

GSNEO Adult Property Survey

Please give any additional comments or suggestions.		
		Response Count
		388
		answered question 388
		skipped question 711

Response Text		
1	None	Oct 9, 2009 6:27 PM
2	This program is too challenging. I have done this TWICE now and keep getting an error "The comment you entered is in an invalid format."	Oct 9, 2009 6:42 PM
3	<p>We participated in a great day camp this year, sponsored by the Painesville service unit.</p> <p>Me and my girls worked. It was the first time in all of my years as a scout that we used the lake.</p> <p>In the past it has been impossible to get water training, We also need to have lifeguard training and recertification, If troops or groups want to use the camps to the fullest.</p> <p>We also need to make the training available to our older girls, They spend a lot of time working with the younger girls and they should be trained. (for minimal cost).</p> <p>My troop has been very interested in camping and have been doing a lot the last couple of years,</p> <p>The problem is it is too expensive for a small troop.. And they don't always want to camp with the younger girls.</p>	Oct 9, 2009 7:15 PM
4	<p>Camping is an extremely important part of Girl Scouts. The outdoors toughens the girls, provides leadership, character building, friendship, community, and respect for nature and each other. To lose camps is hard. I understand why the board had to make the decisions that it made but to leave the South region without any camps is foolish and ignorant.</p> <p>Great Trail is not as well kept as it was when I was a girl but it is still nice and has many opportunities to make it one of the premier camps in GSNEO. It has the possibility to rival Ledgewood or Sugarbush if allowed. I pray that GSNEO will let the money from the sale of Lycopodia go to fix Great Trail. It is in the South region and that is where the money should stay.</p>	Oct 9, 2009 7:40 PM
5	Please be sure to include Camp Sugarbush in all future plans for GSNEO. The East region needs a local camping site and we love our camp, as alumni, as Girl Scouts, as Leaders and as Parents.	Oct 9, 2009 8:09 PM

Response Text		
6	I understand the need to sell off some of the properties. I just hope that the need is felt to retain some that are close to all areas. The outdoor camping experience that I had when I was a child is priceless to me. I would not have had those opportunities if it weren't for Girl Scouts. I believe that at camp girls learn so much and really develop a sense of unity. It cannot be developed anywhere else. I hope to see more events offered at Timberlane. It seems like less and less is being offered there. This past summer everything that was offered was cut back. Neither of my girls attended which was unfortunate. Previously there was a week-long camp in stargazing that had my oldest daughter so entranced. She signed up for it the next year but it was cancelled. There was another camp where she worked in the kitchen cooking for the entire resident camp --- she LOVED that as well. I can't even explain the excitement she felt. My other daughter did two years of horse camp at Timberlane. They were sooooo well done. I can't believe all that she learned during camp. I would like to see more and more offered at camp -- Jamboree???	Oct 9, 2009 8:15 PM
7	I understand the need to sell off some of the properties. I just hope that the need is felt to retain some that are close to all areas. The outdoor camping experience that I had when I was a child is priceless to me. I would not have had those opportunities if it weren't for Girl Scouts. I believe that at camp girls learn so much and really develop a sense of unity. It cannot be developed anywhere else. I hope to see more events offered at Timberlane. It seems like less and less is being offered there. This past summer everything that was offered was cut back. Neither of my girls attended which was unfortunate. Previously there was a week-long camp in stargazing that had my oldest daughter so entranced. She signed up for it the next year but it was cancelled. There was another camp where she worked in the kitchen cooking for the entire resident camp --- she LOVED that as well. I can't even explain the excitement she felt. My other daughter did two years of horse camp at Timberlane. They were sooooo well done. I can't believe all that she learned during camp. I would like to see more and more offered at camp -- Jamboree???	Oct 9, 2009 8:15 PM
8	I thought the day camp programming wasn't very good this year. They were either too far or they were at night. My daughter wanted to go to horse back riding resident camp, but you didn't have it.	Oct 9, 2009 8:25 PM
9	SAVE CROWELL-HILAKA!!	Oct 9, 2009 8:29 PM
10	need something closer we took our daughter 2 hours to camp last summer	Oct 9, 2009 8:54 PM
11	It would be helpful to have a description of the camps, what the girls/parents can expect as far as sleeping quarters, bathrooms/showers, other buildings. Is it rustic camping or comfortable camping? What are the lodges like? I know you have open houses, which is nice but we cannot visit all camps.	Oct 9, 2009 8:56 PM
12	More money raising ideas than close camps.	Oct 9, 2009 8:58 PM

Response Text		
13	<p>I really appreciated the old system we had of making reservations on-line!! It was amazing....I could sit here in my PJ's check out which cabins were available and when. Then after I had done my research, I could register, fill out my information and pay for the site, right there online at 2 am if I wanted to!!! It was the best. I'd really like to see that brought back for all the various camps.</p> <p>My girls and I love all the Girl Scout Camps! As a leader, I do feel safer to have a camp that is regulated by our council and for the most parts are fenced in when the girls are younger. However, I often have to go outside of council to find the high adventure stuff I need, with trained personel and at a reasonable price. For example, rock climbing at Ledgewood went up from \$15 to \$30....I can take them to Camp Y-Noah for \$50 for the WHOLE weekend of high adventure....zip lines, giant swings, rock climbing, high ropes, a cabin, archery, BB guns, etc. Why would I spend \$30 per girl for just 1 afternoon? I really do my homework when it comes to costs. I have 3 girls and myself in scouts and often many of my co-leaders have multiple girls....it can get very expensive. If I can do it cheaper myself, I will.</p>	Oct 9, 2009 8:58 PM
14	I always thought that Hilaka, especially Gund Hall, should be rented out for weddings, ect. Is there any way we could use more of the land near Oviatte Road?	Oct 9, 2009 9:28 PM
15	<p>Please find creative ways to incorporate business, finance, science, film making, etc weekends for older girls leadership experiences throughout the year. Shorter programs with inspirational topics & speakers.</p> <p>Provide scholarships for girls with limited means--- corporate sponsors or Cleveland Clinic, UH wellness weekends for girls subsidized by the hospitals. Lots of new & exciting topics for older girls!</p>	Oct 9, 2009 9:36 PM
16	Camping in Girl Scouting gives girls a sense of their place in the environment. It also helps them learn to respect it and be aware of the need to conserve it. All this happens while learning self confidence, discovering the effects of decision-making, and having fun!	Oct 9, 2009 9:45 PM
17	<p>The girl scouts organization in this area should look at area YMCA camps (such as Camp YNoah, or Camp Fitch) for ideas and suggestions for improving their own camp faciitiies and making them more attractive to girl scout troops.</p> <p>Programming availability and staff assistance when planning troop and service unit outings would be a tremendous help and would lead to the girl scout camps being booked on a more consistent basis, thus bringing in more revenue to continue to improve the camp facilities for the future. Buildings don't have to be fancy and state of the art, and tent camping should still be an option for those troops who are up to it, but providing clean basic cabins along with programming at the camps with the help of staff for planning and the programs themselves would be a big step in the right direction. While the low cost of renting the girl scout faciitiies is very attractive, I think troops would be willing to pay a bit more to help cover the staff costs for programming availability throughout the year, not just during resident camp. YMCA camps charge upwards of \$20 per camper per night and they provide tons of programming options along with planning assistance without fancy accomodations. While \$20 per camper is a bit expensive for frequent camping, a middle ground between what the girl scout camps charge and what the YMCA camps charge must be considered. Thank you for your time in considering this information.</p>	Oct 9, 2009 10:19 PM
18	The costs are very high for camp and most of the camp activities are in the camps that are a distance away. My girls would like to participate in more Girl Scout activities but between the cost and the drive, it is almost impossible.	Oct 9, 2009 10:20 PM

Response Text		
19	I have spent my lifetime camping - spending several summers on resident camp staff, as well as day camp staff. At this time in my life, I would love to see adult camping opportunities that would allow individuals to come out and play for a weekend! (...not to discount the Silver Trefoil group, or trainings) I would also love to run such a program!! What fun that would be!! Please feel free to contact me if it ever comes up!!!!!!! Carolyn "Bing" Rutan 330-505-1802	Oct 9, 2009 10:33 PM
20	I think that a main focus of girl scouting today should remain in the camping/outdoors sphere. With technology today, kids need to get away from cell phone, video games, and computers once in awhile. It is good for their health (exercise), self esteem (meeting new friends) and confidence (learning something new). Environmentalism should remain a main tenet of girl scouting and girls need to be outside in the natural outdoors to remember why it is important to protect nature and why conservation is necessary. Selling off Girl Scout camp properties to developers is the OPPOSITE of this philosophy and the founder of girl scouting would turn in her grave if she knew that the girl scouts were considering selling Camp Crowell Hilaka to developers instead of letting girls experience natural beauty in their own back yard.	Oct 9, 2009 10:42 PM
21	Although I may have checked "no opinion" for some of the activities for Girl Scouts, it's only because that doesn't interest me as being necessary. For those in my troops who camp it is a lot of fun. Unfortunately, I have parents who are unwilling to let their daughters stay overnight without them, but their idea of camping is in a hotel room. So the girls don't get to go. Very sad! Their daughters are missing out on so much. We're camping - we are not supposed to have all the luxuries. Outdoor latrines are not my favorite bathroom facility but it's all part of the experience of camping. Bugs, animals and all!	Oct 9, 2009 11:46 PM
22	na	Oct 9, 2009 11:59 PM
23	well if you can not tell I want Crowell/Hilaka back to full operations. We are trying to have a Service Unit camp trip and that camp would hold us nicely.....no other property around here does. That is home that is a place that even in a pretty big city, you are away from everyone!!!!!! The winters there rock, where else can you walk on the lake and know your "safe." Or see how beautiful it is after a nigh of fresh snow and seeing the animal tracks. I have to say I have wonderful memories and now my daughter is starting her memories!!!	Oct 10, 2009 12:53 AM
24	There aren't many camps near NE Ohio and closing Hilaka-Crowell would be a big mistake. Camping there is the reason my girls are still 16 girls strong in our Cadette troop after being together 7 years! We camp there every year - 2x a year. Camping is what GS's is all about!	Oct 10, 2009 12:56 AM
25	In todays world I think you should have flush toilets available at all camp grounds. The out houses are discusting.	Oct 10, 2009 1:01 AM
26	Lots of changes have been happening in the new council. Change is not always good if services become less personal. Money cannot always come first. We are in the business of helping girls develop into happy productive members of our society. An hour troop meeting once a week cannot accomplish as much as a weekend of troop camping. Please think of the girls and adults who use our camps. Whenever one is sold, it is like their hearts are being ripped apart. Not all troops can travel to the larger more centrally located camps. Getting rid of camps lessons the chance for all girls to experice camping. As a leader I can attest to the changes that happens to girls when their troops camp. They become closer and learn to care about girls who are different than they are. They learn to work together with others and value other opinions. They become leaders we can be proud of. They deveope life skills. They learn to care about the world around them. They become productive members of our society. PRICELESS.	Oct 10, 2009 1:22 AM
27	We need more programs in the west part of GSNEO!	Oct 10, 2009 2:14 AM

Response Text		
28	<p>I know the budget is tight and cuts always have to be made. But I think it would be a huge disservice to the Scouts in this area if Camp Pleasant Valley was to close. Since the merge into GSNEO we in this area have gotten the short end of the stick. Almost all events are over an hour away for us. If for some reason Camp PV was to close we would have nothing here.</p> <p>We need more things in this area not 2 hours away in Cleveland and even further Akron. We need it here in the smaller towns. Aren't we just as important? DON't our girls deserve the same opportunities?</p> <p>Just my humble opinion</p>	Oct 10, 2009 5:41 AM
29	<p>I would like to see more camp opportunities for inner city girls. There are limited outdoor opportunities in the city. Socioeconomic issues have kept these girls from participating in the camp programs in the past. I would like to see a full campership program and camp opportunities that include a variety of opportunities for the girls to help them use some of these survival skills in their communities. The camp experience encourages girls to become leaders which are desperately needed in the inner city.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 10:08 AM
30	<p>My daughter has experienced several Resident Camps and always comes home exhilarated, having had new experiences and made new friends. The only suggestion I would have is to incorporate a way that 'new' friends could stay in touch - perhaps a Day Camp reunion type event, or a shared service project that had been identified by the girls as an area of interest. I'm not sure exactly how to pull this off but it would be a great way to stay in touch and Do Good.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 11:15 AM
31	<p>PLEASE find a way to reopen Crowell/Hilaka. I know of many grown women in the Greater Cleveland Area who camped there 30+ years ago who would gladly contribute to a fundraiser if someone undertook this initiative. I know we can raise the necessary money to fix the dam or watershed - whatever the problem is.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 1:31 PM
32	<p>I believe that Outdoor experiences should be held as a primary experience in importance to the Girl Scout experience. I hope that every effort is being made to maintain that importance, on every level, for girl scouts in the future. While it is admirable to see Girl Scouts reaching out to connect girls to today's world, I truly believe that people expect Girl Scouts to come with an Outdoor Experience facet to meet their daughter's needs. Offsetting costs for girls and families to attend sports events and plays, etc is nice, but if any of that financial assistance could be redirected to the camping experiences for Girl Scouts, I would rather see that be a focus of attention and fund allocation.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 1:56 PM
33	<p>Not all camps need all the facilities. Training and encouragement for leaders is needed to make troop camping available for all or almost all girls. I believe all Girl Scouts have a right to a experience troop camping.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 2:49 PM
34	<p>keep camp Crowell Hilaka open!</p>	Oct 10, 2009 3:26 PM
35	<p>Please keep all of us informed. Please accept help from outside organizations that could help keep up the camps. It seems that many people could have helped us keep the camps open, but there was not enough communication. Don't wait until it is too late to discuss a problem.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 6:45 PM

