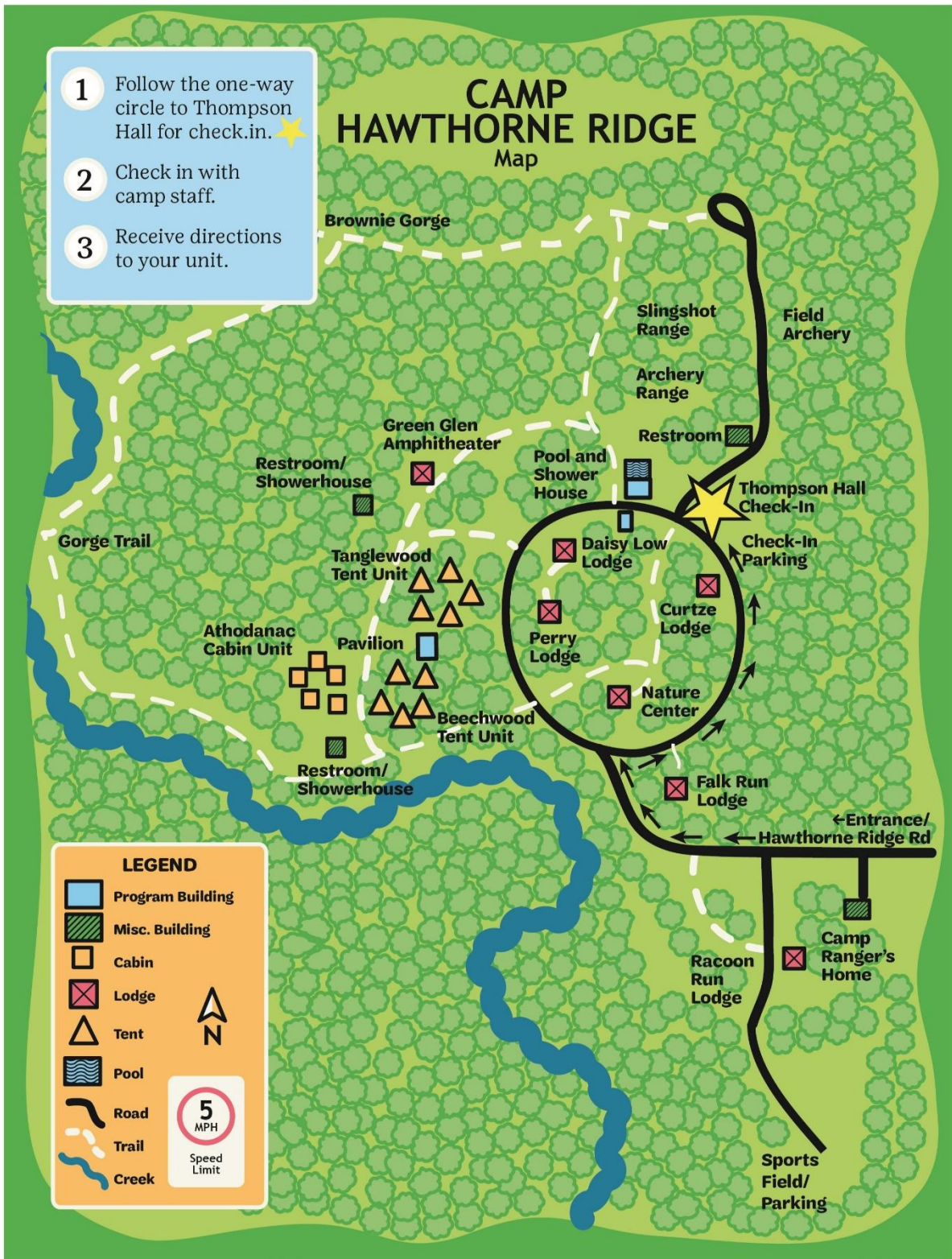
At the check-in table, you will do the following:

- Greet the Camp Hawthorne Ridge staff. They will verify the names of everyone in your family or troop, collect any missing forms, communicate your living unit and unit leader for the weekend, and be available for any questions you may have.
- Once you are checked in, you will be able to drive to your living unit to unload your luggage. A camp staff member will be there to greet you and answer any questions as you settle in.

Check-Out

Check-out for troop/family camp is at 11 a.m. During check-out, you will:

- Finish cleaning your living space and packing your luggage
- Check out with a camp staff member.



Living Accommodations

You will find out your living unit five days prior to 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.
 - Curtze Lodge has flush toilets and shower facilities. Daisy and Perry Lodges have composting toilets and showers nearby at the pool shower house.

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 can be reached at: T: 412-463-1748 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.

This is just an example.



What's the food like at camp?

Here are some things that might be on the menu during your visit to camp.

*Please be sure to note any food allergies/ dietary restrictions on your registration and let us know if you are bringing any of your own food to meet your dietary needs.

Breakfast

- Waffles
- Pancakes
- Sausage
- Cereal
- Juice
- Milk

Lunch

- Grilled Cheese
- Hamburgers
- Salad Bar
- Deli Sandwiches

Dinner

- Pizza
- mountain pies
- Pasta
- Hot dogs
- Foil packs



Dietary Needs

If you or any family/troop members have a dietary restriction or any additional dietary needs that are not listed on your registration, please reach out to customer care at customercare@gswpa.org before your arrival. Meals consist of balanced options and alternatives (salad bar, sun butter and jelly, etc.). Vegetarian options are available at each meal. Gluten-free, vegan, and other 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.

Celebrating Birthdays at Camp

If you or any of your family/troop members will be celebrating a birthday during your time at camp, a special treat from our camp staff will be provided for you! Please remind camp staff at check-in about any upcoming birthdays while at camp.

Electronics at Camp

We strongly discourage the use of cell phones and electronic devices including electronic games, iPod/MP3 players, laptops/iPads, hair dryers, etc. during your family's/troop's stay at Camp Hawthorne Ridge. Electronic use at camp greatly contributes to homesickness and thus affects your camping experience. However, the use of cell phones and electronic devices is at the sole discretion of the troop leader/adult in charge.

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.

Lost and Found

Please label all items packed for camp with your first and last name. Lost and found will be stored at camp until the conclusion of the camp season — August 11, 2024 — with every effort to reunite lost items with campers. After this date, lost and found items will be donated or discarded.

Mail

Any mail for campers should be held and distributed by the adult present.

Trading Post

Camp Hawthorne Ridge has a camp store that we call the Trading Post. You will visit the Trading Post 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.

During troop/family camp, checks and major credit cards can be used.

Adult Responsibilities of Campers

At family or troop camp, we ask the following of the adults in attendance:

- Always provide active and constant supervision of your camper(s). Children are not to be left unsupervised or wander through camp alone. Perform a headcount before leaving and when arriving at program areas.
- You are responsible for the transportation on foot of campers and other adults attending from activity to activity and meal to meal. It is vital to be on time for activities and meals to ensure the weekend runs efficiently.
- Alert the camp staff to any late arrivals, early pick-ups, or any need to depart camp for any reason. An accurate headcount is always needed.
- For troop leaders—you must always follow ratio guidelines.