



Camp Hawthorne Ridge

Camp Confirmation Packet:
Day Camp





Dear Camp Hawthorne Ridge Camper,

We are so excited to welcome you to Camp Hawthorne Ridge this upcoming summer! We are excited to offer five weeks of day camps this summer. This year there are new badges, new traditions, and new friends. We are thrilled that you will be joining us to go on many adventures, make new friends (and keep the old!), and make incredible memories that you will carry throughout your lifetime.

Day camps allow you the opportunity to be your authentic and empowered self at camp while still getting to go home and rest at the end of the day! This confirmation packet is intended to be read and discussed with each Girl Scout attending a session at Camp Hawthorne Ridge and has been designed to effectively prepare each Girl Scout for their time at camp.

This confirmation packet includes important information that you will need to review before you arrive at Camp Hawthorne Ridge. Please be sure to read it in its entirety to fully prepare for your camp adventure!

All pertinent forms and paperwork needed for Camp Hawthorne Ridge are listed below in this packet. These forms will be available digitally and you will receive an email with instructions to complete them after registration. These forms will be reviewed at check-in. *These forms are required.*

We are looking forward to a fantastic summer at Camp Hawthorne Ridge and we are excited for you to join in the fun!

Daisy

Camp Hawthorne Ridge Camp Director

E: mkirschner@gswpa.org

T: 800-248-3355

Camp Phone: 412-463-1748

7755 Hawthorne Ridge Road

Girard, PA 16417

Getting Ready for Camp!

Being prepared ahead of time helps ensure that everyone will have a fun and fulfilling camp experience! Check out the tips below to help you get ready for the best week of the summer:

- Please read all confirmation materials closely as they will answer many of your questions.
- Talk openly with your Girl Scout about all the things that will be new to her at camp.
 - Change can be hard, so talking about all the many exciting experiences that camp has to offer can make the idea of being away at camp more familiar and less scary.
- Please have all forms completed before check-in.
 - Girls will not be able to attend camp until all required forms are completed.

Forms (Now available on Camp Docs)

You will receive an email from “Camp Doc” with instructions to complete forms online. Please be sure to check your spam folder if you do not receive this email. Reach out to mkirschner@gswpa.org if you have not gotten this email at least one week before the start of camp. Please try to complete this in advance so the Camp Director can review the forms before check-in to save time on the first day of camp.

CODE OF CONDUCT AND CAMP INFORMATION

Failure to follow the code of conduct can result in dismissal from camp.

HEALTH AND HISTORY FORM

This form allows us to access crucial medical information in case of an emergency.

CAMPER INFORMATION SHEET

This form will help camp staff better care for each camper.

CAMPER CHECK-IN/OUT FORM

This form allows us to make sure campers are released to only those designated by parents/guardians.

Preparation Checklist

- Lunch
- Sunscreen
- Hat
- Comfortable, closed-toed shoes
- Bug spray
- Reusable water bottle clearly labeled with camper's name
- Swimsuit
- Dry bag or plastic bag to put wet swimsuit in after use
- Towel
- Change of clothes
- Hand sanitizer
- Sunglasses
- Water shoes
- Journal and pencil/pen
- Prescription medications in original bottles (If applicable)

***Please clearly label all belongings.**

Do Not Bring

- Valuables
- Weapons
- Personal sports equipment
- Pets/animals (Service animals are permitted. Please contact staff if one is needed.)
- Electronics
- Alcohol or illegal substances
- Tobacco products

Camp Procedures

Check-in/Check-out

Check-in is at 9 a.m. at Thompson Hall (the dining hall). To get there, you will follow the main camp circle and it will be the first building on your right. See the map below. The Camp Director will be there to check all required forms are completed. There will be staff to help direct each camper to their designated area where they will wait for camp to begin.

