



COVID-19 Update

Hello, Girl Scouts of Western Washington Membership—

As I wrote to you in yesterday's email, GSWW is monitoring the COVID-19 situation closely. Today, the Public Health Department for Seattle & King County updated their recommendations for the public and for community organizations. Read more about the updated recommendations [here](#). Snohomish County officials also declared a state of emergency. Read more about their statement [here](#).

In light of today's new recommendations, GSWW is updating our own response for Girl Scouts in both counties. First and foremost, we encourage girls, families, troops, and volunteers to consider their continued participation in the public portion of the Cookie Program in King and Snohomish Counties. If a girl or troop from King or Snohomish Counties decides to withdraw from the Cookie Program because of COVID-19 concerns, GSWW will be offering the option to return unsold cookie packages.

If you decide to continue to participate in the Cookie Program, please know that we are looking into expanded online opportunities. We are working out the details and will have more on those opportunities soon.

Regarding the specifics of the option to return unsold cookies, we are taking the

next 24 hours to create a procedure to manage this process. **We will be sending an email through eBudde to King and Snohomish Troop Cookie Volunteers with details on how this will work and next steps to take to participate by end-of-day tomorrow (March 5).** Parents must work with their Troop Cookie Volunteers to return unsold packages.

Please know we've shared this decision with you as soon as it was made, and we're passing on all the information we currently have. We ask that you hold questions on this topic until you have received the email tomorrow. We appreciate your help and understanding, so that we can focus on setting up a process that will work for our members.

Only King and Snohomish County authorities have issued these statements at this time, which is why we are making this change. For all other counties, please refer to the recommendations in the email I sent yesterday. This is a quickly evolving situation and we will continue to monitor the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Washington State Department of Health, and local health authorities for changes to their recommendations.

Thank you, all of you, for everything you do for girls, every day.

Warmly,
Megan Ferland, CEO