Response Text		
36	<p>Girl Souts is suppose to be a fun way to learn. When a troop or group plans for a stay at camp, the have to plan all of their activites in advance (usually, several months in advance) along with their budget. Some things they don't need to buy becuase another part of the learning experience is to be responsible for bringing assigned items to camp. Part of the preparations for camp are learning how to make and use a vagabond stove, buddy burners, fire starters, dutch oven, and all the fabulous meals you can cook while you're there. It's a fun way to learn about financial literacy without knowing that's what you're learning. Because once you plan and practice for your camping trip, you also had to plan how you were going to pay for it. How many boxes of cookies you needed to sell and how many magazines, nuts and candy you needed to reach your goal for camp and any other plans you had for the year. The Journeys are a great addition to an already great GS program, but there's more than just to book work. It's the real life practical experiences you can't learn without getting out there and sitting in the middle of a field with your eyes closed and being silent. The world comes alive with sounds you haven't heard before. Or sitting around a campfire talking, singing and making smore's. There's just no substitute. If you've never been there, YOU NEED TO DO IT. It will change your life forever!</p>	Oct 10, 2009 7:42 PM
37	<p>Keep the girls outdoors. The girls love the outdoors and are finding it more difficult to truly explore in a safe environment. That is why our camps are so important to the girls. In this day and age, when makeup, hair and clothing seems to be marketed to our girls younger and younger, they need a place where running, exploring and being free is offered and encouraged.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 7:55 PM
38	<p>Lower the rates for the camps so that smaller troops can aford to go more often.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 9:39 PM
39	<p>Girls need to get away from the hustle and bustle of life and camp is a great place to do that.</p>	Oct 10, 2009 11:37 PM
40	<p>Great Trail should not be closed. For our girls that live in stark county it is the closest place to camp. Closing it would be letting our girls down.</p>	Oct 11, 2009 11:38 AM
41	<p>GSNEO could offer some "improvement participation opportunities" to members and/or the local communities. For example, a local committee might be able to identify specific projects for their camp and convince community members and organizations to fund the projects or provide materials and labor.</p> <p>The home-owned or personal involvement could strengthen the local support and increase visibility of GS in the community.</p>	Oct 11, 2009 1:10 PM
42	<p>Cost is the biggest issue with attending resident camp. Families with more than 1 girl in GS can't afford the high costs.</p>	Oct 11, 2009 1:21 PM
43	<p>Please try to keep Crowell/Hilaka open. It is such a special place.</p>	Oct 11, 2009 2:13 PM
44	<p>Very dissappointed to see that we are losing a camp that was already paid for and only cost would be maintance. Find it hard to beleive that this way of camping in this area is no longer available. Sorry to find out that although we are a small percentage of the girl scout population are oppinions regarding the camp we use the most evidently didn't count. I realy feel as if we are slowly being segregated out of the council. If there is ever a chance that Singing River is returned to the council it is my hope that it will be utilized to its fullest extent.</p>	Oct 11, 2009 2:47 PM
45	<p>Opening the camp for outside group usage, boy scouts etc. has been cost prohibitive in the past. \$310.00 per day to use Renkert ranch.</p>	Oct 11, 2009 6:46 PM
46	<p>MAAny of the activities in questions 14 - 16 I marked as not important as part of the Girl Scout experience because they are activities that girls can participate in elsewhere. I do not intend to say that girls would not want to participate in these activities, but just that they are not an essential part of GS. The Girl Scout program essential activities should be the ones Girls do not get a lot of elsewhere like leadership, self-confidence and service to others. The other activities should be determined by the girls' interests.</p>	Oct 11, 2009 7:38 PM

Response Text		
47	Please DO NOT close Camp Pleasant Valley! It is one of very few things we still have out here on the far edge of the Council!! We utilize the camp and would love to see more Council Sponsored programs and adult training held there. It was also very nice when shop on wheels came out to the camp once a month.....there needs to be some serious consideration to bringing that back. We are an hour away from Lorain and over two hours from Macedonia. That is just to far to have to travel as a volunteer. I feel we need to be more accomodating to our adult volunteers and there should be more programs held out here for the girls than are currently offered. Our girls participate in the council fund raisers like everyone else and we do not see the benefiits as we do not live close to council.	Oct 11, 2009 7:52 PM
48	Please don't take our camps away. I just took 18 girls camping at Great Trail.For some it was their first experience camping. They loved being outdoors, cooking over the fire, hiking.	Oct 11, 2009 8:04 PM
49	Please keep Crowell/Hilaka open -- a lot of people have expressed interest in keeping this camp open in many areas that I have talked to. I was very sad when our troop camped at Jessie Mae how the mice had taken over the cabin we camped in and were running throughout the cabin. Please continue to try to offer fun programs for girls. Some leaders have also expressed interest that there should be classes for older scouts during ALE. A lot of programs we have done they would like to do too and would help their leadership experiences, especially working with younger girls. Thank you.	Oct 11, 2009 8:32 PM
50	Myself and the parents in my troop feel that driving to green springs is as far as we can drive. The camp is beautiful and the adults running our various experiences were well trained and very knowledgable. We had a very good time.	Oct 11, 2009 8:58 PM
51	Please keep Camp Pleasant Valley open for those of us out here on the far west end of the council. We have used this camp and really enjoy it. We would like to see more council sponsored activities and trainings offered in our area. I feel the girls out in this area deserve the same oppurtunities as those close to Mcaedonia! After all we sell fall product and cookies to support council!	Oct 11, 2009 9:55 PM
52	It is shameful the way this camp has been allowed to fall into disrepair. Attention needs to be given to it now that a new council is in charge and it needs to be helped to regain its former glory! Also, let volunteers help with its revitalization. There are countless volunteers with great connections that are not being utilized.	Oct 11, 2009 9:59 PM
53	Please keep Crowell-Hilaka! Girl Scout camping (especially resident camp) was a high point of my teen-aged life, leaving me with skills, lasting friendships, and the enthusiasm to continue Scouting the rest of my life. All girls should have this opportunity.	Oct 12, 2009 1:12 AM

Response Text		
54	<p>With nearly 40,000 girls scouts in the council area, and with only 6 camps available to use, that means that nearly 7,000 girls per camp per year. It appears that it is going to be next to impossible to schedule troop camping. In addition, the enviromental impact on these campsites with this number of girl participates will be very damaging and detremental to the camps. Girl Scouts are to be good stewards of the enviroment and destroying camps are not recommended.</p> <p>Increasing transportation distances will limit scouting even more for additional girls. Having camps, and expecially day camps, at greater distances will limit the amount of girl participation. In addition, having troops travel for an hour or two to get to camp is not a good enviromental concept. ALso, it increases the amount of cost to participate, and decrease the number of volunteers available to participate and go camping with the troops.</p> <p>Decreasing the number of camps and increasing the distance to get to camp is VERY DETReMENTAL to the scouting program and is very NEGATIVE to the overall program.</p> <p>GrIrl Scouts need to be more open minded in regardsto camps. There are many organizations and programs that can help reduce the costs of maintenance and help to improve the oppourtunities available at the camps. Service projects, grants, and sponsorships by various organizations all would be beneficial to the camps and reduce the cost of operations. These ideas and options should have been explored and offered before the final decision to close over half of the camping oppourtunities.</p> <p>ONCE THESE CAMPS ARE GONE, THERE IS NO GOING BACK and the cost to replace them is impossible to imagine. These camps are priceless and can never be replaced.</p>	Oct 12, 2009 1:27 AM
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Response Text		
56	<p>I think that GSNEO should re-open an office in the Cleveland area. One day a week at a YWCA is not sufficient. It appears that GSNEO does not value the girls and leaders in the Cleveland Area. Maybe Counsel should sell off that new fancy HQ, move into something smaller and a little more modest and apply the proceeds to provide programs and camps for the girls.</p> <p>I believe that the Girl Scout movement is losing sight of what it means to be a Scout. Just look at the watered down requirements for the Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. Are you trying to lower the bar so that more girls can "receive" an award. Awards are supposed to be earned and lowering the standard will just "cheapen" the award.</p>	Oct 12, 2009 2:25 AM
57	I think camping is very important in Girl Scouts. A lot of people have tried to take it away because they don't like camping, however lets give each girl a chance to decide for herself weather or not she likes camping before we change Girl Scouts from how it started.	Oct 12, 2009 2:57 AM
58	I think that the camp experience is so important for young girls. Getting outside and discovering that you can survive with just a fire, a tent, a latrine and a cooler for several days gives girls a hint at how much they can do with very little. We are such a pampered an cossetted society. Girls need this experience to learn their capabilities. Its also good to get them away from home now and again too.	Oct 12, 2009 11:50 AM
59	I don't find the "newly consolidated" people and offices very friendly or helpful or customer service oriented.	Oct 12, 2009 1:57 PM
60	I would like to see more activities planned at Camp Pleasant Valley. It is a nice camp and we need more things offered there.	Oct 12, 2009 2:30 PM
61	Tall timbers has has a very nice view and is structurally attractive, but the seperation of bunk houses and program area allows for more girl drama. Girls tend to break apart in groups or clicks more. Girls who normally spend the weekend together with no problem seem to disagree more and have more she said, she said issues. It's less like camping and more like the Ritz.	Oct 12, 2009 2:31 PM
62	I wish that more leader training opportunities were available in the Lorain/Elyria or Camp Timberlane area. I am not able to get the time off from work to drive 1 1/2 - 2 hrs for trainings. There are a lot of activities at Camp Timberlane that girls are able to participate in at resident camp that I would like to be able to do at troop camping. Many of the girls are not able to afford resident camp, but I would still like to expose them to the different activities during our overnight camps.	Oct 12, 2009 2:40 PM
63	I think that a lot of troops don't go to camp because of the cost. \$200 for a week end is very high especially for the small troops. Then you have to buy all the supplies and food. New leaders don't know how to get the dishes pan, etc.. to go and they don't have enough money for all of it. Its the choice a leader makes one fun week-end or they can use the money a spread it out over several small fun days. But camping must be in the Girl Scout experience there are way to many children in this world who never spend any time outside. They are glued to the tv, computers etc.. to notice the beautiful world. Until they see what the outside has to offer how will they ever care about it and want to protect it. Camping gives these girls the chance. My troop has learned to love the outdoors they didn't even mind using the latrines in the middle of winter. They would go all the time but we are a small troop and can't afford to go that often.	Oct 12, 2009 3:07 PM
64	<p>Question 10: how far of a drive would depend on if the drivers are staying or just dropping off.</p> <p>Question 11: Remember, parents would be driving to and from day camp 4 times a day (drop off then home; pick up then home), at 30 min. that would be 2 hours of time, 60 min would be 4 hours of driving a day.</p> <p>Question 12: your answers would greatly depend on the age of the girls.</p>	Oct 12, 2009 3:35 PM
65	Julia Crowel and Hialaka are camps that cannot be replaced by any other camp or experience.	Oct 12, 2009 4:06 PM

Response Text		
66	Clean out the latrines more often at Camp Ledgewood. We went camping there in the spring once and the latrines were full. They smelled horribly and it was gross looking at someone else's poop. I rustic camp in Canada with an outhouse and I was grossed out. Have they considered replacing them, one at a time with composting toilets???? They have them at some local parks and they don't smell and are "green".	Oct 12, 2009 4:43 PM
67	It would be nice if the girl got to attend a girl scout camp for free or very cheap since they work so hard with the fundraising and the incentives are not appropriate for teenagers.	Oct 12, 2009 6:07 PM
68	I LOVE GIRL SCOUTING!!!! IT HAS BEEN ONE OF THE HIGHEST INFLUENCES OF MY GROWING UP. I HOPE TO PASS THIS SAME EXPERIENCE TO MANY GENERATIONS TO BE.	Oct 12, 2009 6:30 PM
69	With our new troop in Cuyahoga county, we went to Camp Lejnar this summer. The camp is nice, but seemed really under used. We were there what was supposed to be a troop adventure week which was cancelled. We were the only ones in that huge building that can hold three groups at once, and there was one other troop that was tent camping that we never saw the whole weekend. It was a shame to have 4 girls and 3 adults in that whole big building. It seems like it should be advertised better as a way to encourage camping, it is pretty comfortable and a great way for beginning camping, I'm sure there are moms who would never tent camp that would find it a great camping experience. It would be nice if the kitchens were stocked there as well as they were at Timberlane. We appreciate the facilities.	Oct 12, 2009 9:24 PM
70	PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE keep the all natural camp activities available to our girls we don't need a hotel room for the night just a tent and some trails to explore. Thanks for allowing us to give our opinion on our camps.	Oct 13, 2009 2:17 AM
71	It would be nice for parents who offer to help with driving, staying over night at camp, planning activities. . . if there was a discount for volunteering time. It seems the same people do for girl scouts and maybe more would volunteer if there was an incentive!	Oct 13, 2009 2:50 AM
72	Please do not sell Lycopodia. It is a treasure. The thought of selling it to the local sand and gravel company has been rumored for over 15 years. To decimate that beautiful, old-growth forest is against every principal of Girl Scouting. How can you justify this to girls while telling them to protect the environment. Shame on you.	Oct 13, 2009 12:05 PM
73	I really wish the council shops would not have closed. It is a very far drive, and a big hassle to order stuff, have it sent, go to pick it up, only to find it is not there yet, come back another day, to be told, sorry things are on backorder. As a volunteer, I really cant afford gas to drive 25 miles 4 or 5 different time to pick up stuff for my girls.	Oct 13, 2009 7:21 PM
74	Need to keep GS owned properties open for girls. Current properties were let go to deteriorate for too long. What happened? Saddened to hear of any of the properties closing. Hate to think of my current troop missing out. The history and unique setting of Hialaka/Crowe can not be found anywhere else.	Oct 13, 2009 9:45 PM
75	Need to keep GS owned properties open for girls. Current properties were let go to deteriorate for too long. What happened? Saddened to hear of any of the properties closing. Hate to think of my current troop missing out. The history and unique setting of Hialaka/Crowe can not be found anywhere else.	Oct 13, 2009 9:46 PM
76	Every opportunity should be made to keep Great Trail Camp open all year long. This includes accepting the help from volunteers who are willing to do repairs and restoration to the buildings. The ones that are losing out because of the decisions of "Corporate" are the girls.	Oct 14, 2009 1:33 PM
77	This is John Graves who took the test to familiarize myself with it as one of the staff assisting the property visioning process. You may delete my responses if you wish.	Oct 14, 2009 4:39 PM

