



Girl Scouts Forever Green

River Valleys' annual council-wide Take Action project

Talking Points

I. Intro

In 2012, Girl Scouts will celebrate its 100th Anniversary in the United States. To mark this milestone and honor our founder, Juliette Gordon Low, Girl Scouts of all ages will be engaging in a nationwide, annual, signature Community Action Project called "Girl Scouts Forever Green." River Valleys was selected as a pilot council for this exciting national initiative.

Using their leadership skills, girls will plan and implement a Take Action project in one of five environmental focus areas (air, waste management, water, energy, green space).

II. Key Dates

- Girls can complete Forever Green projects anytime between January 25 and April 30.
- River Valleys will be holding a "cap drive" at all five Service Centers April 19-23. For more information about this project option, refer to the Caps Off With Girl Scouts flier located under the waste management focus area.
- June 14, 2010 is the final day to enter final project data into the Forever Green website and purchase a patch through Council Shops.

III. Patch Requirements

Step #1: Register on the Girl Scouts Forever Green website: <http://www.girlscouts.org/forevergreen/> and follow the instructions for tracking your project. At the beginning of each Girl Scouts Forever Green project, please answer the six questions under "Step 1."

GIRL SCOUTS FOREVER GREEN---COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT

In 2012, we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting in the United States. To mark this milestone and honor our founder, Juliette Gordon Low, Girl Scouts of all ages are engaging in a nationwide, annual, signature community action project called "Girl Scouts Forever Green." Long-time promoters and protectors of the environment, Girl Scouts envision being at the forefront of environmental sustainability, leading schools and communities in using resources wisely. Girl Scouts are posting descriptions of their projects and recording the environmental impact on this site.

Instructions: **The questions are to be answered by girls 13 or older, or by adult volunteers.** Please enter the requested information in Steps 1 and 2 ONCE for each Girl Scouts Forever Green project.

Step 1
At the beginning of each Girl Scouts Forever Green project, please answer the six questions under "Step 1." If any question is unclear, and you want to contact a staff member for clarification, please send an email to 100years@girlscouts.org

START STEP 1

Step 2
Please return to this site upon completion of your project, prior to June 15, 2010, and enter your results (and other information) requested in "Step 2."

START STEP 2

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The questions are to be answered by girls 13 or older, or by adult volunteers. Please enter the requested information only ONCE for each Girl Scouts Forever Green project.

Step #2: Plan and implement a girl-led Take Action project in one of the five environmental focus areas. Be sure to review and follow any applicable standards and checkpoints in *Safety-Wise*.

If you have internet access, click on each environmental focus area to view their contents, including project examples and how to measure its impact. Note that some of the Forever Green project options will also fulfill Take Action projects in the *Leadership Journeys* and could be their Gold, Silver, or Bronze award projects as well.

- **Air Quality:** Examples: create no-idling zones, replace toxic art supplies and cleansers, plant trees and add indoor plants.
- **Energy Conservation:** Examples: turn off lights, unplug electronics when not in use, change to compact fluorescent light bulbs.
- **Green Space:** Examples: create or improve green space in your school/community.
- **Waste Management:** Examples: compost, recycle, implement waste-free lunches, eliminate junk mail. Caps Off With Girl Scouts is a part of Waste Management. *If troops participated in Caps off for Girl Scouts last year, challenge them to take it a step further this year by encouraging their local school, park, library, place of worship, etc. to join them in collecting caps!*
- **Water Conservation:** Examples: install rain barrels, monitor local water bodies, install low flow faucets and toilets.

Step #3: Share the impact your project had with Girl Scouts across the country by entering your final project data (for example, how many trees planted or how many caps collected) in the Forever Green website: <http://www.girlscouts.org/forevergreen/>. **In order to measure the girl impact of participating in the Forever Green project, we strongly encourage troops to complete the national Girl Scout outcomes survey.**

Step#4: Purchase your Forever Green Patch through any Council Shop

Additional Resources

1. www.girlscoutsrv.org
2. Bertrene Cage or Liana Tessum, 1-800-845-0787

