



Taking Action for Wildfire Relief

How Girl Scouts Can Help

Our hearts are with our Girl Scout sisters and all in our region impacted by wildfires. With so many communities in crisis, Girl Scouts throughout our council are asking: What can I do to help? Here are some approved ways that Girl Scouts in our council can support fire relief efforts right away:

Troop and Service Unit Financial Donations: Girl Scout troops and service units may use funds from their treasury to donate to an established charity or nonprofit of their choice.

- Troops can donate troop funds to organizations supporting wildfire relief. These organizations should be established charitable or non-profit organizations.
 - Troops can write checks to these organizations for their donations.
 - Troops must request, receive, and retain a receipt or acknowledgement of their donation from the established organization. This receipt/acknowledgement should contain the following information:
 - Name of the organization
 - Tax identification number for the organization
 - Amount of the donation
 - Date the donation was received
- Once the donation has been made the receipt/acknowledgement document should be retained and submitted as a part of the 2021 *Troop Financial Report* (form #108).

PLEASE NOTE: Troops cannot make donations to individuals and must not use fundraising campaigns like “GoFundMe” to make or solicit donations.

Direct Support for Select Community Service Organizations: Individual Girl Scouts may choose to donate some of all of their product program credits (Cookie Credits) through GSOSW to Oregon Food Bank (serving food banks throughout Oregon), the American Red Cross and United Way chapters across our council. Girls may also choose to donate credits directly to Girl Scouts of Oregon and SW Washington to fund book and uniform replacement for Girl Scouts in our council.

- To donate product program credits: If a Girl Scout is interested in donating some or all of her Cookie Credits, she should fill out the [Girl Scout Cookie Credit Donation Form](#). This form may only be used to donate program credits; please do not use this form to make monetary donations. See below for guidance on how to make a monetary donation to GSOSW
- To donate money directly to GSOSW's book and uniform replacement efforts: Please visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/gsosw/> to make monetary donations to GSOSW for uniform and book replacement for Girl Scouts in our council.

Take Action Projects and In-Kind Donations:

If you, your troop or service unit are interested in doing a Take Action project to support wildfire relief, please take the following steps:

1. **If you're doing a supply drive, find out what's needed.** People often have the urge to send clothing or canned food to disaster areas, but that may not be what's most needed. Check in with the agency that you wish to donate to and find out what they need. Sometimes the time it takes to accept, sort through, and distribute donations can get in the way of the most important relief efforts. Check in to confirm that your donations are wanted and useful before collecting.
2. **Prioritize safety.** All Girl Scout members must [follow these guidelines](#) to encourage personal safety and minimize health risks associated with COVID-19.

We are very grateful to the fire crews, first responders and others who are working to protect our communities and forests. We hope for their safety, and for yours. Thank you for doing your part to help others in your community and make the world a better place!