

Colorado Girl Scout cookies now for sale

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

The wait is over! Customers can get those Girl Scout cookies they've been dreaming about since last year with the kickoff of the annual Girl Scout Cookie Program Jan. 22. Girl Scouts across Colorado picked up millions of packages of Girl Scout cookies the week of Jan. 16 and will be bringing the cookies to customers' doors to sell on-the-spot from Jan. 22 until March 4. (Sales in front of retail locations start Feb. 10.)

This year, Girl Scouts will also be giving customers the option to pay by credit card if the Girl Scout is participating in the program.

This year marks Girl Scouts' 100th anniversary year, known as "Year of the Girl." While Girl Scouts didn't start selling cookies until 1917, this annual tradition has grown into the largest girl-led business in the country that generates more than \$700 million for girls in communities nationwide. In fact, last year in Colorado, girls participating in Girl Scouts earned \$2.48 million for their activities, such as service projects or exciting trips.

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is also an important ingredient for leadership development and helps girls develop five key skills: goal-setting, decision-making, money management, people skills and business ethics. Many Girl Scout alumnae credit programs like the Girl Scout Cookie Program as the place they learned their early business skills.

All money raised from Girl Scout cookie sales supports girls in Girl Scouts of Colorado, with a portion of the profits going directly to the girls participating in Girl Scouts.

The eight Girl Scout cookie varieties are Do-Si-Dos, Dulce de Leche, Samoas, Savannah Smiles, Tagalongs, Thank U Berry Munch, Thin Mints and Trefoils. The new cookie is the Savannah Smiles, which is a lemon cookie that is named after Savannah, Ga., the place where Girl Scouting was founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low.

All Girl Scout cookie varieties contain zero grams of trans fat per serving, and the Do-Si-Dos, Dulce de Leche, Savannah Smiles, Thank U Berry Munch and Trefoils have no hydrogenated oils. Further information about the Girl Scout cookie ingredients can be found at littlebrownie.com

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“It’s a historic year for the Colorado Girl Scout Cookie Program. From celebrating our 100th anniversary to our ‘Cookies Now!’ sale model, accepting credit cards and other innovative technology tools like the Cookie Locator mobile app, supporting Girl Scouts through the Cookie Program is now easier than ever,” said Dorothy Gregory, vice president of product sales for Girl Scouts of Colorado.

“But the most valuable component of this annual program is the life skills gained by the girls. I know many of our Girl Scouts have their sights set high on earning money through cookie sales to participate in one of the many programs we offer.”

Making the world a better place is central to the Girl Scout mission. During the Cookie Program, Girl Scouts honor the nonprofit organizations, food banks, military and uniformed personnel who are so important to communities through Girl Scouts’ Hometown Heroes/Gift of Caring program. Through this program, customers have the opportunity to purchase a package of cookies to donate to Girl Scouts’ heroes—a perfect solution for those who pass on the tempting treats.

Girls learn about the invaluable work of their recipients by taking tours, learning about careers in public service and helping with community service projects. All Hometown Heroes/Gift of Caring purchases are eligible to be tax deductible. Last year’s statewide program netted 122,000 packages for hundreds of community organizations.

Customers who are looking for cookies can use the “Cookie Locator” online or via mobile app to search for booth sale locations where they can make a purchase. Once customers find a location that works for them, they can add it to their calendar and/or sign up to receive e-mail reminders about sale locations. Visit girlscoutsofcolorado.org to get started or learn more.

To read about Holyoke's Girl Scouts, [click here](#) .

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