

# Girl Scout Tree Promise



## **Girl Scout Tree Promise: Plant, protect, and honor five millions trees by 2026**

**What is the Girl Scout Tree Promise?** Girl Scouts is joining forces with the Elliot Wildlife Values Project, American Forests, and SciStarter to launch a bold environmental and conservation initiative in April of 2021. Girl Scouts is setting out to plant five million trees in five years and to protect and honor new and existing trees. Five million trees is A LOT of trees, but TOGETHER we can do it! Girl Scouts and friends everywhere are being called to help by planting, protecting, and honoring trees in their backyards, camps, communities, and states- across the country and even across the world. Remember to plant trees native to your area. Check out this list to find tree planting partners and resources near you: [Trees Near You](#). Also, visit [Girl Scout Tree Promise](#) to find out more about the Girl Scout Tree Promise.

Ready to take the challenge? Follow these steps:

### **Step 1: Take the Girl Scout Tree Promise**

Before you can plant, protect, or honor trees, you need to find out how trees help the environment. In this way, you will be better equipped to act as an environmental steward who makes a difference. Complete step 1 by doing one or more of the activities on your own, with your troop, or with your family. Take a photo and submit on social media using the hashtag #GSLPG #gstreepromise

### **Step 2: Protect and Honor Trees**

Trees need protection to thrive- if they're threatened, they can't just move somewhere else. Protecting new and existing trees from invasive species, illness, habitat loss, or destruction is essential to their ability to combat climate change. Honoring trees is a great way to raise awareness about the important role they play in our environment, communities, and history. By raising awareness in the community, you are protecting trees and encouraging others to protect trees, too.



Complete step 2 by doing one or more of the following activities on our own, with your troop, or with your family. Take a photo and submit on social media using the hashtags #GSLPG #gstreepromise #gsgetoutdoorsmore

**Complete a citizen science project through SciStarter:** Participate in a citizen science project and collect data to help scientists with tree and climate research as part of the Girl Scout Tree Promise on SciStarter. Find a full list of tree-related citizen science projects on the SciStarter site at <https://scistarter.org/girlscouts-trees>

**Connect with others in your community:** Plan a community tree planning event! Use the resources below to help plan your community tree planting event.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NooaWmUsYrw>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i\\_UuOgN9qYw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_UuOgN9qYw)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uJZ-qsoaqI>

Be sure to record the trees you plant in the [online tree tracker!](#)

**Identify trees:** By using a tree identification guidebook or app, head outside to a park or trail and practice identifying the trees in your area. Explore and identify local, monumental trees in your community.

**Do some tree math:** Calculate how old a tree was by counting the rings in a cross section of a trunk or by measuring the circumference of the trunk. You can also figure out how tall a tree is by using shadows.

**Discover trees' special roles across cultures:** All around the world, communities have been honoring special trees throughout history. Indigenous Peoples have used and honored certain kinds of trees for housing, transportation, an even healing. Some cultures have festivals to honor certain trees. For example, the springtime bloom of Cherry Blossom trees is often commemorated with festivals. Choose a kind of tree, a place, or a community and explore how their trees are honored.

**Observe Nature:** Sit in a hammock or on the grass under a tree and look around. What animals or living in or near the tree?

**Make and Create:** Sit near a tree, can you make a collage with the fallen leaves?

**Investigate How Trees Support Biodiversity:** Look at how trees provide a home and food for all kinds of creatures.



**Develop Your Tree Dictionary:** Define the words deciduous, greenhouse gases, crown shyness, and biodiversity

**Get Moving:** Hug a tree or play tree tag. For the more adventurous, spend time in a treehouse or climb a tree

**Imagine a World Without Trees:** Gather items and food that comes from trees (chocolate, toilet paper, maple syrup, fruit, etc.) and imagine life without these items

### Step 3: Get your patch!

**Congratulations!** Once you make the Girl Scout Tree Promise and complete at least one activity per step, you can post your photos on social media and submit a summary with your photos to the council at [info@gslpg.org](mailto:info@gslpg.org). Then, use the [GSUSA](#) link to get your patch and wear it proudly.