

GIRL SCOUTS OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE HORSE PROGRAMS

For more information, contact Meredith Dennis at mdennis@gsmidtn.org or (615) 460-0213.



HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS

Age level: 2nd grade and older

Fee: \$25 per girl

When: Year round; generally on weekdays

Description: Weekday lessons include both western and English.

Students are grouped with no more than four students per class of similar skill and experience. For more information contact Carol Coats, equestrian manager, at (615) 947-3214 or ccoats@gsmidtn.org.

LOVIN' AND GROOMIN'

Age level: Girl Scout Daisies and older

Fee: \$5 per girl

When: Most weekends of the school year; may be requested on weekdays

Description: This one-hour non-riding program includes a tour of the barn, learning general safety around horses and ponies and hands on experience with grooming. Girl Scout Brownies will earn the Lovin' and Groomin' try-it.

PONY READY

Age level: Girl Scout Brownies and older

Fee: \$8 per girl

When: Most weekends of the school year; may be requested on weekdays

Description: This one-hour non-riding program is for girls who have already participated in Lovin' & Groomin'. Participants will advance their grooming skills and learn to lead a horse or pony. Girl Scout Brownies will earn the Pony Ready try-it.

Prerequisite: Lovin' and Groomin'

HORSE DAY CAMPS

Age level: 3rd grade and older

Fee: \$50 per girl / \$50 per adult (if participating)

When: Weekdays (inquire for availability)

Description: Bring your troop or group to Camp Sycamore Hills for a day with the horses. Girls will spend their time with riding lessons, games on horseback and around the barn and learning how to get a horse ready to ride. This event runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Groups must sign up with a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 12 riders. Participants will bring a sack lunch, drinks and snacks for the day. Adults are not required to stay, but are welcome!



RING RIDE/TROOP LESSON

Age level: 3rd grade and older

Fee: \$15 per rider

When: Most weekends of the school year; may be requested on weekdays

Description: Instruction is based on the experience level of the group. Lessons may be tailored to the interests of the group but begin with basic instruction and practice and focus on progressive riding skills. Girl Scout Brownies will earn the Riding Round Up Try It. This 1 1/2 hour session includes helmet and boot fittings, receiving horse assignments and a ground school for basic instructions.

TRAIL RIDE

Age level: 4th grade and older

Fee: \$15 per rider

When: Most weekends of the school year; may be requested on weekdays

Description: Trail rides begin with basic instruction and practice in the arena. The length of the trail ride depends on the skill level that the riders demonstrated during basic instruction. The 1-1/2 hour session includes helmet and boot fittings, receiving horse assignments and a ground school for basic instructions. In the case of inclement weather or unsafe trail conditions, alternate arena activities will be substituted.



HORSE FAN BADGE WORKSHOP

Age level: Girl Scout Juniors

Fee: \$25 per girl (up to two adults may ride for \$15 per rider)

When: Most weekends of the school year; may be requested on weekdays

Description: Participants work toward earning the Horse Fan badge by learning about caring for horses and equipment and other aspects of horsemanship. The 3 hour session is primarily ground work, but includes a trail or arena ride, depending on weather.

HORSE RIDER BADGE WORKSHOP

Age level: Girl Scout Juniors

Fee: \$30 per girl (up to two adults may ride for \$15 per rider)

When: Most weekends of the school year; may be requested on weekdays

Description: Participants work toward earning the Horse Rider badge. This four hour session provides hands-on experience with the horses, including grooming, saddling and riding. Depending on the experience of the riders, more practice may be required to complete the badge.

HORSE SENSE WORKSHOP

Age level: 6th grade and older

Fee: \$30 per girl (up to two adults may ride for \$15 per rider)

When: Most weekends of the school year; may be requested on weekdays

Description: Participants work toward earning the Horse Sense interest patch. Participants will learn about careers with horses and explore many aspects of horses and horsemanship. The four hour session is primarily ground work but will include a ride. Some additional work may be required to complete the interest patch.

HORSE CENTS

Age level: 4th - 8th grade

Fee: \$12 per person

When: January 29, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Description: Thinking of getting your first horse but not sure what is involved? This NON-riding program will help you find out answers to questions like, "What do I need to buy? How do I know what kind of horse to look for? How much will it cost to take care of him?" Most of this 3 hour workshop will be spent indoors at Camp Sycamore Hill's Riverview Bunk house learning about equipment, feed, foot and health care, and safety gear. Participants will fill out a budget sheet by "shopping" for what they think they will need for the horse of their dreams. Weather permitting, we will end the workshop with a walk to the horse barn to meet some of Camp Sycamore's horses over the fence. Register for this program online through E Council.

DIGITAL HORSES

Fee: \$18 per person

When: February 26, 2012 from 1:00 p.m - 4:00 p.m.

Description: Try your hand at equine photography. Under staff supervision, you will use digital cameras to take pictures in the barn and pasture at Camp Sycamore Hills and then return to the new bunk house classroom to turn your pictures into a CD digital scrapbook on our mobile computer lab. Available to Girls Scouts in grades five and higher. *This is a non-riding program.* Register for this program online through E Council.



HORSE SMARTS TEAM BUILDING

Age level: 6th grade and older

Fee: \$15 per participant for standard session

When: Weekdays (inquire for availability)

Description: Horse smarts is a team building program which incorporates social awareness and a unique approach to enhancing leadership and communication skills by observing and interacting with horses. All activities are non-riding and do not require any experience with horses. The standard session is 3 hours but can be adapted to the needs of the group. Groups must sign up with a minimum of 6.

VAQUERAS TRAINING DAY

Age level: 7th grade (at least 12 years old) and older

Fee: \$15 per girl for training only

Description: Older girls learn to serve other Girl Scouts while developing all aspects of horsemanship. Vaqueras are trained to prepare horses for the various horse programs and assist girl participants. Vaqueras may also improve their own riding skills by participating in riding lessons and other riding experiences. This training is required to become a Girl Scout Vaquera.

CUSTOM PROGRAMS

Let us know what your needs are. Be creative. For example, one group holds an election day event that include regular horse programming along with election complete with ballot booths, ballots, horse candidate for each office, voter registration cards and more.

COMMUNITY PARADES

Camp Sycamore Hills's horses, ridden by experienced Vaqueras, participate in community Christmas parades around the area (daytime parades only). If you have an interest in them coming to your local parade, contact Carol Coats at (615) 947-3214 or ccoats@gsmidtn.org.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE PROGRAMS

Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee also has several options of outdoor adventure programs at Camp Sycamore Hills in Ashland City, Camp Holloway in Millersville and Camp Nee Kah Nah in Gainsboro. Girls are free to experience the adventure, no matter their skill level. Programs are available most weekends throughout the year. Age appropriate programs are offered for all Girl Scout age levels and include rock climbing, rappelling, obstacle course, team adventure, tree climbing, canoeing and more. Summer camp sessions also include opportunities for girls to do a variety adventure programs. Contact Meredith Dennis at (615) 460-0213 or mdennis@gsmidtn.org for more information.