Response Text		
78	Winter snow mobile rides at Camp Sugarbush in designated areas. You may also want to have a harvest/forest maze in the Fall. It could bring the neighborhoods together. Have a Open House that is advertised to the public as well as GS.	Oct 14, 2009 8:32 PM
79	I just wanted to comment on the day camp drive versus the overnight camp drive - I believe if I have to drive daily and there wasn't some kind of car pool options I wouldn't want to drive far daily. When it comes to an overnight experience I am willing to drive - even more than 2 hours but that would depend on how long the overnight camp would be - the longer the camp then I guess the more willing I would drive - I also think that age of the child effects the distance of how far one should be away from the child - obviously the younger the child the closer they should be to home in case of home sickness. The older the child the further they can be.	Oct 14, 2009 10:34 PM
80	On survey question #10 How far from home for an overnighter would also depend on the variables of the age of the Scout and the length of the trip (one day as opposed to one week, etc.)	Oct 15, 2009 1:11 PM
81	I will more than likely have to explore other options for camping now that my 2 favorite camps are closing - Lycopodia & Singing River. While Ledgewood is OK, it is not a favorite and is does not provide what we like in our camping experiences. Other camps are too far away and will be too congested and hard to reserve for available weekends.	Oct 15, 2009 5:50 PM
82	We need to recognize the jewels we have in our camping properties and fight to keep them open. Council needs to recognize that there is a lot of volunteer help out there - just say yes and let people help where they can! This can help offset the high cost of maintaining the camps. Camping was one of the highlights of my Girl Scout life - it is why we sold cookies and worked toward it all winter just to get that troop campout. I also went to resident camp, and my daughter attended both that and day camp. I understand that girls' needs have changed, but respect, appreciation and care of our outdoor world is a fundamental of Girl Scouting.	Oct 15, 2009 7:24 PM
83	Great Trail has been an yearly campout for our neighborhood. Our troop goes overnight camping as well. My older girls loved to go and provide service projects and to hike around the camp. Exploring Great Trail is what they lived for. When we planned weekend camps we had to leave plenty of time to hiking and exploring. There is many unused acres that could be sold from Great Trail but still leave the existing sites to be utilized. My parents will not travel outside the South region to go camping. It just will not happen, if we lose Great Trail I have already contacted the local boy scout camp and we can use their camp, unfortunately it is not large enough for overnighthers, just the hiking and outdoor experiences would be available. My girls love to camp and enjoy the overnights outdoors. The funniest thing is my girls love going to the latrines- I just dont get it. If troops could adopt a site to clean up I would be more than willing to help out. With the economy currently my parents cannot afford to drive the distance to Ledgewood- the next closet camp- it is over 1 hour and that is too far a distance to go	Oct 15, 2009 8:31 PM
84	If we didn't have our camp at Pleasant valley, there would be a lot less girl scouts in Seneca County. It's the link that holds us together. We have several doings at camp thru the year, & get good turnouts. The girls love the day camp there. Don't know where we'd go if there was no camp here. We'd probably not have a day camp.	Oct 15, 2009 9:08 PM
85	Would love to see some 1-2 day overnight camps later in summer, but will be happy if similar programs are offered next summer at timberlane. Mom and daughter overnights would be great. And, a few overnights with winter hiking and skating in the winter, on a saturday night would be wonderful in January - March when little else is going on.	Oct 16, 2009 1:11 AM

Response Text		
86	<p>Please reinstate the 2-night offering for Mother/Daughter camp. 4 of us have been there the last 3 years. We truly look forward to spending 1-on-1 time together, especially since it was 2 nights. We come from over an hour away, and deserve 2 nights of fun since we come so far. And make sure you have a DJ for a dance on Saturday night... we loved it!</p> <p>I would also like to see a Leader/Daughter overnight opportunity at least 2-3 times a year. Our daughters enjoy Girl Scouts, as do we. However, since I have to give attention to my entire troop, my daughter doesn't get the attention she would like while we are camping. So, please give us some Girl Scout camp overnight opportunities as a thank you for what leaders like me do for GSNEO. Obviously, we would best appreciate the gesture if it were low-cost or free.</p> <p>THANK YOU!!!</p>	Oct 16, 2009 2:06 AM
87	Camping is what girls remember about girl scouting. It's what they want their daughters to have	Oct 16, 2009 3:00 AM
88	I understand the need to broaden the scope of programs offered to include more timely and relevant activities like electronic media, exploring sciences, etc. However, the Girl Scouts are an organization with a proud history and many unique traditions. Camping and outdoor activities MUST remain in the core of the "Girl Scout experience." This, too, will be even more timely and relevant with the "going green" movement. Maintaining camping and outdoor activities in the main stream of all GS activities will help to prepare our girls to live and work as adults in the "green world" of the future. I would like to see GSNEO expand outdoor education programs at the camps for not just girls who are presently in Girl Scout troops, but also for any schools who want to get their students out of the classroom and into the "real world." Any such program could become recruitment opportunities for girls and adult volunteers. I strongly urge GSNEO to NOT reject the availability of outside groups and organizations who could help with the expensive projects like building, maintaining, repairing and renovating buildings and facilities at the camps. I think that you may underestimate the willingness of adult volunteers and GS alumnus to help you preserve the beautiful camps within the GSNEO region.	Oct 16, 2009 2:41 PM
89	It would be wonderful to see Camp Hilaka remain accessible for camping. It is such a beautiful place and it would be great for girls to continue to experience it.	Oct 16, 2009 7:43 PM
90	Again, I believe that camp Hilaka is so important for troops to have access to as well as individual girls to choose to attend overnight camp in the summer. I have not seen other experiences like this for young girls, and I think having the ability to attend such a wonderful camp site / camp grounds is invaluable to the development of young girls (and women who are the counselors).	Oct 16, 2009 11:09 PM
91	Please remember that God is not making any more wilderness, and that as camps and other areas are being 'developed', we lose so much that can never be regained. Our society has changed at such a rapid pace in recent years and it would be a shame that we aren't able to teach basic living and leadership skills that can only be learned in a camp/outdoor setting.	Oct 16, 2009 11:58 PM
92	I think it is important to consider communities as a whole when assessing how to spend Girl Scout funds. Troops in smaller towns and less affluent areas need as much support as they can get. Because these areas are so lacking in activities for youth, it is imperative that Girl Scouts and other community-oriented programs establish roots here. Only good can come from investing in all of our communities.	Oct 19, 2009 6:00 AM
93	Let's check with those using the camps when evaluating them. A walk through tour with a few people may not give an unbiased view. It is important to keep things up and running rather than letting them get run down.	Oct 19, 2009 7:55 PM

Response Text		
94	I spent time at some camps this year and I was extremely disappointed with the lack of recycling that was done at camp. While I understand that there is a cost involved to remove these items in addition to regular waste, then it should be VERY HIGHLY encouraged that each person/troop using the facility take home with them their recyclables (which is what I did with my blue bags I brought from home). I also question the use of harsh chemicals such as bleach while at camp. I am sure that there are better environmental choices that the GSNEO could be making in that regards. In general, I would like to see a more overall environmentally friendly camp than I witnessed this year.	Oct 20, 2009 2:02 PM
95	The cost needs to be so that troops CAN AFFORD to camp! We need to give these girls the experience, but within reason please!~	Oct 20, 2009 2:43 PM
96	I was sad to see so many facilities being closed. I understand the committee had their reasons. This hit just at a time my troop was ready to move beyond LedgeWood and explore other camps. Most of the camps are now over an hour away, too much to ask a parent to transport to after work on a Friday, and too far to bother with for a one night stay.	Oct 20, 2009 2:51 PM
97	Our troops love to camp and participate with traditional girl scout programs. We had recently discovered Camp Lycopodia and were looking forward to troop camping at that location. . . Great Trail Camp has the potential to offer a full summer residential overnight camp if programs are organized and promoted well in advance (8mos prior so parents and girls can save up for the registration cost). Great Trail Camp also has the potential to service weekend troop camping/family camp with strong programming.	Oct 20, 2009 4:11 PM
98	Basically- programs are in desperate need in what was Lake Erie Council. It is VERY disheartening to pay \$200 for a weekend at a camp with no programs other than what you bring for yourself to find out other areas are much less expensive and have loads of programs available for the asking. Growing up in Girl Scouts gave me so many good experiences and memories that now I want to share with my daughter. I really hope Girl Scouts can get back to even a shadow of what it used to be. I am hoping, based on the fact that these meetings are taking place, that Council is heading in the right direction.	Oct 20, 2009 6:17 PM
99	There is so much potential to develop camp programming. Identify the unique features of each property and program around it. For example....with the covered wagon unit at Sugarbush....make this camp the center for historical encampment experiences. With the 2 lakes and boat house filled with canoes, row boats, sail boats and kayaks, make Hilaka Crowell the water sports camp. Get the high ropes course & challenge course back...put in a zip line....and Hilaka Crowell could be marketed further as a high adventure camp. This would appeal to more outside groups too...MORE MONEY COMING IN! Instead of every camp trying to be & do EVERYTHING...specialize! This also encourages Girl Scouts to travel to more camps. But to be successfull in the summer....each camp needs to have a swimming pool. It's just a must for summer heat.	Oct 21, 2009 12:51 PM
100	I will be watching for camping that we can do a bunch a different things that somebody trained can help us with. I only have so much time and money for personal training. I do like all the training that is offered. Some of the training should be with the troops so that they see all that is offered and they can learn it. You could have craft days at camp and have a bunch of different crafts to do that you offer for training. If we need to bring anything we can.	Oct 22, 2009 2:14 AM

Response Text		
101	It was a real shame that because the record didn't show usage that you closed East Palestines cabins. I know we can still use them - I will this summer. I did not caost nothing to very little to keep it and once people took the time to fix it up (because it was run down) It looked really nice. I tries to fight for the East Palestine Cabins - but it was to last. Some people didn't care because the never used it but those who did really enjoyed it.	Oct 22, 2009 4:05 AM
102	I think it is important for girls to have access to and learn to appreciate the natural world. Girl Scouts can help by providing facilities and opportunities to introduce girls to basic outdoor skills like hiking, camping, cooking outdoors, and some water basics that may be difficult to obtain elsewhere and are relatively low cost (canoeing, rowboating, kayaking). Horseback riding is a plus. Girls who are interested can find venues outside of Girl Scout camps for more sophisticated outdoor activities like sailing, backpacking, wilderness camping and mountain climbing.	Oct 22, 2009 4:11 AM
103	I would hope that you would reconsider selling Camp Singing River. Lorain County now will not have a close-by camp for our girls troops during the summer months. Camp Timberlane is not available for troop camping during the summer, so Singing River was it. We would probably even camp there in the winter if it was winterized.	Oct 22, 2009 3:23 PM
104	I feel the importance of the overall camping experience in Girls Scouting is severely under estimated. Just having the camping facilities and activities available isn't enough. Troop Leaders, Service Unit Directors and Council Staff people have to be educated about what is there and how to take advantage of these resources. We need better training and communication, opportunities to share information and best practices. Encourage camp usage. Don't let our girls be the last children in the woods. It's a big, wonderful world out there. Let everyone know!	Oct 22, 2009 4:03 PM
105	Very hard to plan a camping activity having never been a girl scout and not having time to take all the training. I want my girls to have the experience but do not feel it is possible without help! I would like specific instructions on what I need to do, how to do it, costs involved, pick and choose activities, etc so I can arrange a weekend camp with my troop!	Oct 22, 2009 4:15 PM
106	night swim for adult troop leaders and co-leaders that go to camp in the summer. have candle making at camps.go to a farm and learn how to milk cows?or work on a farm for a service project badge?	Oct 22, 2009 4:53 PM
107	It would be nice if the process for camping (and even just for day events) was easier. Sometimes that is what turns me off the most about looking into these events. Fill out paperwork and submit, wait to see if we have selections, in the meantime parents, leaders and girls are in limbo waiting to see what date selection we get. Sometimes it seems last minute we know if we are in or not. I know for me (I work weekends) it makes it even harder, because then I'm scrambling trying to get days covered at work to be able to do these activities. If the process was easier we would do more things. I remember being in Lake Erie Shores council, and when I would go and sign us up for something, I would submit the paperwork, they would input in the computer with me there, I would know right then if we were doing the activity or not, and I would pay, done! Then we could plan. Much nicer for everyone concerned, leaders, girls and their parents.	Oct 22, 2009 11:26 PM

