



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information, please contact:

Ann-Marie Soderstrom 815-962-5591, Ext. 7172

asoderstrom@girlscoutsni.org

Emma Eschenfeldt 847-741-5521, Ext. 7124

eeschenfeldt@girlscoutsni.org

\$10,000 COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT IMPROVES GIRL SCOUT CAMP DEAN

Big Rock - Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois (GSNI) is proud to announce enhancements to its Camp Dean located in Big Rock, Illinois, thanks to generous funding from the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. A \$10,000 grant from the foundation enabled the addition of interpretive signage and a greenhouse for native plants that will provide increased environmental education programs at Camp Dean. GSNI is grateful to the Community Foundation and all its individual donors who make grants like this possible.

The added interpretive signage and new greenhouse will help camp users learn about the camp's native plants and habitats. Signage will be located in each major ecosystem, as well as on hiking trails to call attention to particular plants or aspects of each landscape. The greenhouse will serve to provide environmental service and educational opportunities to girls and help maintain native species in the various ecosystems at Camp Dean. When girls attend camp, they will be able to use the greenhouse to plant, water, and monitor seeds for native prairie or tree species. All improvements will help GSNI provide girls at Camp Dean with environmental education and stewardship activities for years to come.

Camp Dean serves all girls, including Girl Scouts and non-Girl Scouts, from 6–17 years of age throughout the greater Aurora area, including its west and northwest suburbs. Approximately 2,000 Girl Scouts use Camp Dean each year for summer resident camp, day camp, and troop camping experiences. Camp Dean offers beginning campers the opportunity to explore nature, learn new skills, and have fun in a group of their peers. Camp Dean is fully accredited by the American Camping Association, a distinction that only one in four camps seek and earn, which indicates the highest standards of health, safety, and program quality.

About The Community Foundation of Northern Illinois

The Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley is a non-profit, tax exempt, philanthropic organization that administers individual charitable funds from which grants and scholarships are distributed to benefit the citizens of the Greater Aurora Area, the Tri-Cities and Kendall County, Illinois. It is the mission of the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley to provide effective and rewarding ways for donors to fulfill their philanthropic objectives. For more information on the Community Foundation, please visit its website at www.CommunityFoundationFRV.org.

About Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois

Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois serves over 15,000 girls and nearly 5,000 adult volunteers in parts or all of Boone, Carroll, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Jo Daviess, Kane, Kendall, Lake, LaSalle, Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Whiteside, and Winnebago counties.

Through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls in grades K through 12 are engaged in discovering themselves, connecting with others, and taking action to make the world a better place. Girls develop leadership potential by participating in age-appropriate activities that enable them to discover their values, skills, and the world around them. Activities in science and technology, business and economic literacy, and outdoor and environmental awareness provide girls with opportunities for fun and friendship while fostering the development of leadership skills and self-esteem. For more information on how to join, volunteer, reconnect or donate to Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois, visit www.girlscoutsni.org or call 1-800-242-5591.

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