

Wetlands Project Patch

For Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors



INTRODUCTION:

Wetlands are areas where the soil is always wet or wet frequently enough to be populated by plants specially adapted to wet soil conditions. In order for an area to be considered a wetland, it must possess water, wetland plants, and wetlands soils. The Wetlands Project Patch is designed to help girls learn, appreciate and enjoy learning about wetlands and the plants and animals that live in them.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

In completing this program, girls will:

- ❖ Gain knowledge about how wetlands are helpful to the earth we live on.
- ❖ Learn that a wetland is much more than a swamp that should be filled in.

GUIDANCE FOR LEADERS:

You are the key person in implementing a successful wetlands journey for your girls. You have the responsibility of promoting activities in a positive and non-judgmental environment.

TO ORDER THE PATCH SEGMENTS:

Please use the Council Patch Order Form which can be downloaded from the www.gsgcf.org website download section and mail or fax to the council headquarters.



GIRL SCOUTS OF GULFCOAST FLORIDA, INC.

4780 Cattlemen Rd.
Sarasota, FL 34233
941-921-5358 • 800-232-4475



Girl Scouts.

SERVICE CENTER IN FORT MYERS

12651 Girl Scout Lane
Fort Myers, FL 33913
239-561-1800 • 800-586-3186

Wetlands Project Patch

For Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors



DISCOVER:

- ❖ Learn about the water cycle and draw your own picture of how the water cycle works.
- ❖ Take a night visit or camp out at a wetland. Record activities at the wetland during your night watch. While at the wetland do a wetland survey.
- ❖ Make a wetlands dictionary using the following words: brackish water, deciduous, estuary, evergreen, hardwood, salinity, saturated, tides, aquatic, bog, ecology, ecosystem, food web, hydric soil, mangroves, marsh, peat, slough, and swamp.
- ❖ Find out what epiphytes are and go on an epiphytes hunt around a wetland or state park. Epiphytes are commonly called "air plants" and can be found on cypress trees, some oak and mangroves. The three main groups of epiphytes are bromeliads, ferns and orchids.

CONNECT:

- ❖ Adopt a freshwater wetlands in your area.
- ❖ Make a booklet, poster, video, or web page identifying the major plants or wildlife normally found in your adopted wetland. Share this information with younger Girl Scouts.

TAKE ACTION:

- ❖ Research laws governing wetlands and development. What individuals, commissions, and boards are responsible? Are they elected or appointed? How frequently? Where and how frequently do they meet? If possible, attend one of their meetings. Select an individual from one of these groups and find out what experience and education this person has had to prepare for the job. What does this person feel are the most important issues facing the community? Share what you have learned about wetlands with this individual.