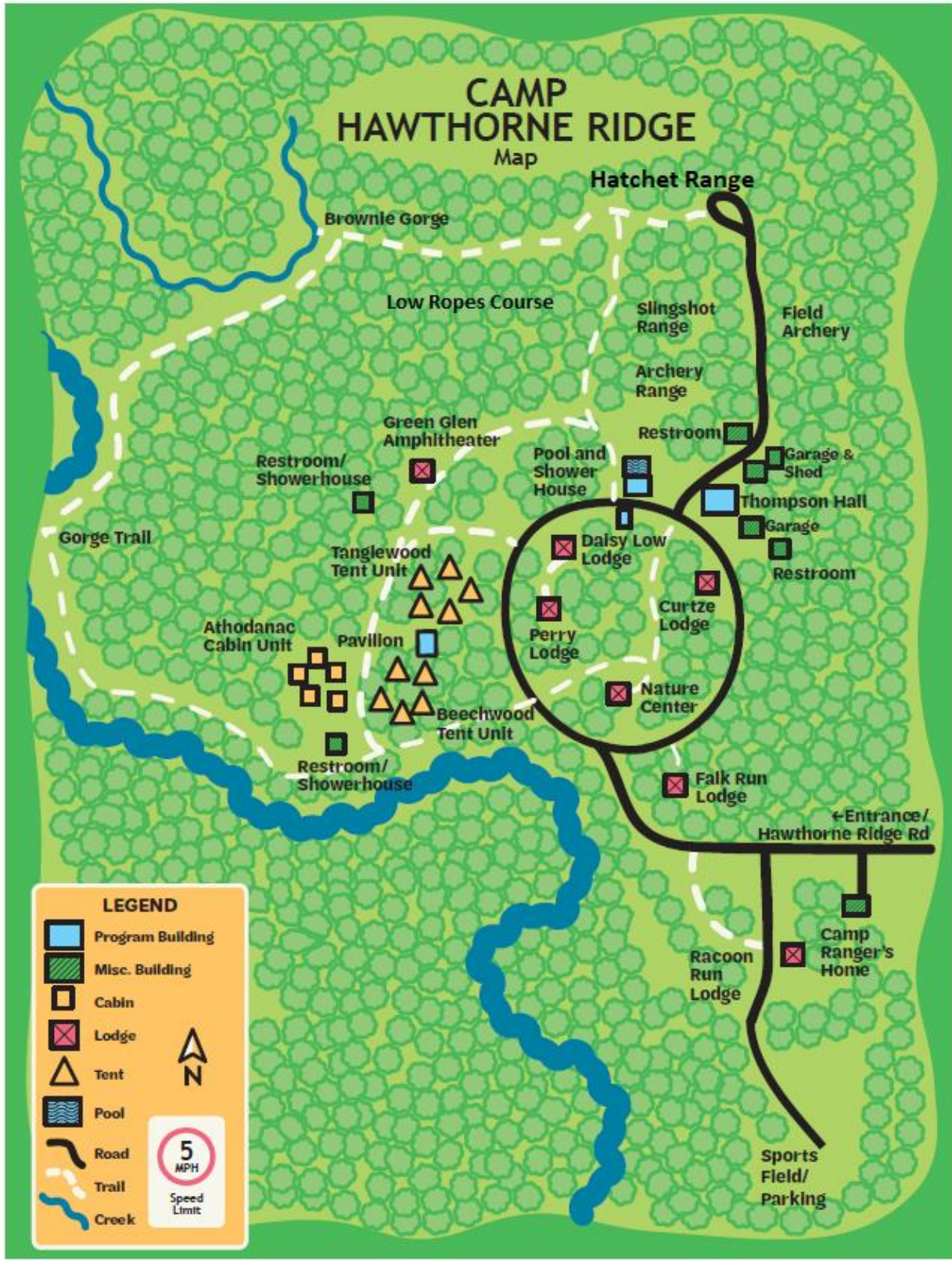
On Monday, plan to arrive up to 15 minutes early to go over forms and paperwork. Tuesday-Friday, please do not drop campers off more than 10 minutes early—our staff is busy prepping for each day!

Check-out is at 4 p.m. and will look similar to check-in. Park in an open spot near Thompson Hall (the dining hall) and check-out will be at the same table as check-in near the dining hall where you can show your photo I.D. **Your photo I.D must match one of the names on the Camper Check-in/Out Form for the camper to be released.**

A few things to remember for check-out:

- Bring photo I.D
- Pick up any medications that were dropped off at check-in.
- Check the lost and found if needed.

