

Girl Scout Camp Culture

Camp is a place where everyone should feel comfortable being their authentic self. As the youth mental health crisis grows increasingly urgent, Girl Scouts of Central Indiana is dedicated to making all youth feel seen, heard, and safe. In a camp environment, this culture is especially empowering for youth. Our campers develop the confidence to love who they are, to feel that they are valued, and to experience the warmth and kindness of peers and mentors. We are committed to ensuring all campers, volunteers, and staff feel valued and safe at camp.

Girl Scouts of Central Indiana's council-run camps adhere to Girl Scouts of Central Indiana's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement: *Girl Scouts of Central Indiana embraces an inclusive culture. We value diversity, equity, and inclusion across all identities. We are committed to continual learning and to a culture of safety and wellbeing in which individuality is celebrated and everyone is valued and respected. Everyone is welcome to bring their authentic selves into our space.*

All members of the camp community are part of Girl Scouts of Central Indiana's commitment to inclusive and engaging experiences for Girl Scouts and their adult allies.

Our Camp Values

Camp is a community. The community of camp is unique; it is shaped by the physical, outdoor space of camp, the teambuilding nature of our activities, and the welcoming environment that we strive to create. Your camper should expect to be immersed in an environment that:

- Encourages personal responsibility: campers take care of themselves, our camp, and one another.
- Takes place in nature: campers learn environmental stewardship and share space with bugs and critters.
- Is "unplugged" and focused on being present: campers may not have access to electronics.
- Encourages self-exploration: campers try new things and gain confidence.
- Relies on teamwork: campers work together as part of a team.
- Is respectful and inclusive: campers and staff strive to create a safe space and respect one another's boundaries and identities.
- Nurtures belonging and the active practice of allyship: allyship is the active way of life that allows campers to keep an open mind and heart about the lived experiences of others so that they can learn how to nurture equity, opportunity, and inclusion for everyone.

THANK YOU!

Thank you for taking the time to read our Camp Culture and Values and discuss it with your camper. We sincerely hope that this document reflects a community that you and your camper are excited about being a part of. We look forward to seeing your camper this summer.