Junior Girl Scout Programs

At the Roth Living Farm Museum
Programs for Junior Girl Scouts

Schedule an outing for your troop, and we’ll help you with your badge requirements!

The Roth Living Farm Museum offers a unique opportunity to do hands-on activities based on historical farming practices and activities and to see our animals and learn about their role on a 19th century farm.

We can help you with requirements for the following badges:

- **Food, Fibers, & Farming**—Scouts will learn about where the products they eat and use every day come from and try their hand at creating a dairy product that they can sample.
- **Horse Fan**—Horses aren’t just for riding. Early farmers depended on them to help with the plowing, planting, and harvesting of their crops and even transporting them to market.
- **Yarn & Fabric Art**—Sheep and wool were another important aspect of farming. Scouts will meet our sheep and try out some of the steps to process their wool into products we can use.
- **Family Living Skills**—The modern family is, in many ways, different from the 19th century family. Scouts will learn about and try out some of the chores women and children would have done and see how family life and lifestyle was different in the 1800s.

In some instances, we’ll give you the knowledge you need to do a follow-up activity at home or with your troop, but in most cases you’ll complete an entire badge requirement (or three!) and you’ll be well on your way to earning your badge.

### Planning Your Trip

1. Call ahead to reserve your date and program.
2. Confirm number of girls a week or two in advance.
3. Have the girls wear comfortable clothing and closed toe shoes. We may get dirty.
4. Arrive on time and ready to learn and have fun!
5. Payment may be made the day of the trip by cash, check or money order.
6. Please let us know as much in advance as possible if you need to cancel or reschedule your trip or if you are bringing more than a few extra girls than scheduled so we can plan accordingly.
7. We’re located on Rte. 202 at Hancock Road, south of Rte. 63/Welsh Rd. Do **NOT** rely on Map Quest to find us.

All scouts receive the Roth Living Farm Museum patch as part of their program!
Food, Fibers, & Farming
The foods we eat and the products we use don’t just appear on store shelves, they have to be raised or grown somewhere. Before the Second Industrial Revolution of the mid-18th Century, most families took care of producing what they needed at home, on their farms. Modern inventions brought about by industrialization changed that, however, and we’ve distanced ourselves from the source of our food as work and workers moved indoors and into cities and towns and away from a rural lifestyle. Your trip to the Roth Living Farm Museum will allow you to work towards three of the six requirements for the Food, Fibers, and Farming badge. In some instances, you will need to do some follow-up work at home or at your next troop meeting to fully meet the requirement. Offered April – October. $6/girl.

Badge Requirements Your Program Will Meet

1. **Plant It/Eat It** – Tour our German four-square garden and learn about its construction and what is growing there. Depending on season, we can plant or harvest salad greens, tomatoes, cucumbers, radishes, carrots, onions, and potatoes and sample them. The next time you’re at the supermarket, remember what the different vegetables looked like when they were growing – were they on a vine, a bush or growing underground? Are you eating a leaf, a stalk, or a root?

3. **Raising an Animal** – We’ll tour the barn and learn about the animals we have here and how they were used in the 1800s. Depending on time of year and day, you’ll even get to try milking a cow or goat or collecting and sorting eggs. For follow up work, you’ll pick one of the animals you learned about and make a poster or journal describing how you would care for it for two weeks and share this with your troop. Make sure you include its living conditions, feeding schedule, the type and amount of food it eats, and any other special needs (like milking or grooming) it may have. You can use
the information you learned at the Roth Farm or do some additional research at the library or on the internet. A reading list will be provided.

7. Take a Churn – Now that you know where milk comes from, you’ll choose a product to make from it: butter, cheese, or ice cream. Troops will pick one product and schedule it in advance.

Horse Fan
Horses were an important animal on a farm in the 1800s. Before tractors were invented all of the labor on the farm was done by men and horses. Horses could be hitched to a plow to prepare the fields for planting, they could walk on a "tread" (treadmill) to run various types of threshing and processing equipment, and they could pull a wagon into town so the farmer could sell his products. We’ll meet the horses and see some of the horse powered equipment. Your trip to the Roth Living Farm Museum will allow you to meet three of the six requirements for the Horse Fan badge. Offered April – October. $6/girl.

Badge Requirements Your Program Will Meet

2. Caring for Horses – You will meet our draft horses and learn about their history and the jobs they did on the farm, as well as what they eat and how to groom and care for them.

7.Ease with Equipment – Harnessing a horse was a time consuming process and took some muscle – the harness weighs about 50 pounds! This was a job younger boys would have been responsible for to get the horses ready for their father and older brothers to go out into the fields. We’ll see what all of the parts of the harness do and how it all goes together to get the horses ready for work.

