

Girl Scouts Centennial Tree Planting Project: *Celebrating the Past, Planting for Our Future*



Girl Scouts Forever Green (GSFG), the Girl Scouts 100th Anniversary Take Action Project, is a national effort of girls leading their families, schools, and communities in improving the environment and protecting our natural resources. **The Girl Scouts' Centennial tree planting project: Celebrating the Past, Planting for our Future** is timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts and designed to continue as a Girl Scout legacy for future generations.

Project Goal

The goal of **Celebrating the Past, Planting for our Future** is to increase the number of trees planted, throughout our Council's jurisdiction, improve air quality at outdoor common spaces and increase knowledge about the benefits of trees by planting 100 live trees, throughout our state.

Arizona Community Tree Council, Inc.



Girl Scouts—Arizona Cactus-Pine Council is grateful for the generous support of our community partner and sponsor, The Arizona Community Tree Council, Inc. (ACTC). ACTC is ready to donate 100 trees to the **Celebrating the Past, Planting for our Future** project. In turn, the trees will be distributed to our Girl Scout membership for planting throughout the council's jurisdiction. ACTC will also arrange for troops/groups/Juliettes (independent members) to work alongside local arborists to learn the benefits of planting trees and gain valuable planting techniques. (All donated trees have been approved for use in local area landscapes.)

Leadership Benefits for Girls

As with all Girl Scout activities, **Celebrating the Past, Planting for our Future** gives girls the opportunity to develop leadership skills they can use now and throughout their lives. This community action project is also well aligned with the *It's Your Planet—Love It!* and *It's Your World, Change It!* GS Journey series, so girls are also climbing the Girl Scout Leadership Experience ladder and earning their way to a journey's prestigious leadership awards. GS Cadettes will also earn parts of the new Legacy Badge, *Naturalist*. Through participation in **Celebrating the Past, Planting for our Future**, girls will:

- Discover (themselves and their values)
- Connect (with others locally and globally)
- Take Action (to make the world a better place)

Why Are We Planting Trees?

Below are some of the benefits of planting trees in your local community and why they are key components of global ecosystems:

- **Carbon sequestration.** Trees act as natural filters of our air.
- **Trees Produce Oxygen.** One mature tree produces enough oxygen for 10 people to inhale in a year.
- **Trees improve biodiversity and provide habitat for wildlife.** Up to 90% of all terrestrial animals live in association with forest habitats. In simple terms, the less trees the less viable habitat for many species.
- **Soil erosion.** The roots of trees bind the soil and prevent erosion.
- **Water conservation.** Trees slow water runoff after periods of heavy rainfall.
- **Temperature control.** Shade from trees reduces the need for air conditioning in hot locations.
- **Trees clean the soil.** Trees sometimes store harmful pollutants or can actually in some cases change the pollutant into less harmful forms.
- **Social and communal benefits.** An environment replete with trees and vegetation can lead to a more serene, peaceful and restful frame of mind.

Resources

Arizona Arboretums: <http://www.azarboretum.org/links.htm>

Arizona Community Tree Council, Inc.: <http://aztrees.org/>

Boyce Thompson Arboretum: <http://ag.arizona.edu/BTA/>

Desert Botanical Garden: <http://www.dbg.org/>

Fun Facts about Trees: <http://www.treesaregood.org/funfacts/FunFacts.aspx>

Girl Scouts Forever Green: <http://www.girlscouts.org/gforevergreen/>

Kids Face: <http://www.kidsface.org/pages/plant.html>

Tree Planting for Kids: http://www.ehow.com/how_6757989_plant-tree-kids.html



Participation is EASY

Here's how the project will work:

Read the project guideline packet carefully. Please make a special note of project timeline calendar, included at the end of this program guide.

Troops/Groups/Juliettes are asked to investigate and identify a community gathering space that would benefit from the planting of one (1) tree.

Step 1

- » Consult with your Girl Scout(s) to determine if this is a project they would like to do.
- » Determine the location to plant your tree. Some places you might want to consider:
 - Local government buildings (city hall, court houses etc)
 - Schools
 - Churches
 - Hospitals
 - Retirement homes
 - Agencies serving the homeless.
- » Complete and submit the sign up form to the GSACPC program department. (Sorry, no phone sign-ups.)

Email or mail the sign up form and roster by **December 1, 2011** to:

- Girl Scouts—Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc.
Attn: Tree Planting Project.
119 E Coronado Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85036-1776
Email: margaretpicer@girlscoutsaz.org

Step 2

- » The tree committee will review the applications and select 100 troops/groups/Juliettes to receive a tree for planting.
- » Participation notifications will be emailed by **December 20, 2011**.
- » Participating troops/groups/Juliettes must email tree planting location information to the Council, by **January 15, 2012**.

Step 3

- » Updated program information will be forwarded by **January 15, 2012**
- » Troops can attend the Project Coordinator training on **January 28, 2012** (optional).
- » Tree delivery information will be emailed to participants by **February 15, 2012**.
- » Where possible, an arborist will be assigned to assist you with your tree planting.
- » Tree delivery and planting will begin on **March 3, 2012**. Family, friends and community partnerships are encouraged to help out with this community action project.
- » Online final report is due to council office one month after tree planting. (link to feedback form will be provided on the Council website after January 1, 2012)

Council Recognition

Everyone who participates in **Celebrating the Past, Planting for our Future** will earn a free participation patch. Patches will be mailed to participants, contingent upon completion of the online final report, at the conclusion of the project (April 2012).

Program Links

Participation in this community action project will help Girl Scouts earn:

- GS Legacy Badge - GS Cadette: *Naturalist*.
- *It's Your Planet—Love It!* GS Journey – GS Cadette: *Breathe, Seeing the Forest for the Trees*.
- *It's Your World—Change It!* GS Journey – GS Daisy-GS Ambassador: girls earn parts of this journey as they advocate for themselves and their communities.
- Community service hours - GS Daisy-GS Ambassador

Project Calendar

Date	Activity
November 1, 2011	Sign up form available to membership
December 1, 2011	Sign up form due to Council office
December 20, 2011	Participants will be notified that they have been selected to plant a tree
January 15, 2012	Tree planting site information is due to council.
January 28, 2012	Project coordinator training (optional).
February 15, 2012	Tree deliveries begin.
March 3, 2012	Tree planting begins with opening ceremony to be held in Phoenix.
April 30, 2012	Final report and roster due to council / 100 th Anniversary patch mailed to participants.

Please type or print neatly and be sure to complete form and roster fully.

We would like to be considered for the *Girl Scouts Centennial tree planting project: Celebrating the Past, Planting for our Future* community service opportunity.

Project Coordinator (the project coordinator is the person who is managing the project.)

Project Coordinator Name: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone Home: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Please enter the number of participants on each level

_____ GS Daisy _____ GS Brownie _____ GS Junior _____ GS Cadette

_____ GS Senior _____ GS Ambassador _____ Adult

Tree Planting Site (Information must be emailed to council office by 1/15/12)

Planting site name: _____ City: _____

Street Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Site Contact Name: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Girl Scouts—Arizona Cactus-Pine Council

119 East Coronado Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85004

Attn: *GS Centennial Tree Project: Celebrating the Past, Planting For Our Future*

Fax: 602.254.5368 / E-mail: margaretspicer@girlscoutsaz.org

Project Coordinator Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Troop #(s): _____

	Name	girl	adult	level
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