

## Girl Scout Cookie Sale Walkabouts

### ***What are Walkabouts and what are the rules about after dark?***

"Walkabouts" is a time period at the beginning of the Girl Scout cookie sale, when each girl is working on establishing her customer base and working on her independent goals. For some girls, this goal setting does not even involve a physical walking about the neighborhood, but for many it does. When a girl chooses to do so, with parental permission and escort, she may walk around her neighborhood during day light hours with an adult, leaving business cards at homes, insuring that the neighbors know who their "go to Girl Scout" is for all their cookie needs. This is also the time when she is contacting her local businesses to establish larger bulk orders, contacting companies to set up "Milk and Cookie" booths, and utilizing her social media network to let all her friends, her parents' friends and their friends know--"It's Cookie Time."

Council policy states that a parent or other responsible adult must provide adequate supervision while girls are going door-to-door. Parents are trained before participating with the Girl Scouts in cookie sales. It is stressed that if girls or parents feel uncomfortable approaching a house, they should not do so. They are told to dial 911 immediately if they feel threatened. The troop leader's or other designated adult's telephone number should be given for reorders or complaints. **Girls should never give out their telephone number.**

We know that daylight fades around 5- 5:30 and for working families it is difficult to escort their daughter during workdays. We have three weekend days during the cookie sale walkabout period when parents can accompany girls and canvassing the neighborhood can be done safely with daylight hours. Then the week day walkabouts can happen to and from school, or weekdays can be spent focusing on spreading the word by telephone to friends and family, by Facebook or even by sending out all those letters to businesses telling them about the I Care program and how they can work directly with the Girl Scout to participate. The "Walkabout" does not even have to have "Walking" involved. It is a time for a Girl Scout to work on her "Journey" towards reaching her goals.

### ***Safety and Sales Tips for Cookie Sale Walkabouts***

- **Girls NEVER sell alone. Girls must always have an adult with them.** Seniors and Ambassadors (**ONLY**) may sell with a buddy of their same age or older.
- Parents should know exactly where the girls will be selling cookies and when they will be home.
- Girls need to dress appropriately and be polite.
- Girls should wear a Girl Scout pin or other Girl Scout uniform item to be recognizable.
- Girls should know their personal and troop goal.
- Girls should know "How the Cookie Crumbles."
- Never go inside someone's home while selling cookies. Girls should stay outside the home where they can be seen from the street.
- Girls should never accept food or beverages while selling.
- Girls should leave all pets at home while selling, unless a working animal companion is necessary; i.e., seeing eye dog.
- Girls should not go into a yard if there is a dog or a closed gate/fence.
- Girls may not sell cookies door-to-door after dark.
- Girls should never give their last name or phone number while selling.
- When loading and unloading cookies, lift with your knees, do not bend at the waist.