



Hello Camper Families,

Welcome to the first edition of Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts' 2025 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 be a way for us to keep you updated with new regulations, answer frequently asked questions, provide you with 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 Scout camp is near and dear to my heart and is a fantastic place for campers to make new friends and grow themselves.

As we get closer to the start of the summer camp season, 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

Camp Registration

If you are interested in signing up for any additional sessions, we encourage you to [register today](#) and put down a \$75 deposit per session because space is limited, and many programs are already full. If you don't see a program listed in [CampInTouch](#), then the program is full, and a waitlist isn't available.

Cancellations and Refunds: Updated This Year

Deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable.

- **Full refunds of camp fees minus the non-refundable deposit** may only be made when written notice of cancellation and a request for refund is received **before May 1, 2025**, to customercare@gsema.org.
- For a **50% refund** of camp minus the non-refundable deposit, customercare@gsema.org needs to be emailed **before June 1, 2025**.
- **Cancellation requests received by customercare@gsema.org after June 1 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.

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.

Campanion: New Experience for Campers' Caregivers

Campanion is the new 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, Campanion 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 training 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 training photo with each new photo. If there's a match, the camper's caregiver receives a notification, and the photo shows up directly in their stream within 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 at varying times 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 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 phones.

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

Staying Informed with Text Messaging: New This Year

Families can receive timely updates by filling out the Text Message Opt-In Form, such as bus delays or reminders to submit forms. This will make communication smoother and help ensure everyone stays on top of important camp details. **All you need to do is fill out the Text Message Opt-In Form, where all your important forms are needed to be filled out.**

Rewards for Submitting Required Paperwork on Time

The deadline to submit summer camp forms is May 1, 2025, but if you upload them early, your camper receives an additional collectible camp swag item! Remember, using the Companion app makes it quicker and easier than ever before to submit your forms. Return forms by:

- April 1, 2025: Your camper receives a tie-dye-able cotton camp bandana and a water bottle sticker.
- May 1, 2025: Your camper receives a water bottle sticker.
All incentives will be mailed after May 1, 2025

Required Paperwork

- Camper Health History
 - Camper Physical Form
 - Medication Administration Form
 - Day Camp Transportation Form
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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, 2024, please schedule your doctor's appointment. As a reminder, all GSEMA medical forms are due May 1, 2025. Log back into your CamplnTouch 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's physical form and upload to your account.

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 \$50 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 membership before April 1, 2025. 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.

Want to work at Girl Scout summer camp?

Come join our team! Get outdoors and change lives this summer while playing games, walking in the sunshine, and celebrating summer every day. Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts offers many seasonal overnight and day camp positions in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. If you have questions about working at camp, feel free to [connect with our Customer Care team](#). Otherwise, check out this year's summer camp employment opportunities:

- [2025 Day Camp Positions](#)
 - [2025 Overnight Camp Positions](#)
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Communicating with GSEMA about Summer Camp

The best way to reach anyone from the camp team or have any camp questions answered is [via email!](#)