



Leadership Summit 2025						
Time		FRIDAY				
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.		Check-in Begins!				
7:45 - 9:00 p.m.		Spotlight Sessions, Camp Scavenger Hunt, Networking				
		SATURDAY				
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Resource Expo & Pop Up Shop	Check- In begins! Grab & Go Breakfast & Welcome (Dining Hall) Opening Flag Ceremony at 8:45 am (Flag Field)				
9:15 - 10:15 a.m.		Beyond the Meeting Space	Intro to Cermonies and Traditions	Knife Skills - Whittling	Archery & Range Safety	Let's Go Camping 2 (9:15 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) *gsLearn pre-work Lunch Included
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.		Advanced Knots and Lashing	Traveling w/for Girls	Orienteering	(10:00 - 11:30 a.m.) *gsLearn pre-work	
11:45 - 12:30 p.m.		Lunch (Dining Hall)				
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.		Pop-up shop,Resource Expo/Camp Tour				
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.		Beyond Glitter and Glue - Engaging Older Girls	First Aid/CPR/AED (1:00 - 2:30 p.m.) *Red Cross pre-work	Program Fun: Younger Girls	Troop Finance Overview and Proven Practices	Intro to Backpacking
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.		Troop Dynamics: Fostering Friendship and Promoting Positivity	Outdoor Games	Volunteer-Led Camping Events	Geocaching	Archery & Range Safety (2:45 - 5:15 p.m.) *gsLearn pre-work
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.		Naturalist Knowledge/Leave No Trace	Camp Songs & Traditions	Acheiving Excellence/Highest Awards	Intro to Hiking	
5:30 p.m.		Closing Flag Ceremony (Flag Field)				
5:45 - 6:45 p.m.		Dinner (Dining Hall)				
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.		Volunteer Roundtables, Crafts and Networking				
8:45 p.m.		Eternal Flame Ceremony				
9:00 p.m.		Campfire and S'mores				
		Campfire S'mores Sunnybanks	Campfire S'mores Laurel Oaks	Campfire S'mores Christy	Campfire S'mores Outback	Campfire S'mores Trails End

Time	SUNDAY						
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Grab & Go Breakfast (Dining Hall)						Campfire Breakfast (8:00 - 10:15)
9:15 - 10:15 a.m.	Youth Mental Health First Aid (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) <i>*pre-work required</i> Lunch Included	Knife Skills -Soap Carving	Teamwork in Action - Troop Teambuilding Activities	Additional Money Earning Explained	First Aid/CPR/AED (9:00 - 10:30 a.m.) <i>*Red Cross pre-work</i>	Let's Go Camping 2 (9:15 am - 1:15 pm) <i>*gsLearn pre-work</i>	
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.		Community Service - Empowering Girls to Make a Difference	Camp Songs & Traditions	Building Family/Caregiver Engagment	Small Craft Safety Training: Canoe and Kayaks (10:30 am- 2:30 pm) <i>*gsLearn pre-work</i> Lunch Included	Lunch Included	Letterboxing (10:30 - 11:30 a.m.)

Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania Leadership Summit 2025

Session Name	Session Description
Achieving Excellence: Navigating Girl Scout Highest Awards	Join us for a session of inspiration and achievement as we unravel the nuances of Girl Scout Highest Awards. This session is designed to empower volunteers with the knowledge and tools needed to guide their girls through the Higher Award progression. From understanding the different awards to tips for getting started, this session is your key to unlocking a world of troop leadership, service, and personal growth opportunities for every Girl Scout.
Additional Money Earning Explained	Is your troop planning to go on a trip and need additional funding? Additional money-earning activities are a great way for girls to flex their financial muscles, achieve troop goals, and be financially empowered. Join us to learn about Additional Money Earning Activities that your troop can take part in. This will go over everything you need to know from getting approval to submitting the final paperwork
Advanced Knots and Lashing	Having the knowledge to tie and lash using more complicated knots can help while you are outdoors, need to create canopies, or store items. Learn how to tie and lash: diagonal lashing, square lashing, shear lashing, and tripod lashing.
Archery and Range Safety	Join the GSWPA Outdoor Program Staff at Camp Redwing to get trained in Archery. With this training you will be able to rent and facilitate archery at any GSWPA camp property. <i>**Before arriving you must complete the online GSWPA Archery Training course in gsLearn.</i>
Beyond Glitter and Glue - Engaging Older Girls	Discover creative ways to elevate your troop meetings beyond traditional craft projects and offer fresh, exciting experiences tailored for Cadettes and above. In this session, we'll share practical strategies and actionable insights for outdoor and hands-on activities that engage, challenge, and inspire your troop as they grow and develop over the years.
Beyond the Meeting Space	Step outside the usual meeting space and embark on an adventure that takes Girl Scouts beyond the walls! This session will explore a variety of free and low-cost field trip ideas that are perfect for troops of all ages to maximize fun while keeping costs minimal. Leave with a toolkit of creative, budget-friendly field trip ideas to inspire your troop and enhance their Girl Scout journey.
Building Family/Caregiver Engagement	No two leaders can do it alone, 100% of the time. A troop needs support from other adults, so how do you go about getting that support and retaining it from year to year? This session delves into the value of engaging Girl Scout families and prepares you with practical strategies to enlist their involvement with your troop. From fostering stronger bonds to enhancing troop dynamics, this session covers how family involvement contributes to a vibrant Girl Scout community. We'll also share ways to conduct an effective parent/caregiver and approaches to build your troop support teams, helping to set the stage for a year filled with meaningful family support.
Camp Songs and Traditions	Learn and review camp songs and traditions such as the Girl Scout motto, handshake, along with others. After this session, you will be able to teach girls songs and traditions so that girls can perform the songs and traditions at meetings or outings.

