



Girl Scouts Forever Green
Community Action Project

Project Application

Girl Scouts of the USA

2010

What is the Girl Scouts Forever Green Community Action Project?

GS West OK has been chosen by Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) as one of 39 pilot councils across the nation to implement the **Forever Green Community Action Project**. Girl Scouts hopes to be at the forefront of environmental sustainability, leading schools and communities in using resources wisely.

We are asking you to advocate for greener schools and community areas – the rest is up to you and your troop’s passions and interests! There are five environmental Focus Areas to choose from: **water use, energy efficiency, waste management, green spaces and air quality**. Girls will develop a project that will have a measurable impact on one of the Focus Areas in their school or community.

Once you have a plan, submit your application and you will be contacted within 72 hours for notification of approval. Before you begin, you will need to note the current state of your Focus Area and log into the website to report the initial findings. Completing this step will ensure an accurate measurement of your environmental impact. After your project is complete, you will return to the website and complete a quick survey. This will allow us to see the positive impact all Girl Scouts collectively have on our world. Think about it: If all Girl Scouts participated, what kind of huge impact would we see?

We look forward to reading your applications, to see what specific environmental projects are important to you! Selected troops who complete project requirements will be recognized as charter members of GS West OK’s “*Forever Green*” Corps and receive a Green recognition certificate and patch. Although we will want to support all projects, we may not be able to accept every application due to limited funding.

How is this a Girl Scout Leadership Experience?

The Community Action Project is a perfect opportunity to explore the Girls Scouts’ three keys to leadership—**Discover, Connect, and Take Action**.

Girls will first **Discover** themselves and their values by seeking challenges in the world related to the environment. This means they will, appropriate to their grade level, learn and explore new skills and ideas, and set challenging goals for themselves.

As girls assess the environmental needs of their schools and then pursue a specific project, they will naturally **Connect**—care about, inspire, and team with others locally and globally. Specifically, they will promote cooperation and teamwork, and feel connected to their communities, locally and globally.

Through their chosen projects, girls will **Take Action** to make the world a better place. They will be resourceful problem solvers, advocating for themselves and others. As the girls present their findings to their classmates, school administration and community partners, their advocacy efforts may influence school practices and policies. They will feel empowered to make a difference in the world.

In the end, the girls will reflect on the positive values and the strong sense of self they developed through their projects.

Project Requirements

- Girls must choose a project which addresses an environmental issue at their school or in their community.
- Projects must have a *measurable* environmental impact.
- Girls must have a letter of approval from their school's administration (or applicable community organization) before beginning their project (we understand that this may be difficult, so please contact GS West OK if you would like assistance).
- Girls must commit to supplying Council with their results by **May 31, 2010**.

Who is eligible to apply?

Any Girl Scout Troop registered in Girl Scouts Western Oklahoma Inc

How does my troop apply?

Once you understand the project focus areas, choose a project that you feel is important to implement at your school or within your community. Then turn in your completed Forever Green Application, making sure to include the following:

Completed Troop Project Application Form

Project Timeline

As all projects must be finished by the end of May, applications should include an explanation of how the project will be accomplished in the given timeframe.

Letter of Approval from School Administration or Community Organization (if applicable)

Guidelines for Success

Keep it Simple: Choose a project that you and your troop can do in a reasonable amount of time. Be creative! This project can last just a day, or a more long-term project could last up to 4 months. Look over the Focus Area charts for project ideas at www.gswestok.org; choose a topic that you feel passionate about **and** you think can be achieved in a short period of time.

Make Connections: The more people you have participating in this project, the greater chance of success you have. Who are good people to include in your project? Obvious choices for connections might be a science class or an environmental club. Who else might want to help? What are different ways people could be involved?

For the Future: To challenge yourself further, try and make this project sustainable past 2010. Will your solution fix something for the future or is it only a one time project this spring? Are there ways to make sure the solution lasts beyond your effort? Is this a project which can inspire all students and all ages at your school?