Response Text		
108	I do not like the new girl scout books. I work with Brownies and they do not like them either! We enjoy the old books with the activities and badges. The girls do not want to come to Girlscouts and read or sit after being in school all day. I will probably quit being a leader next year if I can't do the activities the girls enjoy. The new books will not work with the girls I have. We tried last year, and the girls I have this year do not want to use them. We have alot of fun doing experiments, cooking, arts and crafts, exercising, visiting community things,(cemetary,historical buildings,firehouse, local Mcdonalds,Dairy Queen,Pizza Hut etc.) and all the other indoors and outdoors activities available to us. Thank-you for the opportunity to share this information to you.	Oct 22, 2009 11:36 PM
109	If day camp could substitute day care (7:00 AM to 6 PM) more famillies with working parents would pay to have the girls go to day camp; I've not personally signed my daughter up for day camp because I can't get to work and transport her there and back at the hours that were offered.	Oct 23, 2009 12:19 AM
110	Troop camping is one of the main reasons we were able to get girls to come back year after year. They say that was all they wanted to do, and we would tell them they had to do all the other stuff or no camping. It's good for them to spend time without TV, Computers, etc and see that they will still live and they will actually have fun. Our troop would have loved to camp more but the \$200 weekend price for a small troop was just too much. Please do everything you can to open up Crowell and Hilaka again.	Oct 23, 2009 12:34 AM
111	I would like to see more programs offered at Sugarbush or East Palestine. The distance to the others deters me and my troop from going. Bring more opportunities to Mahoning County.	Oct 23, 2009 2:19 AM
112	One year my daughter went to 4 resident camps at Timberlane. However, even though they all had different names, alot of the activities were the exact same with some slight changes. Programs should be totally different in my opinion. Thanks!	Oct 23, 2009 3:19 AM
113	I wish you would rethink the idea of not having the smaller camps. I would like to see some form of camp in Columbiana County that is closer for us to attend.	Oct 23, 2009 4:03 PM
114	As I have mentioned before, GSNEO needs to have at least one camp in each of its five regions to serve the girls fairly and adequately. It is also the responsibility of GSNEO staff to ensure that programs are provided at the camps, that camps are properly maintained, and that funds are available for both. Volunteers are willing to help if considered part of the process, are taken seriously, and are not waylaid by unnecessary hurdles and barriers. Joan Porter Leader, Troop 593 (for 13 years) Treasurer, Dyami Service Unit Day Camp Director SU Campout Coordinator South Region of GSNEO (formerly Great Trail Council)	Oct 23, 2009 4:15 PM
115	Just going to a financial literacy program is boring, but if you take six or more weeks in your troop meetings to plan a trip to camp, you learn about everything you need in a fun way. You have to develop a budget, make lists of things to bring, make buddy burners and vagabond stoves to cook on. Find and try different recipes. Learn to pack light and right. When you get to camp you learn to live with people other than you family. How to do things without all the conveniences of home. How to improvize when you realize you've forgotten something like the pancake turner. How to start a fire with out using liquid accelerants, usually with just one match. You have pride in all the things you find out you CAN do. Most of all, you can do it all without a cell phone, computer, blackberry, or a TV. It's just great fun without the hustle and bustle of the normal day to day hurry up from here to there. There's plenty of time to just think and laugh with your friends.	Oct 23, 2009 6:31 PM

Response Text		
116	I HAVE CAMPED WITH MY DAUGHTER'S TROOP MANY TIMES AND ALWAYS HAVE A GOOD TIME BUT ACTUALLY ENJOYED THE MOTHER/DAUGHTER PROGRAM AT CAMP SUGARBUSH THE BEST. I THINK THIS IS MAINLY BECAUSE WE WERE ABLE TO BE PARTICIPANTS IN THE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES TOGETHER INSTEAD OF ME BEING IN A LEADERSHIP POSITION. I THINK WE WOULD BOTH LIKE MORE MOTHER/DAUGHTER TYPE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES TO CHOSE FROM.	Oct 23, 2009 6:35 PM
117	I think it would be much more financially responsible to turn the properties over to government agencies to actually manage the properties. Lake MetroParks, for example, does any outstanding job with its properties. It just is not financially responsible for GS to maintain these properties when just a few miles (or less!) away, are LakeMetroParks properties that can be used for the very same purposes. My son camped at Lake MetroParks with the Boy Scouts, and I don't know why GS can't do the same. This would be a HUGE cost savings. In all reality, there are WAY too many camps for private organizations (not just the GS) to maintain.	Oct 23, 2009 9:44 PM
118	I have been involved in Girl Scouting for 40 years, even the National Organization has recognized that they are not good property managers. That is why they (GSUSA) got rid of National Center West in TenSleep Wyoming, and Rockwood National Center in Washington DC in the 1980s. I have spoken with the Council I was a part of as a girl.(Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee) When I was a girl they had over 13 camps. As a High Capacity Council they now have only 4 (only one of which I camped as a girl and my daughter has also camped there) the other 3 camps came into being after I left that Council after the other 12 camps were sold/returned to property owners....just from a financial maintenance stand point...this makes a whole lot of sense that GSNEO should consider decreasing the amount of properties maintain to 4 or 5, so monies could be better spent providing program to girls rather than dumping money into money pits of camp properties which does have a long term benefit to girls.	Oct 23, 2009 10:06 PM
119	None the girls are just daiseys	Oct 23, 2009 10:08 PM
120	Girl scout programming often falls just short of the mark. Is is due to worries about liability and inclusiveness or the onerous demands placed upon the volunteers in terms of paperwork, etc.? That is my suspicion but I am not sure. Boy scout activities are much more frequently spot on in terms of interests for and challenges for the boys. I wish my daughters could be Boy Scouts!!!	Oct 23, 2009 10:14 PM
121	It was nice to be able to do our first troop camping with help when we were Brownies. During the summer when they have troop camping opportunities but there were guides to help with activities/facilities, made it much easier the first time.	Oct 23, 2009 10:14 PM
122	Camp programming and brochures need to come out EARLIER for more advance planning by troops & families.	Oct 23, 2009 10:29 PM
123	As a troop we never really used the programs such as Archery, horse back riding, high ropes etc. I think they were just hard to schedule. It is a shame. When we had a service unit camp out it would have been nice if all of these were up and running to take advantage of them.	Oct 23, 2009 10:43 PM
124	I know how expensive the camps are to operate but the skills that girls learn by being in an all girl environment are incalculable. The things I learned at Girl Scout camp have made me a much better person and global citizen. I also understand that Girl Scouting has to move into the 21st century but the Girl Scout/camp experience is unique and should not be lost in this technology age.	Oct 23, 2009 10:52 PM
125	Giving the girls opportunities that they may never experience is one thing I love about Girl Scouts	Oct 23, 2009 11:56 PM
126	why can't we call and register for camp, all of the Boy Scout camping we do, they are more than willing to accept phone reservations up to the day before camp if there is space left. With my schedule I never know if I can make the Girl Scout camp when you have to register so many weeks in advance. Thank you	Oct 23, 2009 11:57 PM

Response Text		
127	<p>Personally I feel like there is not a whole lot of programs in my area that are connected with the CSC. It feels like all of the programs and trainings are out of the "West". I have had to hold a parent meeting explaining why all of the programs we choose to attend are so far away. It seems like I spend quite a bit of my time sugar coating the transition that has taken place in our Council. Unfortunately our troop will not be attending as many programs due to the fact that our parents are not willing to drive so far to the program.</p> <p>It is forcing us (as a troop) to do things on our own or with a sister troop and it is sad that the girls will not get to meet "scouts" from the other counties.</p>	Oct 24, 2009 12:52 AM
128	i dont think closing of the palestine camp is fair to us that live in columbinia county because we now have to travel over an hr or more away to go to any camps and most of us cant afford to travel that far	Oct 24, 2009 1:07 AM
129	When I was a scout, girl scout camp sessions were not theme oriented. The weekly experience was a combination of all aspects of scouting, outdoor skills, cooking, swimming, archery, singing, hiking, crafts,etc. I selected camp based on when was convenient to attend and it didn't matter what week of the summer I attended, the programs would be the same. When scheduling summer camp for my daughter, her choices are limited by a "theme" that she is interested in. It is hard to select a camp because some of the themes really do not interest her, but she enjoys going to camp, so she selects one that may not be that interesting to her. Camp programs should be camp programs. If girls want to go to dance camp or cheerleading camp, they go elsewhere, not to girl scout camp. Girl Scout camp should be more of a survival training or first aid training. It is fine to do crafts and sports, but some of the recent camp themes seem to "fluffy" for an outdoor camp.	Oct 24, 2009 1:22 AM
130	When I was a scout, girl scout camp sessions were not theme oriented. The weekly experience was a combination of all aspects of scouting, outdoor skills, cooking, swimming, archery, singing, hiking, crafts,etc. I selected camp based on when was convenient to attend and it didn't matter what week of the summer I attended, the programs would be the same. When scheduling summer camp for my daughter, her choices are limited by a "theme" that she is interested in. It is hard to select a camp because some of the themes really do not interest her, but she enjoys going to camp, so she selects one that may not be that interesting to her. Camp programs should be camp programs. If girls want to go to dance camp or cheerleading camp, they go elsewhere, not to girl scout camp. Girl Scout camp should be more of a survival training or first aid training. It is fine to do crafts and sports, but some of the recent camp themes seem to "fluffy" for an outdoor camp.	Oct 24, 2009 1:23 AM
131	<p>Don't change Girl Scouts. Keep it traditional. It is what makes our girls confident. It is also what sets us apart from every other "girl" group. My daughter and I have been looking at colleges and the admission officers comment on the validity of the Gold Award and how it sets this group of girls apart from the norm. Let's stay the course and let the girls rediscover us and the good values Girl Scouts have to offer. You don't see Boy Scouts changing their program every other year. Some years we are more popular than others. Focus should be on finding leaders that have the traditional girl scout values and train them to attract girls through their expertise and passion.</p> <p>When my daughter started in Girl Scouts, I had never camped before. Over the years my family has been able to camp on several vacations thanks to the skills we learned from girl scouts.</p>	Oct 24, 2009 1:27 AM
132	I live in the far Eastern part of our council, and most opportunities are too far for us to attend. We are not unwilling to travel some, but nothing is offered in this area anymore. It limits the opportunities for my troop, and it is a shame.	Oct 24, 2009 2:41 AM

Response Text		
133	Even with all the technology we have there are still many reasons to spend time away from it all and camp is one of those places. we surround our selves with computers, cell phones, tvs, and girls can't find there way to the next state with out a gps or mapquest. Survivors are what we need to create, survivors who can lead. Girls already lean enough about computers and video games on there own and in school and at home. They need things they can't get at home or at school...	Oct 24, 2009 3:06 AM
134	Love all that is offered at Hilaka - the mill and bouncy floor, the dam, halls, facilities (toilets/bedrooms), lakes. Love that it is easily accessable from I-71, 77, 271 and 303.	Oct 24, 2009 3:34 AM
135	We have been very pleased with GS activities in the past. The new Faces and Places doesn't seem to offer enough "camp" activities for Juniors and up. My Cadettes are going through PA training, so I am hoping to get them to other camps with this ability.	Oct 24, 2009 11:46 AM
136	It seems to me that Girl Scouts is getting away from outdoor activities and learning and focusing on technology. Most girls get more technology than we'd expect in schools. Where else are we expecting them to experience the environment? They might learn some from family and friends if they happen to know or be related to someone who is active in the outdoors, but how often does that really happen? Also, making the Journeys mandatory for Bronze, Gold, and Silver Awards is a huge mistake. The books don't allow the girls to come up with much on their own--they are workbooks with specific activities that limit their experience. That's a semester of working on a single focus instead of experiencing many new things and learning from each one. Where's the camping in these? They seem to follow trends.	Oct 24, 2009 2:28 PM
137	If this survey is to save the properties that are destined to be sold.....please, please, please reconsider Hilaka and Crowell. No other property compares to the fun and love that this camping ground has given to my girls and me. Thank you Sharon Gavala	Oct 24, 2009 2:44 PM
138	I would love to see Great Trail fixed up. It is a beautiful location!	Oct 24, 2009 3:52 PM
139	I would love to see Great Trail fixed up. It is a beautiful location!	Oct 24, 2009 3:52 PM
140	I don't think you should have bought the Macadonia building. It was too much money and did not fit the needs of the girls. I look at that building and just wonder what was council thinking. I would like to have seen some of the other locations that were consider because if that was the best then I think you needed a better realtor. The needs of the girls are basic, friendship, building self awareness, outdoor experance, community service. I see a lot of events are being held at the camps this year and i think that is a good use of your resources.	Oct 24, 2009 3:53 PM
141	I feel that a vareity of camping experiences are necessary to offer. Tent, Cabin, Adirondack, primitive should all be made available. Growing up the only way to camp was latrines, as a leader many girls complain (as I'm sure we did too as girls) but flushies are a luxury that can be available - the cost difference of sites with flushies versus latrines seems to have evened out somewhat this troop year (eff january 2010) but the cost difference in the past was huge.	Oct 24, 2009 6:56 PM
142	I feel that the 45 minute meetings aren't very much for the girl scouts. Only bein 1-2 times a month. From my son being in cub scouts and going to Atwood lake for activities and haven bon fires it upsets my daughter that she don't really get to do much in girl scouts.	Oct 24, 2009 7:33 PM
143	Allow older girl to earn overnight stays at camps by working at camp.... Allow service unit to rent camps at a reduced prices to run serivce unit activity on weekdays. (Ie. Campfire sing-alongs...Day hikes... Rowboating.... Cooking Classes...)	Oct 24, 2009 7:43 PM
144	I would like more information given to troop leaders about camps. They have to print everything out which takes time and money, so some do not do it!	Oct 25, 2009 12:19 AM