10. Showing Off – We’ll watch part of a video that shows the draft horses plowing and see some of the plows, threshing machines, and other equipment used in farming with horses.
Yarn and Fabric Art
Sheep have been used for wool for over 12,000 years. Did you know your favorite wool sweater was once the coat of a woolly sheep? On your trip to the Roth Living Farm Museum, you will meet some of our sheep and learn the journey your sweater took from the sheep to you. You will meet three of the six requirements for your Yarn and Fabric Art badge. Offered year round. $12/girl (includes wooden loom to keep).

Badge Requirements Your Program Will Meet

1. Carding, Spinning & Dying – You will try your hand at carding the fleece and spinning it by hand with a drop-spindle. While doing so, you’ll discuss different dying methods and learn the difference between “dyed in the wool,” “yarn dyed,” and “garment dyed.” If you want to do a follow-up dying activity at your next troop meeting, eggs and cotton are much easier to dye than wool!

2. Weaving – Using our hand-held wooden looms you’ll begin to weave a small mat. Once you’ve got the concept down, you can finish the project at home, as the looms are yours to keep! A direction sheet will let you try more difficult weaving patterns too.

9. Fabrics of the Past – Without a lot of leisure time or money to pursue fun activities, women of the 1800s would turn their creative energies to useful household items and create beautiful textiles out of scraps of materials that would have gone to waste otherwise. Quilts are one example, but the project we’ll be working on is a penny rug. These decorative items were created out of scraps of wool felt and helped to brighten up the home.

Family Living Skills
The Second Industrial Revolution, which began in the mid-19th Century brought about many labor-saving devices and changes in housekeeping practices that changed the way the American family lived. In the 1800s most families lived and worked on farms, like the Kulp family who lived here at the Roth Living Farm Museum. They needed large families with lots of children to help with all the work. Men and boys did the farm work and women, girls, and very young children took care of the cooking, cleaning, gardening, dairy animals and chickens. Jobs that take us a few hours with our modern appliances could take several people all day in the 1800s – no wonder women especially did not work outside the home. On your trip to the Roth Living Farm Museum you will get to see and experience first hand some of the ways the household was different back then. Meets one requirement for the Family Living Skills badge. Offered April – October. $6/girl.

Badge Requirements Your Program Will Meet

5. Monday is Wash Day, Tuesday Is… – We’ll take a turn with an old fashioned washtub and scrub board, and also learn about the “modern” advancement of the Rapid Washer. We’ll beat rugs, and view the woodstove and learn about its role in wash day and cooking for the family. Our house tour will show us other “old fashioned” ways of living and we’ll discuss how life on the farm in the 1800s meant differences in family size, divisions in labor, and lifestyle and contrast that with our “modern” lifestyle. We’ll finish our activities either making soap or dipping candles (troops must pick which activities the girls want to do and schedule it in advance).

* Please note, Girl Scout badges are not provided by the Roth Museum.
The Roth Living Farm Museum

The Roth Living Farm Museum of Delaware Valley College was founded in 1993 thanks to the generous donation of the farm property by Mrs. Edythe Roth.

The Museum is dedicated to providing an educational experience that focuses on the historical farming practices during the period between 1890-1910.

Our historic facility resides on a twenty-acre farm that includes woodlands, wetlands, grain fields and livestock grazing. An 1832 farmhouse and barn have been restored and a German four-square kitchen garden has been created to provide visitors with a unique look into family farm life in the 18th century.

The Museum provides an opportunity for children and adults to participate in activities based on historical farming through programs and special events.

Directions

We are located on 202 at Hancock Road, just south of Rte. 63/Welsh Rd. and the Montgomeryville Mall.

From Doylestown – Follow Route 202 South to Five Points Plaza. Make a left onto 202S/309. Past the Montgomeryville Mall, make a right to remain on 202S. Cross Route 63/Welsh Road. Make a right at the next light onto Hancock Road. Driveway is on the right immediately after turning onto Hancock.

From Turnpike – Exit at Fort Washington (Exit #339). Merge onto Route 309 North. Exit on the right at Route 63 West and turn left at the traffic light onto Welsh Road/63W. Make a left onto DeKalb Pike/202S at the WaWa. At the next light, make a right onto Hancock Road. Driveway is on the right immediately after turning onto Hancock.

From Blue Route or Northeast Extension – Pick up the PA Turnpike/Route 276 East at Mid-County and follow the directions from the turnpike above.

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