



April 2021

Dear Girl Scouts,

At GSHPA we are really thrilled to join Girl Scouts USA in an effort to plant 5 million trees. In Pennsylvania alone, roughly 19,000 of our rivers and streams are damaged by pollution, and trees are the most cost-effective tools for cleaning and protecting our waters.

We are fortunate, within our council, to join forces with Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership and their goal to plant 10 million trees across the entire state by 2025. Girl Scouts have long had a special place in their hearts for caring for the environment, beginning with our founder, Juliette Gordon Low, in 1912. The Girl Scout Promise and Law encourage us to “use resources wisely” and to make the world a better place. Partnering with Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership and Girl Scouts Tree Promise empowers girls in our 30 counties to combat climate change and protect their futures in a very concrete way.

Borrowing from Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership’s webpage, speaking directly to the impact of trees here in Pennsylvania:

“Our Health: Trees cleanse the air and sources of drinking water. They provide cooling shade for our buildings, playgrounds, and parks during the heat of summer.

Our Farms: Trees help keep nutrients and soil on the field, where they are needed, and out of streams. Tree roots and leaves also help improve soil health.

Our Economy: Trees bolster fishing, hunting, boating, and other recreational opportunities, reduce health care costs, protect property, and increase farm productivity.”

What does that mean for Heart of PA Girl Scouts? It means that our girls of courage, confidence, and character ARE making the world a better place by their actions.

Through our relationship with Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership, girls will have the opportunity to partner with trail associations, municipalities, conservancies, watershed groups, PA Veteran Farming Project, and numerous PA Government divisions. The Tree



Promise Partners tab of the Tree Promise website will be refreshed regularly with new and updated opportunities for girls, troops, service units, and Juliette's to partner with other Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership partners. The Tree Promise Resources tab will contain tips and suggestions for Girl Scouts to find and create their own partners as well as schedules for tree maintenance and care.

Check back on our Tree Promise webpage for new updates/guidance related to obtaining free trees, tree stakes and tree shelters, or links to recent tree planting success stories. The entire staff of GSHPA, board, and committee members, look forward to the impact Heart of PA Girl Scouts will make on our environment.

Let's plant!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lutricia".

**Lutricia Eberly**

Director of Outdoor and Program Experiences

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania

Committed to helping today's girls become tomorrow's leaders in the following counties:  
Adams, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon,  
Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland,  
Perry, Pike, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Union, Wayne, Wyoming and York.