Response Text		
145	The camp sites at Crowel/Hilaka and Lejnar are so much more expensive than facilities outside of the northeast Ohio (Cleveland) area, and such price disparity is frustrating, annoying and unfair!	Oct 25, 2009 2:33 AM
146	In this day and age it is very hard to keep girls interested in Girl Scouting. If you close all the camps in Cuyahoga County I feel this will be just make it harder to keep the girls interested in the Girl Scout program. Camping has always been a big part of scouting in Cuyahoga County.	Oct 25, 2009 5:41 AM
147	Please do NOT close this camp! My daughter is still a Brownie, but I want her to have the opportunity to camp at Camp Crowell/Hilaka again in the future.	Oct 25, 2009 11:52 AM
148	My scouts and I always camped at least twice a year. We liked Crowell/Hilaka because there is a ceramic studio, climbing wall (Akron), Hinkley reservation, bike trail (Peninsula), Cuyahoga Valley National Park, and even a farm that let us stop to pet, milk and touch his animals--all within a short drive of Crowell-Hilaka. The girls always asked to do these things each time we camped at Crowell/Hilaka. At Timberlane in the Fall, we did haunted forest (Carlisle Reservation), apple/pumpkin picking, corn maize scavenger hunt and then on to Cedar Point for Halloween nights. These became set traditions with my scouts. PLEASE do not get rid of the camping experience!	Oct 25, 2009 12:59 PM
149	Thanks for asking for my opinion!	Oct 25, 2009 11:32 PM
150	Perhaps if your staff was promoted because of their skills instead of their relationship with the CEO/President you would have more competent employees, instead of losing valuable staff members because of internal problems and bickering. Before the councils even merged you had already shot yourself in the foot and now are unable to truly follow through on your mission and vision statement because you do not have the proper amount of staff, nor did you retain all of the ones who would have been able to do what you now need them to do. The ones you did retain that were worth keeping are now doing the work of 5 people, partly because you have inefficient staff that should have been let go and partly because you expect them to do work that had previously been split between 3 people. You also expect previous employees to come back and do work that you used to pay them for as a volunteer, with no true respect for their skills - if they were valuable enough for you to still need them, they should not have left to begin with (whether it was because they were let go or because they left out of frustration, and you have plenty of both instances).	Oct 25, 2009 11:44 PM

Response Text		
151	<p>I would like to comment on Camp Crowell/Hilaka. I think these are unique camps which are well situated for troops in Medina, Cuyahoga and Summit counties to use. There is a great varieties of sites to accomodate different troops. If a troop wants indoor bathrooms, there are houses for that, if a troop wants the girls to experience both indoor and outdoor- there is that opportunity also. And the different houses are so unique. The girls love exploring the old houses and learning the history behind them. They love the "bouncy" house - which is a great destination for hiking. The terrain is wonderful for a hike, not too easy - but challenging enough for those girls who are up to it. The sites for tent camps are beautiful and set up for outdoor cooking even in the rain. The Mill Museum is a great place to spend some time learning about Girl Scouts in the past. The lakes are a great size for boating, or just walking around. And the camps are big enough to have numerous troops there completing various activities. And the location of this camp is close enough to major highways and civilizations that the families feel comfortable sending their girls there. They know that it is a quick drive to a grocery store for some important item forgotten - or to a clinic/hospital just in case. I realize that these properties are in need of repair, but I think it would be a shame to let these properties go. The value of these camps in terms of history, cabin/tent sites, location, and usefullnes to various troops is priceless. I hope that we can come up with a plan to revitalize these camps so that more generations of girls will have wonderful memories of their girl scout camping experience from Camps Crowell/Hilaka.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 12:53 AM
152	<p>The problem I find with Girl Scout camp experiences is they are sometimes cost-prohibitive. Our troop did a Troop Adventure Camp (three days/two nights) at Camp Lejnar in summer 2008. The girls had a great time, but at \$15 per girl/adult attending, plus the cost of all our meals (which we had to bring and prepare ourselves -- not to mention ice and the firewood we purchased to bring in (only to find out there was plenty of firewood available at camp)), it was very expensive for our troop.</p> <p>By contrast, we attended a camporee hosted by another troop this past September. This was \$15 per girl/adult for one night (Sat.) but that fee included a snack, dinner and breakfast. That is much more reasonable. And with this event, we were able to come to camp Friday for free, so for just the cost of our own food (for Fri. dinner, Sat. breakfast and Sat. lunch), we added a whole additional night of camp. (And we knew not to buy firewood, and because there are fridges at the camp sites, we didn't have to buy/transport ice). The girls LOVED it and it fit our budget.</p> <p>I am sure it is expensive to operate/maintain camps, and I understand the need for fees/fee increases, but from the troop perspective where parents are strapped for cash and many troops run entirely on cookie profits, it is difficult to include true Girl Scout camping (at a GS facility) into the budget planning process. I know of many troops that take their girls to other facilities for camp experiences because they find GS properties and camp options to be too expensive. Other, non-GS camps offer more activities at a lesser cost, these leaders say.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 11:06 AM
153	<p>The consolidation of the various councils in Northeast Ohio into one Super Council has already strained the families. In the current economic climate closing more camps and moving facilities even further away will cause families to reconsider their membership in the Girl Scouts. I know that there are several families with transportation issues in our own troop who would be unable to reach facilities if the ones closer to Portage County are closed. Camp Jesse Mae in Ravenna has already been closed. Please consider carefully the impact closing other facilities could have on the overall effectiveness of the Girl Scouts before making any decision. Thank you.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 11:13 AM

Response Text		
154	We are more than willing to participate in the upkeep of the Great Trail camps. As a Service Unit Director, I have several troops that would LOVE to complete service projects to maintain the camp. It is convenient, familiar, cost effective and gives a variety of experiences to the girls. I think camping is a cornerstone of Girl Scouts and the availability of a facility in our area is vital to the continued growth and development of Girl Scouts in the South region.	Oct 26, 2009 11:45 AM
155	Girl Scouting is about building self esteem, responsibility, leadership, learning new experiences and helping others - we do not need all of the modern conveniences of home, kids get that 24/7 now. That is just my opinion - Girls (kids) now days have so much peer pressurer and they are just looking for someone who will just listen to them and their problems. We live in a different society today and kids are different from 10 - 15 years ago and we have to adjust our programs to meet this. Younger kids want to learn new activities, and the older ones just need to know that someone is there for them when they want to talk or also in my case take them to their H.S. Homecoming or Prom because mom or dad don't have time or they live in a single parent situation. I have more daughter's than I can count because of everything that I do for them and the problems that I listen to - that is what G.S. is really about, being there for the girls - not giving them modern conveniences and wanting to know if we need computer internet service at our camps, phone access etc. Go camping with us sometime - you will find out that all electronics and cellular phones are taken from the time we leave and returned when we come back, this is quality time with the girls - not what is your 4-1-1-time.	Oct 26, 2009 11:54 AM
156	Juliette Low wanted an outdoor experience for girls. Skills learned at camp will stay with the girls throughout their lives. Leadership, which is a focus now, is cultivated at camp. Self reliance and confidence are built. My girls have learned that the worst thing that can happen is that you will need to ask for help. The best thing is that you find out you can do it yourself! It would be a shame to loose this important part of Girl Scouting.	Oct 26, 2009 12:13 PM
157	Because of working and the need for additional drivers to go to camp, I prefer to camp closer to home. The water problem is the major problem at Great Trail. I love to go to Great Trail and camp, but if staying for longer than a day or two the water problem is an issue. This is more for me than the girls, but some girls like to shower daily and there is not enough water pressure for that at Great Trail. I feel that if you fixed the water problem than a lot more girls and adults would camp there. I really love going out to Great Trail to camp and I loved camping at Lycopodia.	Oct 26, 2009 12:27 PM
158	It is a shame about Camp Crowell/Hilaka. I have many wonderful memories growing up as a Girl Scout there. I have taken my oldest daughter there and was be able to share my own memories and build some of her own. I would like to be able to do the same with my youngest who just became a Brownie. The camp has some unique features (like the bouncing Garfiled house and the swinging bridge) that would be a shame to lose.	Oct 26, 2009 12:53 PM
159	Please save Great Trail!	Oct 26, 2009 1:14 PM
160	I love girl scouting. Please give our kids the opportunities as we had when we were younger. It is a program that develops leaders through outdoor experiences, home economics, and friendship. Please keep it alive and well!	Oct 26, 2009 1:15 PM
161	You have two hundred plus acres at Great Trail develop it. The children will come. It will take money to make money. You need to peak the girls interest in different areas. If you can't be creative ask for help or hire people who have been and want to be Girl Scouts. If you don't do what you love it withers and dies. We should have a day camp every weekend for a different Girl Scout level to complete a badge. These girls are at a formation age where there are curious and want to learn. If we do not teach them we are failing. Let's push forward and see what can be accomplished.	Oct 26, 2009 4:09 PM
162	n/a	Oct 26, 2009 4:14 PM

Response Text		
163	<p>My overnight at Great trail was very disappointing! I went there with my daughter's troop of Daisy's for the sock hop in 2008. The organizers weren't very nice and we had no help navigating through the activities because the older girl scouts that were supposed to abandoned us. The activities weren't well organized and our young girls were put in the same lodge as teenagers, so the noise and lights didn't stop until past midnight.</p> <p>On top of that, the "mattresses" left alot to be desired and the cleanliness of the bathrooms was awful.</p> <p>The overall experience was so bad that we only stayed one of the two nights and our troop has sworn never to go there again.</p> <p>Maybe when the girls get older or do tent camping, it might be better, but I doubt I would take the chance when there are so many nice state parks competitively priced.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 4:48 PM
164	Please keep Great Trail open!	Oct 26, 2009 5:02 PM
165	<p>I would like to suggest that the board take into consideration the opportunities for the girls. As parents we make alot of decisions financially for our children. Sometimes they are risky and require a little more effort on our part to make it work. Girlscout girls have worked hard for all of these camps and are committed to keeping them going. The question that comes to mind is...Are you as the board committed to doing your part to keep these camps going? Smiles, laughter, simplicity and lifetime experiences prove to last longer and are richer than any money in the world.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 6:30 PM
166	<p>I will hopefully get a chance to do some Girl Scout camping one day next year. But also, I have to think of a couple of the girls can not go due them getting sick when they go out doors in the forest.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 6:49 PM
167	<p>The only type of camping my daughter did NOT enjoy was a Cadette level resident camp she did at Camp Timberlane. She was miserable because of the programming....it was NOT what had been described in the Faces and Places. She was terribly disappointed, and when I called to talk to the Camp Director following her experience, all I got was "we're sorry, and that shouldn't have happened, and that won't happen again." Unfortunately, my daughter will NOT go to resident camp again, and I am unable to recommend it to any of my troop members.</p> <p>On a side note, I did attend the open house at Camp LedgeWood, as that would be the next closest camp to us; however, I was disgusted by the latrines. We have used latrines before at Camp Hilaka's Gemini Cabin and those DID NOT smell like the ones at Camp LedgeWood. I don't know why there is such a difference, but I practically vomitted walking near the ones at Camp LedgeWood. I would choose a non-Girl Scout camp over LedgeWood.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 8:20 PM
168	<p>As a GSNEO staff person and a long time Girl Scout, I know that any opportunity to get girls together with other girls and adult volunteers who care about them, is good Girl Scout program.</p> <p>One of the unique opportunities that we offer girls through Girl Scouting isIt's camps. Whether girls are enjoying the out of doors, or enjoying the inside spaces that our camps provide, it is unique, and creates opportunities for girls to learn and explore in a different environment, and make memories.</p>	Oct 26, 2009 9:00 PM

Response Text		
169	I understand that this is girl organization; but if we can find someone who is willing to lead our girls with a new skill or expose them to a field that they may potentially grow to love-does it matter if they are male. I have heard of leaders who would not take their girls to a photography program because the instructor was a male and why couldn't they find a woman to teach the girls! Maybe a woman never stepped up, or was unavailable on the specific date, but they lost out on an AWESOME program that even I as a leader learned so much about. Believe it or not they will have to work with men throughout their lives.	Oct 26, 2009 9:36 PM
170	Great Trail has always been there, I'm afraid if it's closed, you'll loose a lot of scouts from this area. Yes it costs a lot to bring it back up, but it should never have gotten this bad in the first place. Fill in the pool, do what is needed for a quick but good fix and work on the rest as time goes and have each troop or scout that attends work a few hours on basic things, cleaning trails, plating flowers, basic painting, etc. Do some community service that helps the camp.	Oct 26, 2009 10:14 PM
171	Fans in all the cabins would be nice. Cheaper troop camping to allow for canoeing and archery and pool experiences for the troops who come out would be nice. I would bring the troop out to experience these things, but cannot for \$35/girl. This year TAC camp wasn't even offered. I would like to see it available thru the year at a lesser cost. Obviously you can't swim in December, but when the season allows and a certified person can be there I would like to see it offered.	Oct 26, 2009 11:51 PM
172	Campsites definitely should not have TVs, computers/internet. Camping should be about unplugging from this things. Programs should offer things the girls do not experience through school and/or other activities. Girl Scout programs should offer them something unique so the girls have a reason to be involved.	Oct 27, 2009 1:11 AM
173	I think the GS program needs to be well rounded and try to appeal to the interest of as many girls as possible. Location of events is also important. I will not drive an hour for an event that is only 2 hours long. It is not worth my time.. Girl Scout Council also has to realize that girls are involved in many other activities and the leaders are Volunteers with families that are also busy. Over the years I have found the time to offer a well rounded program for my troops (I have had 4 over the years) and it is fgetting harder to offer outdoor programs to them.	Oct 27, 2009 3:07 PM
174	Going out to camp is one of my troop's favorite activities. We need to keep the camps as a place where girls can go to escape the hassles/ emotions of school and family. Camps need to be kept free of graffiti and negativity. We emphasize that everyone can be themselves and have fun at camp with their girl scout sisters. No negativity allowed!	Oct 27, 2009 3:45 PM
175	I think the capms should be kept up a little bit better ex. no more rusty water to drink and cook with. Nothing ever seems to be sanitary and you can always tell there has been rodents there before you.	Oct 27, 2009 5:34 PM