Girl Scout Forever Green: Community Action Project Troop Project Application Form

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT NEATLY – BE SURE TO COMPLETE FULL FORM

All applications will be reviewed for approval upon receipt. They can be emailed to mmccall@gswestok.org , faxed to 405-528-4475, or mailed to:

Girl Scout Western Oklahoma Inc.
Attn: Forever Green
121 NE 50th ST
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

TROOP/PROJECT COORDINATOR

Project coordinator can be the troop leader, assistant leader, a parent, or older girl who is managing the project.

*Troop #	Troop Level	# of girls	Did troop participate in cookie sale?	Service Unit #	
Project Coordinator Name*		Telephone (day)		Telephone (evening)	
Address		City		State	Zip
E-Mail					

** More than one troop can participate in a single project at a school*

Project Coordinator Name Date

PROJECT ADVISOR

Only necessary if the Project Coordinator is not a registered adult member of GS West OK.

Name	Telephone (day)	Telephone (evening)		
Address	City		State	Zip
E-Mail				

As a registered adult member of GSUSA I am aware of all of the rules and regulations governing Girl Scout activities. As the responsible adult I agree to ensure all participation in this project will abide by said rules whether listed in *Safety Wise*, *Green Pages*, or in GS West OK literature.

Project Advisor Name Date

COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT APPLICATION – PROJECT OUTLINE

After reviewing the Focus Areas Project Chart, exploring the online resources, and talking with your troop/schoolmates, please describe the project you would like to implement.

1. Title of Project:

2. Project Location:

School Name	Telephone Number	Fax Number		
Address	City	State	Zip	
Principal/Contact Name				

3. Project Idea: Tell us about your idea. What do you want to change in your school/community? Why? How did you come to this conclusion? How will this effort promote a solution to an environmental issue in your school or community? Feel free to use additional space if needed.

4. Challenges: Are there any difficulties you think you may face in executing this project? Please describe the challenges and your plans to overcome them. Feel free to use additional space if needed.

DISCOVER, CONNECT, & TAKE ACTION

Discover. Since you have already chosen a topic, you are well on the way to discovering more about the environment, environmental issues, and how you can make an impact. Feel free to use any resources available to get a full grasp of the issue.

Connect. Think about how you will connect with others during this project. How will you involve your schoolmates or neighbors in your project? Once you have identified groups that can be of assistance, discuss how you will involve them. Will you form a club? Will you have planning meetings? What will each group or individual do?

1. Who will you involve (list all groups/individuals)?

2. How will you involve these people? Explain how each group mentioned above will be included in your project.

Take Action.

Action Plan: If your troop is selected as a Green Troop you will be notified within 72 hours. You will need to report back regarding the progress or completion of your project by the end of May 2010. **Please attach a timeline** briefly outlining your plans each month until May, and how the groups listed above will aid you in this process.

How do you plan to assess the impact/results at the end of your project?

Additional information you would like us to know?

FUNDING SUPPORT

Troops can request seed money to help implement their project. If you would like to request funds, please complete the following questions. (Troops may request **up to \$300**. Granting of this money will be at the discretion of GS West OK).

1. Amount of money requested: \$ _____

2. Describe what the money will be used for: *Please be specific. For example, if the money will be used to purchase supplies, please list the different materials instead of writing "supplies."*

3. Please describe your reasons for requesting seed money:

Required Documents Checklist:

Completed Troop Project Application Form

Project Timeline

Letter of Approval from School Administration/Appropriate Community Organization

SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTS TOGETHER

BY MAIL:

Girl Scout Western Oklahoma Inc

Attn: Forever Green

121 NE 50th ST

Oklahoma City, OK 73105

BY FAX:

405-528-4475

ONLINE:

The Troop Project Application Form can be emailed to mmccall@gswestok.org . If you submit an online form, please fax or email the Project Timeline and Letter of Approval within one business day of submitting the Application Form. Include your troop number and Project Coordinator's name in the email or fax.

Need Help? Contact Mallory McCall, Leadership Specialist, at mmccall@gswestok.org