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**Girl Scouts Honor Earth Day with Service Projects Throughout Oregon and SW Washington**

PORTLAND, Ore. – April 19, 2018 – This weekend, local Girl Scouts will roll up their sleeves and honor Earth Day by participating in service projects throughout Oregon and Southwest Washington.

“Through Girl Scouting, girls develop a lifelong respect and love for the Earth,” says Karen Hill, CEO of Girl Scouts of Oregon and SW Washington. “Earth Day service projects, camping and other outdoor adventures with Girl Scouts help girls understand their relationship to the Earth, and the vital role they have in caring for it and conserving it for future generations.”

**BEAVERTON, OR—Parks and Trails Preparation**

Troop 40110 will help to inspect parks and trails throughout the Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation District in order to identify areas that need attention before the summer season. Girl Scouts will also complete trash pickup during their inspections.

**CLACKAMAS, OR—Cemetery Clean-Up**

Girl Scout Service Unit 11 (*Milwaukie, Clackamas and Gladstone, Oregon*) will join SOLVE for Weekend Cemetery Clean Up at Clackamas Pioneer Cemetery in Clackamas, OR. Clean up will include debris, tree branches and blackberry removal and mulch spreading.

**KLAMATH FALLS, OR—Clean-Up along the OC & E Woods Line State Trail**

Girl Scout Service Unit 65 (*Klamath, Lake and Harney counties*) will join SOLVE, along with other community organizations, to do litter clean-up along the OC & E Woods Line State Trail in Klamath Falls. Girl Scouts will focus on the portion of the trail that spans from Washburn to Altamont.

**SHERWOOD, OR—Garden Preparation and Spring Nature Mandala**

Together with the Sherwood Rotary Club, members of Girl Scout Troop 45496 prepared and weeded the garden at the Our Table Cooperative. At 9 a.m. on the morning of April 22 (*prior to an Earth Day Celebration*), girls from Troop 45496 will create a spring nature mandala around the peace pole at Our Table Cooperative. Mandala-making is an ancient art form—traditionally, mandalas are bright and vibrant mosaics representing the universe, made from colored sand or rice. Nature mandalas, like those made by Troop 45496 will be made from found items including leaves, pine cones, shells, stones and flowers from the Girl Scouts’ own gardens. The Earth Day celebration at Our Table Cooperative takes place on April 22, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

**UMATILLA, OR and PASCO, WA—Improving Habitat at McNary National Wildlife Refuge**

On April 21, Girl Scouts from Service Unit 22 (*Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla and Wheeler counties in OR*) will work with the Army Corps of Engineers to clean-up a local pond in West Park, part of the McNary National Wildlife Refuge in the Columbia Basin, minutes from the Tri-Cities of Washington (*Kennewick, Pasco and Richland, WA*). Local Girl Scouts—from the Pendleton and Hermiston areas of Oregon—will plant Coyote Willows and Cottonwood trees, remove invasive Russian Olive trees,

and help make the wildlife area more habitable for the many species of animals that live there. In addition, they will remove debris and rubbish around the wildlife park. Afterwards, the girls will get to travel to the [Bechtel National Planetarium](#), at Columbia Basin College, in Pasco, WA, to hear a special presentation about the life of trees.

### **STEVENSON, WA—Camp Arrowhead 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Tree-Plantings and Trail Restoration**

More than 80 Girl Scouts and their family members and friends will commemorate Earth Day and celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Camp Arrowhead, located in Stevenson, Washington—in the Columbia River Gorge area—with tree-plantings and trail restoration on April 21-22, 2018. Attendees are traveling from Englewood, CO; Boardman, OR; the Portland/Willamette Valley area; Westchester, CA; Seattle, WA; and Irrigon, OR to attend the celebration. Three trees—a Douglas Fir, a Mountain Hemlock and a Western Red Cedar—will be planted at Camp Arrowhead to help commemorate Earth Day as well as celebrate 70 years of outdoor skill-building, friendships and appreciation for nature.

### **ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS OUTDOOR PROGRAMMING**

To learn more about GSOSW's local outdoor programming, please visit:

[http://www.girlscoutsosw.org/en/camps/explore\\_our-camps.html](http://www.girlscoutsosw.org/en/camps/explore_our-camps.html). Additional information about outdoor programming in Girl Scouts, including 34 outdoor skill-building badges, can be found at:

<https://www.girlscouts.org/en/our-program/our-program/outdoors.html>.

### **ABOUT GIRL SCOUTS OF OREGON AND SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON | GSOSW**

Our council serves 13,955 girls in 38 counties with the help of over 10,000 volunteers. Girl Scouts is proven to help girls thrive in five key ways as they: Develop a strong sense of self; Display positive values; Seek challenges and learn from setbacks; Form and maintain healthy relationships; Identify and solve problems in the community. The Girl Scout mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. For more information, please visit [girlscoutsosw.org](http://girlscoutsosw.org).

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