Response Text		
176	<p>the GSNEO is completely out of touch with what scouts and leaders want. They have their agenda which is to look good in the cooperate world. the problem is that they have sought that to the exclusion of the girls whom they should be serving. It wouldn't be quite so bad if they did that well, but if any business was run like the council is run it would be bankrupt in no time - as would this if you didn't have a bunch of cute little girls working for you. Let's be reasonable, who wants a dozen cookies for \$3.50 a box?!? In response the council is consistant in not returning phone calls and failing to find troops for girls.</p> <p>I understand that there are not as many leaders as you would like but did it ever dawn on you that is because people have a life and don't want to spend every evening a week at either a meeting or in training. I was a leader until the "training" for things that I had been doing for years and knew fully well became madatory and more meetings and trainings were required.</p> <p>Your communications are also less than stellar (I am speaking of the print as there is NO communication of any value through the phone). Your web site is one of the hardest I have ever had the displeasure to attempt to navigate. Even when I know where I want to go it is difficult; when I am directed to find something on the site it is almost impossible.</p> <p>All in all to make scouting a better experience for the girls (remember them - the whole reason for scouts) the council could be remarkably successfull if they would only do 2 things - care and communicate. Right now, the do neither.</p>	Oct 27, 2009 5:56 PM
177	<p>Camping is an essential and integral part of Girl Scouts. If you close more sites and activities, you will lose girls. There are girls in my cadette troop that sign up each year mainly because they love to camp.</p>	Oct 27, 2009 7:18 PM
178	<p>As you no doubt know it has been several years since I was in Scouting. During the 11 years in Scouting, I was a leader, organizer, neighborhood chairman and day camp leader. During this time, '60s through mid 70s)and we had over 80% of the girls enrolled at one time or another. Our 4 Brownie troops had 20 girls (10 each 2nd grade/3rd grade, Junior 32 girls in 3 age groups, We had cadetts and even a senior troop. There was a Girl Scout band and several of the girls were assistant leaders for Brownie troops. The Scouting experience was very important in the girls lives.</p>	Oct 27, 2009 8:58 PM
179	<p>As you no doubt know it has been several years since I was in Scouting. During the 11 years in Scouting, I was a leader, organizer, neighborhood chairman and day camp leader. During this time, '60s through mid 70s)and we had over 80% of the girls enrolled at one time or another. Our 4 Brownie troops had 20 girls (10 each 2nd grade/3rd grade, Junior 32 girls in 3 age groups, We had cadetts and even a senior troop. There was a Girl Scout band and several of the girls were assistant leaders for Brownie troops. The Scouting experience was very important in the girls lives.</p>	Oct 27, 2009 8:58 PM
180	<p>It is very important to have a local camp ground for Girl Scout experiences. Traveling more than an hour is not acceptable for weekend and day events.</p>	Oct 27, 2009 11:30 PM
181	<p>My daughters and troop were not happy at the Ledgewood day camp 2 summers ago 2008. There was not alot of planning and structure for the girls.</p> <p>This last summer 2009 my girls and other from their troop loved Camp Jessie Mae and loved it. The director of the camp is wonderful and does a great job. We plan on going to whatever camp she goes to this summer.</p>	Oct 28, 2009 12:36 PM
182	<p>We are all very sad to see Camp Lycopodia close. My twin daughters are Junior Girl Scouts and really enjoyed Day Camp this past summer. If the closest Day Camp next summer is scheduled only at the current Girl Scout properties, we will unfortunately not be participating due to distance. I would really like to see my girls enjoy the fun experience of Day Camp as I had growing up. Is it possible to have the Girl Scout Day Camps at a local park nearby as it was when I went to Day Camp? I hope so! Thank you.</p>	Oct 28, 2009 2:01 PM
183	<p>I think any outdoor camping experience will help build young girls into strong, confident women. Girls need the time away from the rat race of technology.</p>	Oct 28, 2009 5:55 PM

Response Text		
184	I would love to see some of our former activities open again. It is sad to see the high ropes course at Hilaka closed. My girls would love this and it is so close for us.	Oct 28, 2009 6:29 PM
185	Having a camp nearby the large metropolitan area of Cleveland is great. I would hate to see Cleveland's girls miss out on what we have experienced. Many times the leader can set something up for the troop to camp. Some girls may need to arrive a day later or leave a day earlier. The closeness allows for this. Also, when it comes to Summer Day Camp, if a camp is too far, people are less likely to travel that far to and from the camps before and after work. Finally, I thought it was great for our girls to learn to "rough it" in the wilderness. They started with the simple cabins and got excited about "tent camping." They learned to deal with the woods, nature, winter camping, sledding on the hills, spider patrols and yes, even latrines. I have found this to be a very good learning experience for my daughter.	Oct 28, 2009 6:56 PM
186	Please keep Camp Hilaka/Crowell open. Have organizations help to update the camp and make it as great for the scouts as it always has been. Organize service projects thru the scouts to update, offer free weekends to troops who can come and paint, clean, etc. My troop has loved Camp Hilaka and is very dissappointed that there is talk of closing it.	Oct 29, 2009 1:18 AM
187	I am heartbroken that GS of Northeastern Ohio cannot manage their legacy. We have an irreplaceable asset in Camp Crowell-Hilaka which I am afraid is going to be squandered soon. We need to do some effective fundraising, have effective leadership, pursue grants, get the community involved, manage the camp effectively and efficiently and save this beautiful land. Look at other GS councils in other areas to see how they do things better. Believe it or not there are other places that are actually expanding camps, not shutting them down.	Oct 29, 2009 1:41 AM
188	I think it is very important to keep as many camping activities as we can for our girls. Camping is an integral part of Scouting and we have to offer many, inexpensive programs as we can. Programs and opportunities as local as possible.	Oct 29, 2009 1:41 AM
189	I know money is difficult in times like this but I hope you can continue to provide a variety of activities and experiences for future generations of girls to have. As a working Mom now, I'd like to have more day camp options in the summer so I can provide different opportunities for my children so they aren't bored and because I'm not available as I'd like to be to give them the summer time experiences I had.	Oct 29, 2009 1:39 PM
190	We love the camping experiences we have participated in. We would like to see improvements made to the existing camps. Also that more troop camps without leaders would be offered during the summer months.	Oct 29, 2009 10:23 PM
191	Wish I could camp during school break on weeknights. I am a nurse and I work weekends, so camping during the week saves me from using my own personal vacation time.	Oct 30, 2009 12:15 AM
192	Service projects should be geared more towards things done at the camp. They get opportunities to do things in the community through church & school.	Oct 30, 2009 1:29 AM
193	Having swimming lessons at all resident camps would greatly help all the girls who attend camp. It is because of resident camp that I know how to swim, if it wasn't for swimming lessons at resident camp I don't think I would be anywhere close to the swimmer I am now.	Oct 30, 2009 4:03 AM
194	I would like Camp LedgeWood to have flushing toilets. We have so many girls who would camp more and more troops coming if they had flushing toilets The cabins are so musty and smell awful. We had some girls who coughed the entire time and we had cleaned everything down when we got there. Better mattresses and beds.	Oct 30, 2009 12:34 PM
195	I have always had a great time at girl Scout camp. It was such a great experience for me and I loved having it at camp Sugarbush.	Oct 30, 2009 2:19 PM

Response Text		
196	Most of the specialized activities/experiences I put as not important as it depends on the interests of the girls. I think offering as many things to them as possible is the most advantageous to all young people - the earlier girls are exposed to new things the more likely they will try them. However, if this survey is to narrow down things that GS camps should cover - I tended to vote important or very important.	Oct 30, 2009 4:32 PM
197	We need to continue to provide our girls with quality outdoor opportunities at camps that are close to their homes. The camps do not need to have state of the art kitchen facilities and pools, etc. They need to have safe and adequate facilities. GSNEO staff should support and encourage the volunteers' to plan and implement day camp, resident camp, and overnight and day programs for our girls. PLEASE keep our camps open for our girls - especially those in Stark and Tuscarawas counties. For many girls in urban areas and lower income families, Girl Scouts is their only opportunity to experience and learn about nature and the outdoors.	Oct 30, 2009 5:15 PM
198	My daughter was a PA for Medina and Highland camps this past year. She loved the way the Highland Camp was run, letting her be in charge of the stations. She can't wait to be a leader again with that group. This is the model day camp should follow for a successful camp. While Medina's has been successful too, with huge turnouts of 200+ girls in years past, it is a lot of work for the volunteers. The PA's aren't used in the behind the scenes planning like the Highland camp uses them. The girls are eager to do their share and the Highland Camp promotes that atmosphere the best in my opinion.	Oct 30, 2009 9:15 PM
199	Well, what suggestions are worth noting? Lycopodia was decided and taken away BEFORE asking us our opinion. This suggests our comments don't amount to much. Also, Great Trail is just a shadow of what it once was. When we moved back here 9 years ago, it was even closed, and residents camp was taken away. Now Lycopodia is gone. Guess the girls in NE Ohio aren't as plentiful or important as girls in the bigger cities. Such a shame. Girl Scouts was such a wonderful adventure and my youngest daughter can't even be given a troop, let alone have anywhere within reasonable driving distance to send them. Do you really expect us to send an 8 yr old 2 hours away? Why don't we rate a voice?	Oct 30, 2009 10:38 PM
200	make the troops cost to camp at crowell hilaka equal to the cost to camp at other gs camps. i know several troops who don't camp at crowell hilaka ONLY because it is priced higher than other camps. WHY?	Oct 30, 2009 10:49 PM
201	We really love our camp sugarbush. Our girls have a blast everytime we go. Thank you so much for our camp.	Oct 30, 2009 11:44 PM
202	I'd like to see better communication of activities for the girls through the troop leaders. We always find out about activities 1-2 days before they happen.	Oct 30, 2009 11:46 PM
203	Camping is good activity but if the scheduling process is so problematic it is easier to go elsewhere. Activities have to be easy to use and schedule - like the boy scout model. We always had cookie credits but it was very difficult to use for camping. The girl scout organization needs to enter the computer world to make life easier to navigate systems etc. More on line tools for the girls re camping. other tasks and like networking with other girl scouts or boy scouts.	Oct 30, 2009 11:58 PM

Response Text		
204	Camp Ledgewood has horrible facilities. The cabins are run down and not well maintained. The latrines are bad during very hot and/or very cold months. The furnaces in most of the cabins (I've been in nearly all of them) are extremely loud, particularly at night. If anyone needs to leave the cabin to use the latrine at night (the only way a person can go the bathroom IS the latrine) the doors squeak so loudly that half of the girls in the cabin wake up. There are spiders everywhere. The springs in the bunk beds haven't been replaced for seemingly 25 - 30 years. They are horrible. Mattresses are bad as well. In my opinion, all of the Ledgewood facility buildings (sleeping cabins and the main lodge) should be razed and new facilities built with indoor plumbing. It would not matter if you had to charge more for the facilities in order to maintain them and/or pay for more security. I know many leaders, girls and parents who would welcome an upgrade to the Ledgewood facilities.	Oct 31, 2009 12:13 AM
205	Camp Sugar bush was great when we were just there a few weeks ago. My only complaint was not enough towels to dry the dishes after meals. :) The stations that were set up were both educational and entertaining which is a sure way for the girls to learn and remember. She is looking forward to many more camp experiences to come. Since it was close to home I felt secure about her being there too.	Oct 31, 2009 1:19 AM
206	My girls and I loved Girl Scouts. I was a leader from brownies through juniors.	Oct 31, 2009 2:01 AM
207	It would be nice to see programs focused on earning badges. Metroparks offer programs to help girls earn badge or part of the badge. I personally prefer the programs they offer when the girls can earn the complete badge. It would be nice to see girl scouts offer this. Boyscouts offer a merit badge day where they can choose from several offered. Some may have pre-requisite work that needs done but if the work is completed, they can earn the badge by the time they leave.	Oct 31, 2009 2:41 AM
208	My daughter joined her Brownie troupe last year and bridged over to a Junior Girl Scout last year. She has enjoyed every part of it. Her troupe, 978, is very active. Her leaders, Mary Abel and Judy Holman are wonderful.	Oct 31, 2009 2:41 AM
209	Please dont sell camp Lycopodia. The other camps are too far.	Oct 31, 2009 3:53 AM
210	easy to sign up camp packet for begginers. Do we need life guard training water safety person on site	Oct 31, 2009 11:47 AM
211	The cabins and beds really need updated at Ledgewood. My 65 year old mother saw the pictures and said those were the same bunks she had when she went there! There was an exposed wire under the floorboard that caught fire when we were mopping. That wasn't safe. There really should be some updates there.	Oct 31, 2009 1:18 PM
212	There needs to be more activites closer to our area. We are tired of driving to Akron or Cleveland for activities.	Oct 31, 2009 2:51 PM
213	Options... I can't say because I don't like to sleep on the floor that I won't take my girls tent camping. Our troop is trying to stay at all properties at least once. We all have different personalities and we camp where the troop as a whole decides. Activities where a leader can take girls and guide them through is always the best because we are on our time and with the way children and parents are scheduled it's hard to be on someone else's time.	Oct 31, 2009 5:35 PM
214	I would rather have 2-3 really nice camps than several that are so-so.	Oct 31, 2009 6:33 PM
215	Familiarity is a powerful emotion. My scouts prefer to go to the camp that they know. They are more comfortable because their camp nwo feels kie "home". This fall we are helping, once again, with our neighborhood's fall campout. For the last 2 years, while at Great Trail, I had 100% participation. This year we have been forced to move it to Ledgewood. I only have 6 of 10 girls participating. Partly because, parents are uncomfortable driving into the "unknown" and partly because some girls feel uncomfortable in a new setting. I know that change is good, but teenagers have a tough time adjusting.	Nov 1, 2009 2:26 PM
216	Camping is a great experience for the girls.	Nov 1, 2009 7:07 PM

