

Summer Camp Parent Guide



girl scouts
of suffolk county

We find that our campers are most comfortable and successful at camp when they know what is expected of them. We ask that parents discuss our policies with campers prior to attending camp and that both campers and parents agree to comply. **Tax ID # - 112164434**

Information

Camp Edey in Bayport - Surrounded by 95 acres of wetland preserve, offers girls the opportunity to enjoy their summer vacation while having fun and meeting new friends.

Camp Sobaco in Yaphank - Home to our Discovery World STEM Center and nestled on 34 acres of pine barrens, offers the opportunity for both girls and boys to enjoy a well-rounded camp program.

Need Directions? www.gssc.us/directions

Registration & Payments

Girl Scouts of Suffolk County wants every child to have the chance to enjoy fresh air and sunshine at camp. No child should be left inside this summer!

Not a member? Not a problem! A \$50 required membership fee for all campers is all it takes. Fee does not apply to registered Girl Scouts.

Worried about the cost of camp? We offer multi-week and sibling discounts with a friendly payment schedule. We also have several financial aid opportunities for qualified families.

All you need is a \$50 deposit per week to reserve your spot. All deposits are non-refundable. Amenities such as swimming and horseback riding also require a deposit - they're popular and fill up quickly.

Easy Payment Plan - Your balance will be conveniently and automatically debited from the credit card on file on the Due Date, which is 14 days before the start of a weekly session. You may pay toward you balance at any time before the Due Date.

Refund Policy

All deposits are non-refundable. Requests for refunds must be made in writing through our online form at www.gssc.us/camp-requests.

Refund requests for medical reasons must be made prior to session start, verified in writing by a physician, and constitute a minimum of 5 consecutive days missed.

Refunds are not considered for no-shows, campers who voluntarily withdraw, those removed from camp for any reason, or for requests made after the last day of the camp season.

Requests to transfer sessions must be made in writing through our online form and require a \$15 session transfer fee. Missed days will not be prorated.

Contact Us

Camp Edey & All Camp Correspondence
1500 Lakeview Ave. Bayport, NY 11705 • camp@gssc.us
Office: (631) 472-1625 • Fax: (631) 472-8199
Health Supervisor: (631) 868-7103

Camp Sobaco - Open First Day of Summer Camp
229 German Blvd. Yaphank, NY 11980
Office/ Health Supr: (631) 924-6433 • Fax (631) 924-3547

Girl Scout Main Office
442 Moreland Rd. Commack, NY 11725
Office: (631) 543-6622 • Fax: (631) 543-9005

Transportation

Bus transportation is available for an additional fee of \$50 per week. Bus pick-up and drop-off schedules will be posted online at www.gssc.us/camp-bus. Please check the schedule prior to your week's session in the event of any changes. We require that a responsible adult check your child both on and off the bus. Please allow a 15-minute grace period on the schedule. Directions to stops will be posted online. **ID is required when picking up your child.**

Pick-Up / Drop-Off

A day at camp runs from 9am - 4:30pm. When picking up or dropping off at a camp location, parents will be given a 15 minute grace period. This does not apply to bus stops. Campers picked up at camp after 4:45pm will incur a \$15 fee for every 15 minutes or portion thereof until picked up. Payments for late pickup will be charged automatically to the credit card on file.

Before & After Care is available at Camp Edey in Bayport only and costs \$50/week. Campers attending Before & After Care may be dropped off at Camp Edey no earlier than 8am and picked up no later than 6pm. Campers picked up after 6pm will incur a \$15 fee for every 15 minutes or portion thereof until picked up. Payments for late pickup will be charged automatically to the credit card on file.

When dropping off or picking up your child, please be sure to check in or check out your child. No child will be permitted to enter or leave without an appropriate escort. **If you are making any changes to your child's regular transportation schedule, you must email camp@gssc.us to alert staff. ID is required when picking up your child.**



CAMPER TIP

Send your camper a sweet treat with our all-new Camper-gram!

Clothing & Gear

Dress children comfortably and be sure to label all items.

- Each Morning Before Leaving:

- Apply sunscreen
- Apply insect repellent containing DEET (*no more than 30%*)
- **Send Your Camper to Camp with:**
- T-shirt & shorts (*no short-shorts*)
- Sneakers & socks (*no sandals, flip-flops or Crocs*)
- Water bottle
- Backpack
- Hat or bandana for protection from the sun.
- Sunscreen (*requires written parental permission*)
- Bathing Suit and Towel
- For Pool Area Only: Water shoes or flip flops
- On Rainy Days Only: Rain gear (*Boots/rain coat*)

For Horseback Riding:

- Boots or shoes with one-inch heels.
- Blue jeans or long pants
- Riding helmet (*provided at stable if necessary*)
- Hair in a low ponytail or braid to fit under helmets

Please do not send your child to camp in his/her best or new clothing. Please do not allow your child to bring jewelry, cell phones, radios, cameras, or other expensive equipment. (*See Cell Phone Electronic Device Policy*)

Girl Scouts of Suffolk County does not permit the following items on camp: alcohol and drugs, tobacco, personal sports equipment, animals or weapons of any kind. Girl Scouts of Suffolk County is not responsible for lost or stolen property. Any lost items will be held until the last day of the camp season.



CAMPER TIP

Be sure to establish a nightly tick check routine!

Nutrition

Both camps offer a variety of food items throughout the summer. **The weekly menu will be posted online at www.gssc.us/camp-lunch.** If your child requires a special diet, please contact the Camp Office one week prior to the scheduled camping week.

