

Girl Scout's

COOL the Community



Program Overview

Welcome to Girl Scouts **COOL the Community**. We are thrilled to have your troop take on our newest program as their service project!

Over the next 3 months, your Scouts will not only learn to practice energy conservation at home, but they will become leaders in the fight against global warming, as they motivate their families and other community members to lower their carbon emissions as well.

This overview of the 3-month project will provide you with all the information needed to enroll your troop.

Troop Meetings: Cool the Community requires 4 troop meetings which support your Scout's efforts to reduce carbon emissions at home and in the community. These meetings include **fun** and **educational** "climate change" crafts and activities.

Taking Action: After introducing your troop to the concepts of global warming with a fable in the 1st meeting, Scouts go home with Action Coupon books featuring 10 easy no- or low-cost energy saving actions, and start taking action at home. Scouts will receive incentives for actions taken at home in the form of **COOL the earth** collectible trading cards. In the 2nd meeting the girls learn to motivate others in their community to take action and return the coupons to the troop for credit!

Measuring Success: As your troops receive coupons back from the community in meetings 3 and 4, you will enter them into the **COOL the earth** online tracking form and celebrate your results. Scouts will earn their "climate change" patch and see that, collectively, they are making a significant impact on climate change in their community, and that **every action counts!**

Enroll and receive your **Cool the Community Kit** which includes Cool the Earth trading cards and **Action Coupon Books**, containing 10 easy no- or low-cost actions anyone can take to reduce their carbon emissions at home.

To collect your program materials please **contact Kimberly Miller**, Program Manager, at the Oakland office, kmiller@girlscoutsnorcal.org. She will make sure that your package is ready for pick up at YOUR local Girl Scout Nor Cal office at least one week prior to your meeting start date.

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Within the Program Materials section of the Coordinator Portal, you will find meeting instruction packets containing all the information and documents you need to run the program and start cooling your community.

■ Meeting 1: Learn about Global Warming with the Golden Coupon Fable

Through a fun and lively interactive story, Girl Scouts are introduced to the concepts of global warming and given "Action Coupon" booklets featuring 10 actions they can start taking at home to reduce their carbon emissions. When they take action and return coupons in the 2nd Meeting, Scouts will receive a cool surprise: **COOL the earth** trading cards! Included in the meeting instructions: The Golden Coupon Fable; Coloring Sheets; Letter to Parents; and Coupon Collection and Online Tracking Instructions for troop leader.

■ Meeting 2: Calculate your Carbon Footprint and Jump into Action!

In the "Shrink Your Footprint" activity, each girl will measure their environmental impact and discuss ways to shrink their carbon footprint. Next Scouts prepare to reach out beyond their families, asking others in their community to take action with the "Action Coupon" books. Included in the meeting instructions: Dialogue Practice Sheet; and Community Sign Up Sheet.

■ Meeting 3: Draw your Footprint and Strategize

Troops complete the "Shrink Your Footprint" exercise with an art project, comparing their carbon footprint alongside typical footprints from other countries. A "Shrink Tank" brainstorm is held to discuss the highlights and challenges of the troop's first effort to Cool the Community.

■ Meeting 4: Measure Results and Celebrate!

In the final meeting, coupons that have been returned are counted, categorized and tallied. Scouts engage in a poster making art project announcing their total results, which also get recorded on **COOL the earth's** website. Troop members celebrate and take pride in their efforts to Cool the Community and earn their climate change patch.