Campfire Breakfast	<p>Start your morning with a delicious breakfast cooked over an open fire! In this session, we'll teach you how to prepare simple yet tasty breakfast dishes using advanced outdoor cooking techniques.</p> <p><i>Pre-Requisite: Must have completed Let's Go Camping 1 and Let's Go Camping 2</i></p>
Community Service: Empowering Girls to Make a Difference	<p>Community service is at the heart of the Girl Scout experience, and in this session, you'll learn how to guide Girl Scouts of all ages in meaningful community service projects. This session will cover strategies for involving girls in impactful service opportunities, from local neighborhood clean-ups to larger-scale projects that tackle global issues. Volunteers will be equipped with tools to help girls plan, organize, and execute service projects, fostering leadership, empathy, and a sense of responsibility. Whether you're working with Daisies or Seniors, this training will help you support girls in making a real difference in their communities and beyond.</p>
First Aid/CPR/AED	<p>The Girl Scout motto is to be prepared- taking this American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED course is a great start to being prepared. In this Blended Learning course, you will complete an online training course to learn the foundational skills of First Aid/CPR/AED (takes approximately 2 hours) and then you will demonstrate your skills at an in person session. <i>*You must complete the online training course prior to the in-person skills session.</i></p> <p><i>A confirmation letter and instruction for completing the online portion of the course will be sent to you following registrations. Please make sure to look for these important documents.</i></p>
Troop Dynamics: Fostering Friendship and Promoting Positivity	<p>Join us as we explore strategies for leaders to cultivate friendship, positivity, collaboration, and support among troop members. We'll also discuss approaches for addressing bullying, cliques, exclusion, and other negative behaviors within the troop.</p> <p>How can you lift your girls up, celebrate their accomplishments, and provide support through the joys and challenges of growing up? Come learn effective techniques to create a nurturing, empowering space for your troop.</p>
Geocaching	<p>Learn how to use a GPS unit to go geocaching, which is hunting for and finding hidden objects by means of GPS coordinates. After this session, you will be able to teach girls how to go geocaching.</p>
Intro to Backpacking	<p>This session is designed to teach you what to pack for a backpacking adventure and some basic wilderness survival skills. This is an introduction to both topics and you will engage in a few scenarios that you could find yourself in while taking girls further into the woods</p>
Intro to Ceremonies	<p>Learn when and how to use essential Girl Scout Ceremonies that you can incorporate in to your Girl Scout meetings and activities to create memorable experiences for girls. Ceremonies are a great way to connect the girls with the long-standing Girl Scout Sisterhood!</p>
Intro to Hiking	<p>In this session, we'll cover the basics of hiking for beginners. We'll go over what you need to know to get started, like choosing the right gear, staying safe on the trails, and understanding basic trail markers. Whether you're planning a short walk in the woods with your Troop or a longer hike, this session will give you the knowledge and confidence to enjoy the outdoors.</p>
Knife Skills: Soap Carving	<p>Learn how to safely carve fun shapes in soap bars and teach this activity to girls to create exciting handmade projects!</p>
Knife Skills: Whittling	<p>Learn how to whittle pointed sticks for stick cooking and teach your girls how to whittle for cooking and/or for fun. Keep and use your whittled stick during the campfire networking activity to make s'mores!</p>