Response Text		
217	I would suggest better overall maintenance of Ledgewood. The roads could use more "pea"sized gravel or blacktop to control the mud that gets brought into the cabins.	Nov 1, 2009 8:48 PM
218	<p>As my troop became older because so many of them did go to summer camp and other activites at sugerbush they wanted to spred their wings and we camped each summer 5-6 days straight at state park's the last 4 years as well as the time the spent at the GS camp. If you get them interested in cooking on the open fires etc at an eairly age I find they keep the interest. only 1 girl in the troop other than my daughter did any camping fishing etc other than with the troop. I know if they had not done it in scouts they would have never done it.</p> <p>Summer camps that had to do with things that can be done at home like, cheer, dance, computer, going to amusment parks etc never interested my daughter, She did the horse camps, woods woman, repelling, rock climbing.... the tuff stff that took her out of her normal relm..... You see she has been a cheerleader now for 14 years. She is in her second year of cheering in college. No one ever belived the camps that she picked.</p> <p>I think once you get them to try these things and they get a taist of them many of the girls decide that they like doing different things in the summer than they would have done durring the school year "with friends"</p>	Nov 1, 2009 10:14 PM
219	Kudos to Ed Lampe & his staff/family for keeping Camp Timberlane such a wonderful place for girls over the past few decades. They have dedicated much time & love to making it a special place, for which they deserve our appreciation.	Nov 1, 2009 10:48 PM
220	What ever happened to having jamborre every year so that all the girls were together and could meet girls from all over the state and counties?	Nov 2, 2009 12:30 AM
221	Please do not sell or close Crowell Hilaka. Too many memories for too many generations	Nov 2, 2009 1:29 AM
222	<p>There are many programs being offered in the council many are to far away to get to during the week. I would be great to have a website where people could go and get an outline to offer these programs in the regions that are not close to the bigger cities. There are a number of adults that are willing to offer programs and do offer some but there are programs that we could share. Everyone would benifit by having the basic theme, goals and activities posted some where that we could get the information.</p> <p>The website could be used by all of the people offereing programs.</p>	Nov 2, 2009 4:15 AM
223	more events that are Father/ daughter would be good	Nov 2, 2009 1:55 PM
224	<p>You can experience the outdoors with a regular up to date restroom and shower facilities. Most camp grounds in Ohio offer nice shower houses with flush toliets and HOT water.</p> <p>I will never go back to Ledgewood again untill these facilities are updated.</p> <p>With all the sickness going around there is a need for HOT water. Before we went I heard of troops that came home all sick. Our troop went and 1/2 of our district went home sick. So the germs were left in the cabins or passed around since there is NO HOT water. Hand sanitizer is good to use when you have no HOT water and soap but it is recommended to wash hands with HOT water and soap.</p> <p>NEED UPDATED RESTROOM FACILITIES WITH HOT WATER!!!!</p>	Nov 2, 2009 2:15 PM
225	<p>My girls are 8 & 9 years old.</p> <p>The distance and the expense of the other camps is what make it undesirable to go.</p> <p>When they get older, the distance should not matter as much, but the cost will still be a factor.</p>	Nov 2, 2009 3:23 PM

Response Text		
226	I would like to see as many camps retained as possible so that we will all be afforded the chance to experience camp. I would be a pity if it becomes so scarce that you have to have a lottery to be able to camp 1 time a year.	Nov 2, 2009 3:29 PM
227	I have found with the changes made in the last couple years that it has become a major headache just to get all the paperwork done to take the girls camping most upsetting is the Leaders having to use personal credit cards to reserve campsites. couldn't we just find the best way to make things simple for all most of all the Volunteers. It would also be helpful if you could look on line and see a calendar with what sites at the different camps were already reserved this way leader would not be wasting time sending in reservations for sites all ready booked. Thanks for asking	Nov 2, 2009 6:47 PM
228	Keep Great Trail and Lycopodia. They are wonderful camps within a reasonable distance for families in the Stark County area. I'm sure there are other camps, but these have been around forever and it would be a shame to have all those memories of many, many girls, leaders and volunteers to disappear.	Nov 2, 2009 7:25 PM
229	I would love to take my girls to camp much more often, but I do not know 3 months ahead of time what my day off is. You need to make that time shorter, so all of us can enjoy camping. Also, I cannot get parents to drive, so we have trouble getting 9 to 12 girls anyplace that is far away. I have not always lived in this area, and I have not always been with this council, so I do not understand how some troops can camp every month and others can't camp even once a year. So, I find that I am off in 2 weeks on a Saturday. Is there a space for me to camp, or do I still have to do the 3 month thing? Who do I ask? Please address this issue in your GSNEO news. Perhaps you can let us know that something is available and we can camp with just a week's (or two) notice. Is that even possible? Thank you.	Nov 2, 2009 9:05 PM
230	Thank you for continuing to care about the children. Even though I am over 50 not, people still ask me, "Were you a girl scout?" and I am so proud to say yes I was.	Nov 2, 2009 11:05 PM
231	Please find a way to make camping experience a desired and valued activity for today's girls. In a floundering economy and decidedly less morally straight culture it would seem a good time for "everything old is new again" thinking. Today's girls are so objectified and at risk of not making healthy choices that Girl Scouts has both an opportunity and a challenge to be relevant to their needs and the country's future. I am concerned that efforts to reach "Every girl, Everywhere", i.e., the long held desire to accomplish reaching into the diverse cultures in the ever changing demographics of our country, we will have taken huge steps backwards in preparing the girls we do reach for their place in the world. Clearly our realignment that finds urban girls and rural girls vying for their needs to be met has revealed still existing prejudices and resentments. Let's not keep our heads in the sand. Thanks for the opportunity to be part of your survey.	Nov 2, 2009 11:52 PM
232	you spelled "rappelling" wrong. yuh I don't think you meant "repelling" :)	Nov 3, 2009 12:54 AM
233	Please do not consider closing Camp Hilaka. It is such a nice camp.	Nov 3, 2009 1:44 AM
234	I am trying to connect to Forever Friends of Crowell/Hilaka and have not been successful. I graduated from Girl Scouts in 1974. I have fond memories of camping at Crowell and Hilaka. I want to know what I can do in the fight to keep them open. My email address is: malkire@windstream.net Please forward my request so that I may join the FB page. Thank you. Marilyn Alkire Resident of Richfield	Nov 3, 2009 3:02 AM

Response Text		
235	My girls are 8,10, and 13. They like the idea of day camp, but not so much overnight camp.	Nov 3, 2009 3:13 AM
236	I do think the cabins could be cleaner when you arrive. They look like they haven't been dusted or really cleaned in years.	Nov 3, 2009 1:57 PM
237	It's bad enough the girl scout headquarters are so far away. Since my daughter is in Lake county, I would like to limit her to Lake County. Downtown Cleveland activities are a pain in the neck, too. My husband and I are both unemployed and would like to limit costs, too.	Nov 3, 2009 2:21 PM
238	I have not been camping yet with my young daughter. As a child I remember sleeping in platformed tents. I think in this day and age, girls should only sleep in cabins with doors and windows that lock. Also latrines are just not safe. Flies spread disease.	Nov 3, 2009 3:11 PM
239	In these tough economic times I know it may seem like good "business" to sell off some properties to create cash flow but it has happened in the past and I'm not sure that cash was worth it. I run a business also but scouting is way more than just a business. Hopefully we can utilize all our properties in many ways and generate enough income to sustain them.	Nov 3, 2009 8:07 PM
240	I would really like to see council sponsored day camps return. There have always been a good turn out at the Hilaka camp, even when it was moved to Ledgewood. I believe this can be a good way to get girls to the camp and even make a little money. So many girls and leaders feel lost without these experiences that I believe if they were resurrected the turn out of volunteers and participants would be great!	Nov 4, 2009 2:23 PM
241	I would suggest that we focus on giving girls opportunities to be outdoors and ask girls what they would like to do at the camps. If we could put a positive spin on being in nature and appreciating the beauty as well as connecting to our natural surroundings, we will increase understanding in a broad sense and give girls a chance to feel empowered in all areas not just outside.	Nov 4, 2009 4:30 PM
242	I served on the board of the LEGSC for many years and understand the tough choices that must be made. But, if camps close, where are girls going to get these experiences that build confidence, skills and personal growth? It comes from a camp situation where girls are living and working together - not from a hour long troop meeting once a week. Many parents cannot afford to send their girls to overnight private camp, but a week or two at GS resident camp can be life changing.	Nov 5, 2009 3:33 AM
243	I served on the board of the LEGSC for many years and understand the tough choices that must be made. But, if camps close, where are girls going to get these experiences that build confidence, skills and personal growth? It comes from a camp situation where girls are living and working together - not from a hour long troop meeting once a week. Many parents cannot afford to send their girls to overnight private camp, but a week or two at GS resident camp can be life changing.	Nov 5, 2009 3:33 AM
244	The Juliette's Haunted Evening in October was terribly unorganized. It was a waste of time...in my opinion. Though, it seemed like the girls did have fun. I thought that the girls could have had a better experience if the event was better organized. The dinner was terribly unfulfilling. I think the girls were starving even after eating.	Nov 5, 2009 8:13 PM
245	I very much want my daughter to experience the camp experience through the Girl Scouts. Camp Sugarbush is a very nice facility, run by very knowledgeable staff committed to enhancing the Girl Scout experience for each troop.	Nov 6, 2009 1:31 AM

Response Text		
246	<p>This past weekend we camped at Ledgewood in the cabin Maclonan. When we arrived the place was very dirty (the camp moniter said that a leaders training had been held there previous and that they don't always leave the place clean). We had to sweep and clean before we started our campout. The latrines were in need of updates such as intact toilet lids, a roof that didn't leak something awful when we were in there in the rain and motion detection lights that work!! This is the most secluded of all the cabins-not within ear shot of anyone-and they don't have adequate lighting in the latrines. We also used the amphitheatre which has fallen into shambles over the years. Lastly, the trails at Legdewood are not clearly marked. I know leaders of two younger troops who won't even attempt camping with their younger girls because they have heard of how poorly the trails are marked and are nervous about getting lost. Don't Laugh-this has happened. The trails should be marked so that one marker is visable from the previous one. A marker must be visable at all times and they definitely are not. I am disappointed that Wadsworth house was closed. It was a great place to camp and now with the new amphitheater and bridge provided by two Girl Scout Gold Awards, it is even better. Thank goodness the Mayor agreed to take it over so that the girl scouts in the area still have an awesome place to camp- a true loss for council. Thank you</p>	Nov 6, 2009 2:12 AM
247	<p>Please please please COMPLETELY reopen all of Hilaka/Crowell. Allow girls and adult organizations (such as the Hard Hatted Women) to come in and help fix it up. I know there is a lot that needs to be done. I also know that there have been troops who have been looking to do service projects at camp to fix things up, but they have been told they are not allowed to. Why not? If they have a skill and they are not charging anything for it, they are just doing it for the love of the camp, let them do it! Also, please fix the registration process. Almost every leader I talked to at camp on Sunday Nov 1 was telling me horror stories about how they tried to get information about registering for camp. Most times they were told by whoever they spoke to that "I've only been here for 3 weeks, I don't know the answer" and they weren't willing to find the answer. These are leaders who WANT to take their girls camping. Who WANT to utilize Camp Hilaka. GSNEO says they want to close the entire camp because usage is down. How does that make sense??? How could they possible say that when there are people who want to use the camp and are told they cannot? How does that make sense? This camp belongs to the girls. I remember as a young girl walking into Amity House and Kirby House for the first time. The feeling was magical. I remember the trepidation I had about the swinging bridge. Granted, it needs work, but it is so incredibly worth it. Camp Hilaka-Crowell is a wonderful treasure housed in our backyard. Please don't let it go to waste. Please help us get it full and get it back to the condition it was during it's glory days.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 12:11 AM
248	<p>I'd love to see Troop camping offered several different weekends throughout the late spring, summer, and early fall. At the camp, we troop leaders could get acquainted and get some level/age specific adult volunteer training while the scouts complete activities together. Although my scouts have attended council-sponsored day events, they are never put in situations where they mingle and work with other scouts their own age from other troops. Plus, I think it's important to have the older scouts doing such activities as target sports, canoeing, low and high rope courses, etc. These types of activities require a lot of time, so a weekend outing would be perfect. I'd rather see my scouts spend an entire weekend immersed in a few activities than attend a 2 or 3 hour council-sponsored event at camp that is a very hurried and doesn't truly allow the girls to fully engage and enjoy.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 12:52 AM
249	<p>Keep crowell hialaka open fill time</p>	Nov 7, 2009 1:04 AM

