

Volunteer Role Description

Outdoor Advocate

Position Term: *	3 years - renewable upon GSSNE evaluation
Accountable to:	Service Unit Manager (SUM) & GSSNE Program Manager
Classification:	Voluntary, unpaid position

Position Summary:

Outdoor Advocates will promote Girl Scouts of Southeastern New England (GSSNE) outdoor experiences to Girl Scouts and share council-led outdoor opportunities with the service unit. Outdoor Advocates will provide support to the service unit by planning at least one service unit-wide outdoor program that supports GSUSA's Outdoor Progression Chart and assist troop leaders in helping their Girl Scouts earn outdoor badges/journeys. This is a voluntary unpaid position.

Essential Duties & Responsibilities:

- Promotes GSSNE outdoor programming and training opportunities to increase overall participation in Council-led programs and events within their service unit.
- Upholds a commitment to the improvement outdoor programming participation
- Maintains knowledge of current training and reservation registration processes and properly communicates the information to the service unit.
- Facilitates effective and safe programs that follow GSUSA's Safety Activity Checkpoints and GSSNE's PPS.
- Provides troop volunteers with outdoor skills training and opportunities they need to lead outdoor badge/journey programming.
- Practices organizational techniques to foster professional and timely communication skills to collaborate with the service unit and Council.
- Offers at least one outdoor program for their service unit per troop year.
- Attends at least 2 GSSNE virtual round tables per troop year.
- Attends service unit's physical/outdoor activities including, but not limited to, climbing, hiking, backpacking, and camping, even if this means troop leaders need assistance with facilitation.
- GSSNE understands there are different abilities and will consider reasonable accommodations, modifications, or adjustments to the role upon request of the outdoor advocate.
- Comply with all GSUSA and Council policies and procedures, including Volunteer Essentials, and recognize, understand, accept, and support all Council goals and objectives, including the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Statement. ¹

Requirements and Qualifications:

- Present a positive image of Girl Scouts to youth, volunteers, and the public/community at large by being guided by the Girl Scout Mission and Promise & Law in all actions, at all times.
- Be a registered member of GSSNE with current and applicable background check(s) conducted through GSSNE.
- Must hold a current First Aid/CPR/AED Certificate (cost covered by volunteer).
- Have reliable communication pathways, i.e., email and phone.
- Has demonstrated the successful ability to handle a wide range of sensitive and confidential issues and communicate effectively with diverse groups.
- Willingly accept constructive feedback, seek developmental opportunities, and energetically and confidently possess a drive to achieve Council goals.
- Express ideas and facts in a clear, understandable, and professional manner appropriate for the individual or group; listen to and comprehend what others are saying.
- Practice autonomy to assess own skills and abilities while identifying areas for improvement.

GSSNE Offers:

- Access to professional development and network opportunities
- Access to certification opportunities and Girl Scout-specific training
- Early access to reservations of GSSNE facilities for service unit programming

Term:*

3 years, renewable upon GSSNE evaluation

* A term is a 3-year commitment while maintaining good standing with the council, i.e., meeting the Essential Duties and Responsibilities and the Requirements and Qualifications. Term limits follow the cycle of the Girl Scout year. Individuals should not serve more than two consecutive terms, nor should they serve more than 6 total years. Vacant positions may be pursued by another party to complete the term. If the outgoing individual served most (2.5 years or more) of their term, it is considered a full term for term renewal purposes. If another individual fulfills a vacated position with a majority (2.5 years or more) of the term left, the incumbent is considered to have fulfilled one term. If another individual fulfills a vacated position with a minority 2.4 years or less of the term left, the incumbent will not be marked as a full term for term renewal purposes. GSSNE will evaluate term conditions on a case-by-case basis, with the potential to offer a term extension, transition period, or mentorship. This position with GSSNE is “at will,” which means the relationship may be terminated by either party, with or without cause at any time.

¹ GSSNE is committed to achieve pluralism through respect for and appreciation of the religious, racial, ethnic, social, and economic diversity of this Country by reflecting that diversity in its membership, leadership, and programming. We believe this commitment is an integral part of all that we do as an organization. Only individuals willing to accept the basic tenet that Girl Scouting is for all girls may serve in volunteer leadership.