Map of Camp



Covid-19 Information

We will follow all council and CDC Guidelines. If any accommodations need to be made for your Girl Scout, please feel free to reach out to Mikayla “Daisy” Kirschner at mkirschner@gswpa.org. You can visit gswpa.org/covid for updated information regarding Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania COVID-19 procedures.

Breakdown of Day

Weather permitting and age-dependent, all campers will participate in traditional camp activities such as crafts, games, hiking, archery, low ropes, and swimming. They will also learn new teambuilding games and skills along with learning about the outdoor environment around them. Time will be given for campers to journal and reflect on how they are feeling or what they are learning at camp day to day. We will take time each day to journal.

Emergency Procedures

All staff will be First Aid/CPR certified. There will also be a certified lifeguard and staff members at all times when campers are at the pool. In case of emergency (accidents, illness, etc.), the Camp Director will contact the camper’s parent/guardian using the emergency contact information listed when registering for camp. In case of a home emergency, parents/guardians may call the camp director.

If you haven’t heard from the camp, you can be assured that your camper is well and happy. The camp director will contact you if any of the following should occur:

- Your camper sustained an injury or is suffering from an illness that needs IMMEDIATE medical attention. (i.e. doctor’s office or emergency room).
- We ask that if you are contacted in case of an emergency, someone from the designated pick-up sheet comes and picks up your camper within three hours of contact.

Dietary Needs

Girl Scouts will be expected to bring their lunches each day. We will have extra water and snacks on hand if needed. Please still note allergies or restrictions in your paperwork.

Celebrating Birthdays

We can celebrate birthdays at camp. Please let us know at the beginning of the week if it is your camper's birthday. If their birthday falls on a Monday, please email the camp director at mkirschner@gswpa.org so we know in advance.

Electronics at Camp

Electronics and valuables are discouraged at camp. Our camps and Girls Scouts Western Pennsylvania cannot be held responsible for items lost or misplaced at camp. In addition, our properties do not have secure places for electronics to be charged at camp. Cell phone reception at camp is very limited and not available at all for some providers. We are unable to ensure your phone will get service.

Photos

Staff members will be taking photos throughout the week, and they will be posted for families after camp via Rallyhood. Rallyhood is an online platform used to keep you updated on what is happening during your Girl Scout's week at camp. An invitation will be sent to you to join online. Please be sure to check your spam folder. If you never received one, please contact the camp director at mkirschner@gswpa.org.

Lost and Found

Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Items that are lost will be held at the camp office. You may check there or with a staff member and they will check for you. After three weeks, unclaimed items will be donated.

Swim Check

During the first trip to the pool, all girls will participate in a swim test if they want to go in the deep end of the pool or use the water slide. Swimmers do not have to participate, however, if they do not, they are only allowed in shallow water or where they can stand comfortably. Non-swimmers must wear a coastguard-approved personal flotation device (PFD). Swim tests are required for each Girl Scout every year if they are participating in any type of aquatic activity.

FAQs

Is there a uniform/dress code for campers?

- There is no set dress code for campers. We suggest comfortable and athletic clothing along with comfortable closed-toed shoes or sports sandals. Wearing shoes that keep your feet dry is important—water and dew like to stay at Camp Hawthorne Ridge and will get your shoes wet easily. Campers will need closed-toed shoes to participate in archery—no exceptions.

What activities will my camper participate in?

- Campers will participate in all traditional camp activities such as archery, crafts, games, swimming, low ropes, and more.
- All activities will be age and weather-dependent. Staff will closely monitor the weather and in case of thunderstorms, campers will have designated pavilions and/or buildings to take shelter during this time.

Does my camper have rest time?

- Each day campers will have at least 15 minutes to sit and relax. During this time, campers will have time to journal and reflect on their day or the topics we discussed.

I have more questions! Who can I reach out to?

- You can reach out to:
Camp Director, Mikayla “Daisy” Kirschner at mkirschner@gswpa.org or
Director of Outdoor Program, Ian “Donovan” Brown at ibrown@gswpa.org.