

## Cookie Program Safety

Girl Scouts of Connecticut emphasizes the safety of Girl Scouts when they are participating in the cookie program. Please visit gsofct.org (Experiences>Cookies+>Cookie Program Resources) after January 2 for additional cookie program safety information. All Girl Scouts and families should know the safety guidelines to ensure a successful cookie program. Note: Troop volunteers/Girl Scouts/families should be aware of and abide by any state and local public health guidance.

BEFORE the cookie program begins

- All Girl Scouts must be registered and have a signed Annual Consent form on file with a co-leader before participating in the cookie program.
- The troop co-leader/troop cookie mananger should provide training for Girl Scouts and parents/caregivers about cookie program safety, so they understand and are aware of safety measures.
- The Digital Cookie platform is the only approved online sales tool for Girl Scouts to sell cookies. Girl Scouts cannot set up third-party sites where cookies are marketed or sold, i.e., Facebook Marketplace, eBay, Craigslist, etc.
- Review the Safety Activity Checkpoints for Computer/Online Activities (page 70) AND Cookie and Product Sales for additional safety guidelines (page 77).
- Review the GSUSA Internet Safety pledge before using the internet to promote a Girl Scout's cookie program.
- Girl Scouts and families must review and abide by GSUSA's Supplemental Safety. Tips for Online Marketing before using social media to promote a Girl Scout's cookie program.

DURING the cookie program

- An adult must accompany Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors when they sell, take orders, or deliver cookies in person.
- Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors may use the buddy system and pair up with another Girl Scout. However, adults must be available while Girl Scouts engage in cookie program activities.
- Adults should supervise Girl Scouts when participating in any online activity related to the cookie program.
- Girl Scouts 12 and younger can use the social media accounts of parents/caregivers/ trusted adults to promote their cookie program. Girl Scouts 13 years and older can use their social media accounts.
- Girl Scouts should only share their first names, troop/group number, or council name when selling online.
- If providing an email address, a Girl Scout should use either a group account monitored by an adult, or an email account owned by an adult.
- Never reveal a Girl Scout's email or street address when online.
- Girl Scouts must wear a membership pin, uniform, or Girl Scout clothing when selling, taking orders, or delivering cookies.
- Only go door-to-door during daylight hours and in familiar neighborhoods.
- Do not enter the home or vehicle of a stranger.
- Be safe on the road, especially in busy intersections and along the roadway.

Money Safety

- Safeguard money at all times. Adults are responsible for all payments received.
- Avoid keeping large amounts of money in a Girl Scout's or family's possession.
- Money should be regularly given to the co-leader or troop cookie volunteer and promptly deposited into the troop bank account.
- Daisy Girl Scouts should not handle money.