



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Girl Scouts, Start Your Engines!

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts Debuts Super G.I.R.L. Race, Marking a New Annual Tradition

Fourth and Fifth-Grade Girls will Engineer and Race Cars on State-of-the-Art Track During April Vacation Week

BOSTON, MA (April 10, 2018) — Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) announces its inaugural Super G.I.R.L. Race, debuting on Friday, April 20, at Camp Cedar Hill in Waltham. The race wraps up the council's [April Vacation Adventures](#) week. Fourth and fifth grade Junior Girl Scouts will spend the week engineering and testing their cars before racing them on a new state-of-the-art derby track. The Super G.I.R.L. Race is modeled after the Ford Girls' Fast Track Races that occur throughout the country, and provides Girl Scouts in eastern Massachusetts with the opportunity to experience construction, creativity, and competition.

The Super G.I.R.L. Race will be an annual spring event for GSEMA.

Girl Scouts attending April Vacation Adventures will participate in the Great Race Challenge which is a program designed to ignite creativity and an interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) subjects. Girls design and test the ultimate wooden race car, paper airplane, balloon car, and rope runner. Each activity is designed to help girls discover how aerodynamics, engineering, and design work together to increase speed, and to accelerate their car to the finish line.

GSEMA Chief Executive Officer, Denise Burgess, explained, "The event is a natural extension of our longstanding STEM program. We are so excited for our girls to discover a new way of applying STEM principles in a fun, supportive, all-girl environment. In addition, by engaging in competition, the girls learn to win or lose gracefully."

The race will take place on GSEMA's new state-of-the-art derby track, made possible through a generous donation from Tricia Tilford, the council's Board Chair and President. Tilford will officiate the race on Friday and manage the "pit crew" for car repairs. Other Girl Scouts attending April Vacation Adventures will "sponsor" cars and cheer on their chosen racer.

“I am honored to be a part of this exciting new event that Girl Scout members, volunteers, and staff are all working together to create here in eastern Massachusetts,” said Tilford. “Girl Scouts will be building more than race cars – they will learn life skills such as teamwork and problem-solving, discover leadership opportunities, explore STEM, and find new friendships. We want girls to know there are no limits to what they can achieve, and that includes mastering a derby race track.”

At Girl Scouts, girls find a safe, girl-focused space where they can develop their leadership skills and learn the importance of service to others. Through hands-on activities (including STEM and outdoor adventures) and the guidance of adult volunteers, girls discover their values, skills, and the world around them; connect with others in a multicultural environment; and take action to make a difference in their world.

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We're Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) We're 47,000 strong, with 32,000 girls and 15,000 volunteers in 178 communities in eastern Massachusetts who believe in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)[™] to change the world. Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls. GSEMA is the 10th largest Girl Scout council in the United States, building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. To volunteer, reconnect, donate, join, or learn more, visit [gsema.org](https://www.gsema.org).