

# Wetlands Project Patch

## For Girl Scout Juniors and Cadettes

Girl Scout Juniors and Cadettes are encouraged to earn this patch. The patch is different for each age so you can earn it twice, once at each age level.



### 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](http://www.gsgcf.org) website download section and mail or fax to the council headquarters.



Discover,  
Connect,  
Take Action!

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## **DISCOVER:**

- ❖ Research what a wetland is – Why are wetlands important?
- ❖ Learn and be able to describe: brackish water, deciduous, ecosystem, estuary, evergreen, hardwood, salinity, saturated and tides.
- ❖ Investigate what lives in the water by using an underwater scope, net, microscope or other way of collecting species. See which things you collected you can identify using a field guide.
- ❖ Collect and compare leaves from plants above or below the water, floating on the water, or emerging from the water.
- ❖ Make a rubbing of leaves found around a wetland.
- ❖ Either draw or create a wetlands food chain out of everyday items. Be creative.

## **CONNECT:**

- ❖ Visits a wetland at least twice. Discuss and draw what you saw. Conduct a wetlands survey by listing all the things you see. Did you see different things on your second visit?
- ❖ Learn how wetlands impact local and state water supply. Start at SWFWMD's webpage <http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/>
- ❖ Learn about the Everglades (or another wetlands area) and create a booklet, poster, video, or webpage of what you have learned. Start at <http://www.nps.gov/ever/>

## **TAKE ACTION:**

- ❖ Participate in a council wetlands work day (call to schedule a date) or volunteer to help out at a local wetlands event.