Let's Go Camping 2	<p>Roll up your sleeves and get ready for Let's Go Camping 2. This 3.5-hour hands-on outdoor training experience focuses on fire safety and fire building, knife safety, knot tying, outdoor cooking, outdoor first aid and tent care. By successfully completing Let's Go Camping 1 and Let's Go Camping 2, participants will have full use of all GSWPA properties and equipment. Please note that use of amenities such as Archery, Canoe, Ropes, Rifles, etc. may require additional training or a certified adult present.</p> <p>Pre-Requisite: Must have completed Let's Go Camping 1 in gsLearn.</p>
Letterboxing	<p>It's a pirate's life for you as you learn the ins and outs of letterboxing – the art of hiding and finding small, weatherproof boxes through witty and challenging clues. This “treasure hunt” style activity is the perfect outdoor challenge for Daisy and Brownie campers. We will start with writing and solving clues, go out to find letterboxes, and then practice making our own letterboxes. You'll have some fun and walk away with the knowledge and resources you need to take on a treasure hunt of your own.</p>
Naturalist Knowledge and Leave No Trace	<p>Go through an overview of basic naturalist information including tree identification, bird calls, wildlife of western Pennsylvania, and answers to any nature questions you might have. After this session, you will be able to teach girls about local flora and fauna, inspiring them to learn more about their environment. Review the seven principles of Leave No Trace and learn easy activities and games to use to teach girls. After this session, you will be able to help your girls learn about stewardship to preserve and protect our environment.</p>
Orienteering	<p>Learn how to use a compass and map to navigate. After this session, you will be able to teach girls how to use a compass and map to navigate in the wilderness.</p>
Outdoor Games	<p>Learn and practice some simple team building activities that can be played outdoors with girls. After this session, you will be able to teach your girls fun games to play outside.</p>
Program Fun for Younger Girls (K-5)	<p>Learn about programming for younger (K-5) Girl Scouts and how to help your troop explore these opportunities! This session will offer practical tips for planning badge & patch program activities, and celebrating girl achievements. Plus, you will get the latest updates on new badge and patch programs along with council events, ensuring you will have the most current information to create a fun and rewarding Girl Scout experience.</p>
Resource Expo	<p>Drop by the Resource Expo & Pop Up Shop spotlighting the fantastic resources and information from Product Program, Girl Program, Volunteer Support, and a Pop-Up Shop for you to stock up on your favorite Girl Scout goodies!</p>
Small Craft Safety Training: Canoe/Kayak	<p>Learn the Skills needed to take your girls out in Canoes or Kayaks. This training will allow you to take girls out in flatwater or slow-moving water (Camp Redwing) as well as rent our boats at Camp Redwing and Skymeadow.</p> <p><i>*Please come prepared to get wet, as we will learn how to get back into your craft. Closed-toe shoes are required. No Flip-flops!</i></p> <p><i>You must complete the online portion of this training in gsLearn prior to this session. To sign into myGS, go to MyAccount, and then click on gsLearn on the left. Search the content library for: Girl Scouts Small Craft Safety Training: Canoes, Kayaks, and Stand-up Paddleboards.</i></p>

Teamwork in Action: Teambuilding Activities	Join us for an exciting, hands-on team-building session to bring your troop closer together. Whether your troop is new, exploring new experiences, or strengthening group dynamics, this session will focus on understanding group development and engaging in cooperative learning activities that foster growth for both kids and adults. Through fun and practical games, your troop will gain valuable skills to tackle challenges, improve communication, and build a stronger, more supportive Girl Scout sisterhood. Bonus: These activities are great for volunteer team building too!
Traveling w/for Girls	Are you ready to travel with girls? Learn the process of traveling with girls, how to plan, prepare, implement a trip. Learn about other girl travel opportunities that Girl Scouts have at their fingertips.
Troop Finance: Overview & Proven Practices	This session will provide the essential knowledge and tools to manage troop finances with confidence. Learn how to create a budget that supports a full year of activities, while ensuring transparency and accountability. We'll guide you through the steps of completing the annual troop finance report and share best practices for managing troop funds. Whether you're new to troop leadership or looking for a refresher, this session will help you keep your troop financially organized and thriving.
Volunteer-Led Camping Events	Is your service unit team thinking about planning camping experiences for girls? Connect with veteran volunteers on planning and running day camps or undertaking a service unit encampment. This workshop will cover tried and true planning process for day or overnight camping events for large groups. Topics will include theme ideas, fun activities, creative craft projects, delicious menus, along with (the less exciting but necessary) paperwork and money management, safety, and volunteer recruiting.
Youth Mental Health First Aid	<p>Youth Mental Health First Aid is designed to teach parents, family members, caregivers, teachers, school staff, peers, neighbors, health and human services workers, and other caring citizens how to help an adolescent (age 12-18) who is experiencing a mental health or addictions challenge or is in crisis. The course introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations. Topics covered include anxiety, depression, substance use, disorders in which psychosis may occur, disruptive behavior disorders (including AD/HD), and eating disorders.</p> <p>Youth Mental Health First Aid is an early intervention public education program. It teaches adults how to recognize the signs and symptoms that suggest a potential mental health challenge, how to listen nonjudgmentally and give reassurance to youth who may be experiencing a mental health challenge, and how to refer a person to appropriate professional support and services.</p> <p><i>An email will be sent to registrants two weeks prior to the event with an invitation to complete pre-work. Please complete your pre-work (about 2 hours) before the date of the event. We will have a working lunch, so please plan accordingly.</i></p> <p><i>Youth Mental Health First Aid will consist of a 6.5 hours instructor led in person training.</i></p>