

Meetings at Home Safety Guidelines

GSSNE is making it easier for volunteers to use their homes for Girl Scout meetings and activities by simplifying the process and removing unnecessary administrative steps!

GSSNE volunteers may now hold Girl Scout meetings in their homes **without** prior approval from GSSNE.

While meeting in a private residence carries additional risks and potential liability for the homeowner or renter, we want to keep the process simple while ensuring hosts understand their responsibilities. Hosts should take appropriate steps to provide a safe and comfortable space for all Girl Scouts and contact their homeowners' or renters' insurance provider with questions about coverage or exclusions related to Girl Scout activities.

DOCUMENTATION

- ☐ If requested, the homeowner / renter is able to show proof of Homeowner's/Renter's Insurance coverage for the time meetings are / were held at home
- ☐ A minimum of 2 unrelated authorized Girl Scout volunteers **MUST** be present at all times
- ☐ If ANY member of the household has a prior child assault conviction or pending conviction
- ☐ Notify your SUM before you are scheduled to host a meeting at home

HOME

- ☐ Smoke free home
- ☐ Pets are secured away from Girl Scouts during the entire meeting, including during drop-off and pick-up.
If a Girl Scout has a known pet allergy, additional precautions are taken as needed.
- ☐ Guns are locked in appropriate gun safe or another appropriate/locked container
- ☐ Poisonous items and medications are securely locked, and inaccessible to girls
- ☐ Alcohol is stored in an area neither visible nor accessible to girls during the meeting, drop-off or pick-up (anytime youth members are present)
- ☐ Fire extinguisher available
- ☐ First aid kit readily available
- ☐ Home exits are clearly visible (windows, doors)
- ☐ Areas are large enough to conduct Girl Scout activities
- ☐ Bathroom is on the same floor as meeting area and large enough for those with physical challenges (if applicable)

GROUNDS

- ☐ Enough parking for multiple vehicles
- ☐ Outside lighting with safe unloading area/zone
- ☐ Free of hazards on the ground and overhead
- ☐ Pool area gated and locked and girls are kept away from open water areas abutting the property
- ☐ Playground type equipment secured to the ground and in good condition
- ☐ Sufficient area available for Troop activities away from street traffic

HALLWAYS

- ☐ Well lit
- ☐ Enough space for Girl Scouts to move safely
- ☐ Well-ventilated with legal heating
- ☐ Free from hazards and excessive clutter
- ☐ The meeting room has 2 accessible exits in case of emergency (window, door)
- ☐ Smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detectors are checked and are in working order

If you have any questions or concerns about these guidelines, please contact CustomerCare@gssne.org or 401.331.4500.