For campers wishing to celebrate special days such as birthdays, only store bought items with visible nutritional information are permitted for distribution to campers. In addition, Dunkin' Donuts' donuts or munchkins are also acceptable.

While we are not a peanut-free camp, we do believe it is important to limit the risk of exposure to children with life-threatening food allergies. Peanuts, tree nuts, and related products are prohibited at camp. We stress the importance—and ease—of cleaning hands and not sharing food to help build healthy habits for all campers.

Health

Our camps adhere carefully to the County Health Department, Girl Scouts of the USA and American Camp Association health and safety guidelines. A Health Supervisor is on staff at all times.

Along with the health form during online registration, you MUST send in your child's immunization dates, prior to attending camp. The Health Department does not allow any child to attend camp without this information.

Please send all necessary medication with your child on the first day of camp, marked to the attention of the Health Supervisor. Contact the Health Supervisor prior to your child's camping week to discuss the medication that will be administered. **All medication must be sent in the original container with the child's name and will be administered at the times specified in writing by the physician. Parents must also include their written permission for our Health Supervisor to administer that medication. Expired medications will not be accepted; please check all medications thoroughly. Please let the Health Supervisor know if the child must bring home any medication at the end of each camp day.**

Cell Phone & Electronic Device Policy

CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE NOT PERMITTED.

Cell phones are easily stolen, lost or damaged at camp. With a cell phone, camp has no control over who your child may communicate with. Many phones have access to inappropriate video and internet content. When parents permit campers to bring their phones, camp has no control over what a child downloads, watches, or shares with others.

Cell phones brought to camp will be held for safe keeping in the camp office and returned at the end of the day. Parents that wish to communicate with their child are welcome to contact the camp office.

Girl Scouts of Suffolk County is not responsible for the theft, loss, damages, or charges to a cell phone or other electronic devices brought to camp, regardless of the circumstances.

Trading Post Camp Store

At the Trading Post, your camper can shop for souvenirs, ice cream, snacks, and much more! Each week, GSSC will allocate \$7 to your camper's Trading Post Account. Most campers spend between \$15-\$20 each week. It's easier than ever to add funds to your camper's Trading Post account— simply log into your summer camp profile, and increase funding as necessary.

All purchases will be debited from your camper's Trading Post account until it has been depleted. **All Trading Post deposits are non-refundable.**

Staff

Our excellent camp staff is comprised of Counselors and Counselors-In-Training (CIT). We have Activity Specialists who are hired strictly on the basis of their experience with children and expertise in a certain skill set. We have an extensive support staff consisting of a Camp Director and Assistant Camp Director, Health Supervisor, Program Director, a maintenance and cleaning crew, and an outstanding kitchen staff.

The majority of our camp staff return annually, having begun their GSSC affiliation as campers themselves! We put great emphasis on hiring individuals who we feel will serve as strong role models as well as easily adapt into our camp community. Potential hires are subject to extensive background checks, and all of our staff is committed to administering the best camp experience possible.

Gratuity

We are often asked about gratuities. Our staff work hard to ensure that your child has a wonderful and memorable Summer Camp experience. Gratuities for exceptional service are appreciated. If you have any questions, please let us know: camp@gssc.us

Children with Special Needs

It is the mission of Girl Scouts of Suffolk County to ensure the safety and enjoyment of all campers while creating a successful and rewarding experience. GSSC will make every effort to provide reasonable accommodations for all campers who might need them. In order to ensure that all campers receive the requisite care and attention, it is imperative that GSSC be notified of all of the camper's medications, disabilities, and any physical, emotional or behavioral difficulties on the Health History Form included in the application.

If a camper requires a one-on-one aide during the school year, an aide must be provided by the parent for the camp session. Please note that GSSC has a strict Confidentiality Policy and the provided information will solely be used to enhance the camper's summer experience at GSSC. The Camp Director or Health Supervisor may follow up with parents requesting more information once applications are received.

Camp Orientation & Behavior

Campers will receive orientation at their first day of camp. Please discuss with your child that campers are responsible for their actions and will be expected to carry out camp responsibilities and cooperate with staff. Should we have a situation that requires your involvement, we will contact you. Our camp has a zero tolerance policy for bullying.

Responsibilities of Camp Director

- To inform you and the local Health Department if your child is involved in any serious injury, illness or abuse incident.
- To screen the background and qualifications of all staff.
- To train staff about their duties.
- To provide supervision for campers 24 hours a day at overnight camps, & during hours of operation for day camps.
- To maintain all camp physical facilities in a safe and sanitary condition.
- To provide safe and wholesome meals.
- To have and follow required written plans for camp safety, health and fire safety.

- To notify the parent or guardian, with the enrollment application or enrollment contract, that:

This camp must have a permit to operate from the New York State Department of Health or the designated permit-issuing official.

Rights & Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians

- To be informed by the Camp Director, or her designee, of any incident involving your child, including injury or illness.
- To review present and past inspection reports for our camps, which are maintained by the County Health Department issuing the camp permit.
- To review camp and bus safety, medical and fire safety plans which are on file, both at camp and the County Health Department.
- To help children prepare for their camp experience.
- To make certain that your child knows how to cooperate with other campers and the camp staff.
- To explain the importance of proper behavior during all camp activities and programs and to keep camp informed of any special circumstances regarding your child.
- To notify camp immediately when your child is unable to attend.



CAMPER TIP

Register early for great deals & discounts!



More info @
www.gssc.us/summercamp