



Hello Camper Families,

Welcome to the first edition of Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts' 2026 News You Can Use! The countdown to camp is officially on, and I am very excited that you have registered to join us at camp this summer! These monthly newsletters will keep you updated on new regulations, answer frequently asked questions, provide general announcements, and introduce our camp team.

I'm up first! I am Sarah (camp name Moose), and I oversee the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts overnight camp programs at Favorite, Runels, and Wind in the Pines, as well as outdoor programs during the school year. I look forward to spending time outside, singing songs, dressing up, and playing on the water every year. Girl Scouts camp is near and dear to my heart and is a fantastic place for campers to make new friends and grow themselves.



As the summer camp season gets closer, you will receive more camp-specific news. If you have any questions, [please email our team](#).

I can't wait to welcome back returning campers this summer and to introduce the magic of camp to all of our new GSEMA campers.

S'mores Truly,

Sarah "Moose" Kelley

Director of Camp and Outdoors

Getting Ready for Camp Made Easy

To make getting ready for camp easier than ever, we've streamlined our information packets! Families will now receive a single, all-inclusive packet for day or overnight camp, replacing the multiple documents from years past. Our goal is to make camp communication clearer, preparation smoother, and the start of camp stress-free for every family.

Simply sign in to [CampInTouch](#), and you will find your packet under Forms & Documents.

Want to start your summer adventures sooner?

We are hosting programs during April Vacation at Camp Cedar Hill in Waltham! Get a sneak peek of summer with our April Vacation Adventure programs or explore new interests through our Career Academy. Sign up for a single day or all four! Free bus transportation is available throughout the Greater Boston area. If you are interested in signing up, we encourage you to [register today!](#)

Cancellations and Refunds – New Deadlines!

- Deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable.
 - **Final camp payments** are due by **May 1, 2026**.
 - **To receive a full refund of camp fees minus the non-refundable deposit**, you need to email customercare@gsema.org a notice of cancellation and a request for refund by **May 15, 2026**.
 - **To receive a 50% refund of camp fees minus the non-refundable deposit**, you need to email customercare@gsema.org a notice of cancellation and a request for refund by **June 5, 2026**.
 - **Cancellation requests received by customercare@gsema.org after June 5 will not be refunded**, regardless of whether that session has a waitlist.
 - No refunds are given for campers arriving late, leaving early, or unable to attend all or part of a session for reasons such as illness.
 - Questions regarding extenuating circumstances should be emailed to customercare@gsema.org.
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Bus Information

GSEMA provides bus transportation for all of our summer day camps! Seats on the bus are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Save a seat for your camper early by logging into your [CampInTouch](#) account and filling out the **Day Camp Transportation Form**. As a reminder, GSEMA does **NOT** provide transportation to and from our overnight camps.

Companion: Your Mobile Hub for Camp Updates

Companion is a mobile app we're using to connect you with your child's camp experience through a personalized stream of content from camp. From simplified form uploads, photo galleries, regular updates from camp, and more, Companion connects you to camp like never before. Features include:

- **Face Finder:** a tool to deliver campers' photos directly to their loved ones. Caregivers upload a reference photo of their child, which the system catalogs into its database. As photos are uploaded from camp, Face Finder compares the unique facial characteristics that it learned from the reference photo with each new photo. If there's a match, the camper's caregiver receives a notification, and the photo appears directly in their stream in the Companion app. Please note that the number one job of camp staff is to be present with campers, providing safety and fun. Each camp will upload photos on varying timelines, and not every camper may be photographed while at camp.
- **Mobile Camper Forms:** Caregivers can view the complete list of forms that are required to complete their camper's registration and enrollment. Many forms can be filled out online and the camper physical can be submitted by just taking a photo!
- **Photo Gallery:** Photos are stored within albums, making it easy to find and view images such as favorites or from different activities at camp. Caregivers can tap, swipe, and browse camp albums directly from their phone.
- **Microposts** – A direct connection between camp and home. Short, timely messages make sure families stay informed

about important news, including weather updates, so everyone feels connected and confident.

Get started today!

- [Download the Companion app](#)
 - **Login** with your CampInTouch account (email and password)
 - **Upload** a reference photo of your child (optional)
 - Complete forms online and upload completed paperwork
 - Ensure you have push notification enabled within your phone settings so you can receive important updates from
 - camp all year long
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Submit Forms by April 1 and Enjoy a Camp Treat!

The deadline to submit summer camp forms is May 1, 2026, but if you upload them by April 1, your camper receives cool camp-themed stickers for their water bottle, mug, or wherever they want to show off their camp pride! Remember using the Companion app makes it quicker and easier than ever before to submit your forms.



Required Paperwork

- Camper Health History
- Camper Physical Form
- Text Message Opt-In Form

- Medication Administration Form (Day Camp Only)
 - Day Camp Transportation Form (Day Camp Only)
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Camper Physicals

It may not feel like summer when it's cold and snowy outside, but trust us, it's on the way. This is the time to make sure your camper's annual physical forms are up to date. Every camper attending camp needs to have a physical within 18 months of attending camp. If your camper has not had one since January 15, 2025, please schedule your doctor's appointment.

As a reminder, all GSEMA medical forms are due May 1, 2026. Log back into your [CampInTouch](#) account and click on "Forms and Documents" or use the Companion app and click Forms to see what forms still need to be submitted. The Companion app lets you take a picture of your camper physical as a quick way to submit to us.

Does my camper have to be a Girl Scout to attend camp?

Campers who are not Girl Scout members prior to camp registration will pay a non-refundable \$70 membership fee to become members of our organization. Look for more details and registration instructions from our membership team in our March newsletter. Returning campers should renew their memberships

before April 1, 2026. A separate email with renewal instructions will be sent to your inbox in the next few weeks.

Campers who are brand new to Girl Scouts are able to purchase an annual membership now, or they can wait until April 1 to take advantage of the Extended Year Membership option, which is active from the date of purchase through September 30, 2026. Additional information about extended year membership will be sent out to those who qualify closer to April 1.

Know someone who would love working at Girl Scout summer camp?

Join us in shaping the next generation while spending your summer outdoors playing games, soaking up the sunshine, and making a meaningful impact every day. Think about the people you trust and admire, those who would be a positive influence on your child, and encourage them to join our team! Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts offers a variety of seasonal overnight and day camp positions across Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

If you have questions about working at camp, our [Customer Care team](#) is happy to help. Otherwise, explore this year's summer camp employment opportunities:

[2026 Day Camp Positions](#)

[2026 Overnight Camp Positions](#)

Interested applicants [can apply here!](#)

Questions About Camp?

The best way to reach a GSEMA summer camp team staff member is [by email!](#)

Talk to you all next month!
GSEMA Camp Team