Response Text		
250	<p>My daughter is a junior in high school. We have been together in Girl Scouts since she was a Daisy. She loved attending resident camp once she was a Brownie/Junior but in these last 2-3 years, nothing offered at resident camp is appealing for Cadette level scouts or older. We are very disappointed about this. A few years ago Timberlane had "First Fridays" for teens held monthly in the new Program Center. Our troop LOVED this activity and some if not all our girls attended monthly. They met new friends from other areas and kept active in Girl Scouts because "they did cool things". Then "First Fridays" stopped. Sadly this is one more thing that was popular but now not offered for the older girl scout. We became somewhat jaded when the leadership of Timberlane changed from "Sunny" as "Sunny" knew our troop from our involvement in many activities over the few years she was in charge and my daughter was looking forward to being a junior counselor (she wants to teach HS English as a career). New management took over and she was told that being a junior counselor was no longer an option because "that was the way it was done at other camps and would now be done at Timberlane too". Counselor in Training seemed to be an option until we were told last year when the councils merged and leadership changed hands that our girls were too young (going into sophomore year) for CIT 1. The way the program was/is set up now, they would graduate high school and spend that summer in CIT 2 before becoming a counselor. What girl graduating high school is going to give up her summer before college to train to be a counselor & then go away to college?! Crazy rule! I would think in this day and age that girl scouting would strive harder to keep the older girls interested and active instead of turning them away & not offering anything of interest on their level. Anyone can offer activities for younger girls. Last year the "Encompass" offered tours of area colleges as an option. This is not offered this year. Sadly, we were looking forward to that too but it has become one more thing taken away from the older scout. We will strive to keep our troop together for one more year, becoming creative on our own, so our girls can say they were in Girl Scouts 13 years. It has become far more challenging this past year since the new merged GSNEO has failed to offer things near Lorain county for older scouts. But Girl Scouts are resourceful and we will continue to come up with things as a troop to keep Girl Scouting alive in our girls' hearts. I suggest you take a hard and serious look at what you could do but are not doing for the older scouts. We love girl scouts, but are very disappointed on how things have changed over the last few years.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 1:08 AM
251	<p>It is very important to keep Camp Jessie Mae Fageol open for the girls in Portage County. Especially when they are younger, most parents have commented they would not like their child being too far away from home for a camping experience. Keeping costs to a minimum is also important to consider, especially when the economy is not doing well. These girls and their families need a safe place to learn, grow and gain needed skills. After all our youth are our future!</p>	Nov 7, 2009 1:31 AM
252	<p>girl scout camp was an important part of my childhood. i felt like i grew from my experiences at these camps and i wish for others i have the same opportunities</p>	Nov 7, 2009 2:33 AM
253	<p>I have fond memories from my many experiences at Girl Scout camp, both overnight troop camping and resident camp at Hilaka and Julia Crowell in the 1970s. I hope that the Council can keep these camps open for my daughters to enjoy. I personally think there does not need to be so many different activities offered. When I was at resident camp we had boating and swimming, we did a lot of crafts, played games, went on hikes, and square danced (I always loved the dance floor on box car springs in Garfield lodge at Camp Crowell). That was plenty as far as I was concerned. My memories of troop camping are of the time spent with leaders and other girls, singing around a campfire, cooking meals and putting on skits, hiking and learning about nature.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 2:34 AM
254	<p>I would like more camps and activities offered in my area. All the activities seem like they are in Cleveland, Macedonia and Akron. They are during the week for some things too and it's too far to drive. We live too far to go to these things and some of them seem interesting.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 2:36 AM

Response Text		
255	Please consider looking to your scouting community for volunteers to help with needed improvements at the camps. We all want to preserve and improve our camps, give us the chance to help.	Nov 7, 2009 4:59 AM
256	I just think that it is being done a good way and I m glad that there are places like this to have my daughter and her friends to attend. Thank you and goodnight.	Nov 7, 2009 5:12 AM
257	I am so confused and disappointed by some of the programming that is being offered by GSNEO. Although it is important to use the community as a resource, it seems as though the bulk of the programming being offered are little more than field trips that are coordinated by GSNEO to larger community programs. GSNEO should not go the way of day cares and large non-profits that are little more than fund-raisers and service agencies. We should be doing more to promote girls esteem and the Girl Scout way. As a long time participant and volunteer, I have served on property committees before. I know and understand the importance of creating a property plan. I have some fear though; Are we forgetting that we need to meet the needs of today's girls, instead of our own personal agendas and quotas?	Nov 7, 2009 6:00 AM
258	I know what you are thinking...just another FoCH complaining...but it just makes me sad to hear girl scouts is going the direction it is...people worry about our children getting fat...well what programs are there to keep our girls in shape...when I tell the girls in my old troop about Crowell Hilaka they are so sad...when I tell new friends/coworkers they don't even know about the camp...people who live 20 minutes away and have school aged girls don't even know about it...and counsel says no one's interested...well know one knows...I love Crowell Hilaka...but I love nature and the outdoors and everything I learned at girl scout camp more...I just hope you put the money you make from selling the camp into a different camp (or open up camping at that beautiful new building you built for your self)...give girls a chance to camp...it opens up worlds for them...again...sports are offered after school...but if you don't like organized sports...there's not much out there...there are not many orienteering groups, camping clubs, intermaral canoeing, and city girls have even less options...I don't think I would have discovered half my hobbies I have today if it weren't for camp because they are not taught in school...please...think of the girls...	Nov 7, 2009 4:45 PM
259	See #17 for my additional comments about electicity. It is not that it is a complete necessity but something that is needed at times such as when a special needs person comes to our camp. We want our camp to be handicapped accessible which I know that Rustic Ridge is and has been wonderfully prepared for this but what about a unit on The Ranch side now, especially since Rustic Ridge is now not going to be available.	Nov 7, 2009 8:45 PM
260	Camps seem to be getting too modern, taking away from camp experience. Timberlane Tall Timbers we would only use for winter camping, too cozy for summer camping.	Nov 8, 2009 3:31 PM
261	More information/publication or description of the challenge course at Timberlane.	Nov 9, 2009 1:04 PM

Response Text		
262	<p>Please check your own Girl Scout calendars before scheduling a camp event. There have been many times when two programs that our girls or adults were interested in were scheduled at the same time.</p> <p>Also, please schedule Cadettes, Seniors & Ambassadors PA training during the summer. Older girls have more time during the summer to participate than they do during the school year.</p> <p>It is important that you allow the friends groups and the girls to start doing service projects at the camps! You have volunteers who are willing to help, but people will loose interest because council's decision making process moves way too slow! Vision 2012? What about Vision 2010! Get moving!!!</p> <p>It is very important you find a way to keep as many of the camps open as possible. When was the last grant request written to help update camp facilities? Volunteers in this area are watching what is happening in other councils around the country. If we don't have the funds to keep our camps open - then why do we have the funds to pay our GS-NEO CEO over \$150,000 per year or to occupy the building in Macadonia? Don't make cuts that hurt the girls. GS-NEO get your priorities straight!</p> <p>GIRL SCOUTS IS FOR THE GIRLS! PUT THEM FIRST IN ALL YOUR DECISIONS AND YOU WILL FIND YOU HAVE THE FUNDS TO KEEP OUR CAMPS OPEN AND PROVIDE TRADITIONAL GIRL SCOUT CAMP OPPORTUNITIES!</p>	Nov 9, 2009 4:52 PM
263	<p>What has been done to Crowell/Hilaka by the Girl Scout Council Staff is unforgiveable. I would consider it criminal neglect. Many people and organizations are willing to bring back the status of a truly enriching campsite but have been discouraged from doing so.</p> <p>If Council would practice what it preaches-mainly the GIRL SCOUT LAW- and use it's resources wisely, there should not even be hesitation with keeping this facility open.</p> <p>Why is is every other campsite allows volunteers to come in on an at will basis to help maintain the property but when someone asks to help at Crowell/Hilaka they are stopped in their tracks.</p> <p>This needs to STOP and maybe if Council would allow people who care they would benefit with another thriving beatiful campground to be proud of.</p> <p>Also, When you are at a campout there is no reason to have computer or email access, or air/conditioning or television or dvd. Not only is it uncalled for but what about the electricity bill (if you are trying to save money).</p>	Nov 9, 2009 6:48 PM
264	<p>As a leader I have taken my girls camping alot. The last few years we have had about 20 in our Troop. When we went to Singing River maybe one or two wouldnt go. We did a camp out at Timberlane and I only had 3 attend. We were going to go to Pleasant Valley in November and I couldnt make arrangements to get everyone there. Parents will not drive that far to drop off and pick up and Leader cannot make several trips when the camp is that far away. Camping use to be a part of our Troop. Now it may not be any part of it.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 8:15 PM
265	<p>I would love to see no camps close. I really wish there were more things we could do to save the camps that are remaining. My Junior troop is going to earn their Bronze Award this year. They would love to do it at one of the camps but they are a little shy about it if the camp is going to close. They would like to do it at a camp where they can go back as Cadetes and say we helped with that to earn this, as they are talking to younger scouts.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 9:17 PM

Response Text		
266	<p>I'm not quite sure why council has specified that the insecurity of the dam at Camp Crowell would require the entire camp to be closed. If the white manager's house downstream is in danger, then remove it and allow the manager to live in Hilltop (modify to accommodate) or other home.</p> <p>Regardless of any closure decision....PLEASE, PLEASE INFORM LEADERS AND SERVICE UNITS PRIOR TO MAKING DECISIONS WITH THE IDEA OF WARNING THEM FIRST THAT IF CERTAIN FACILITIES ARE NOT USED, THEY ARE IN JEOPARDY OF CLOSING.</p> <p>IF LEADERS WOULD HAVE HEARD THIS MESSAGE BEFORE THE DECISION OF ELLIMINATING THE CAMP CROWELL HORSE PROGRAM, MAYBE MORE TROOPS WOULD HAVE USED THAT SERVICE. INSTEAD, IT WAS JUST ANNOUNCED OUT OF THE BLUE THAT THE PROGRAM WOULD CLOSE...LEADERS DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT WAS IN FINANCIAL JEOPARDY. LET US KNOW IF A PROGRAM IS IN DANGER OF CLOSING BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE....IN OTHER WORDS, LET LEADERS KNOW, IF A PROGRAM IS NOT UTILIZED MORE, THEN IT MAY BE ELLIMINATED.</p> <p>THANK YOU.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 3:28 AM
267	I el it is important for girls to experience the independence and adventure offered in the GS camps.	Nov 11, 2009 6:14 AM
268	Please see the suggestions listed in above question. Please consider the young ladies with special needs and disabilities when planning your camping experiences. Not all can participate at the level of a typical girl. Thank you.	Nov 12, 2009 2:30 PM
269	It's very upsetting knowing that Great Trail isn't able to offer a resident camp these past few years. I really feel that with the everything going on in this world that girls really need this experience. It is such a positive one. I really pray that they will be able to open up again soon and offer some more programs. My daughter is coming to the age of being able to participate and I would love nothing more than to be able to send her to Great Trail :)	Nov 13, 2009 2:06 AM
270	Please don't close camp Crowell/Hilaka	Nov 13, 2009 4:02 PM
271	<p>Thank you for this opportunity to give input. Besides what is written above, please consider the following:</p> <p>The reality is that most of us are city dwellers. We love to experience the outdoors. But as volunteers; we need a little help to make life easy if we can. I find as a Brownie leader that having a kitchen in a sleeping facility is the best of both worlds. We plan at least one main "rustic" meal cooked over the fire and one easy to do meal in the kitchen.</p> <p>Having been a leader for 12 years, I have seen the girls progress through the levels of Scouting. The girls in our SU start out in cabins, and progress to camping in tents. We like to not shock them the first time out and feel overwhelmed. They look forward to the next camping trip and building skills.</p> <p>(p.s. Please keep Camp Crowell/Hilaka. We love it.)</p>	Nov 13, 2009 4:11 PM
272	Please do not close Hilaka. We love it. I want to share my experiences with my new daisy daughter that I have had there for the last 10 years. My older girls only want to camp there. Thanks	Nov 13, 2009 5:46 PM

Response Text		
273	I like the idea of different Girl Scout events. Keep the school sports at school. Most kids do not have a chance to be outside safely, Let alone experience nature with hand and eye. Hands on discovery is such a great way of learning.	Nov 14, 2009 12:54 AM
274	I personally like to camp in 5 star hotels, not in the outdoors. I think girl scouts should concentrate on learning/teaching how to survive, survival skills in the wilderness, for example: how to start a fire without a match or a fire starter, how to find food in the wilderness, how to make a shelter....I think each one of these camp areas can be useful in teaching all of these life long skills. Some areas maybe better than others. This is a tough time for everyone. My only suggestion would be to sell if the price is right, but any property sold would be a loss.	Nov 14, 2009 1:05 AM
275	I think that it is a shame and an embarrassment to Girl Scouts that the asset we have in Camp Crowell/Hilaka was not put to better use. Use resources wisely must not be on the agenda of our new GS higher ups. If it is, then our camp would not be in jeopardy. Stop putting so much money in your great building and put it in our camps to benefit our girls. Thats what girl scouting is suppose to be about. Make Juliette proud. Stop shaming her.	Nov 14, 2009 1:17 AM
276	Less fashion - more substance. Encourage the girls to do more science and less crafts.	Nov 14, 2009 2:58 AM
277	My girls really enjoy Camp Pleasant Valley outside Tiffin. Most of my girls had a bad experience a few years ago at resident camp that was offered during day camp. The leaders of the camp made the week a miserable experience. My girls have attended activities and other programs at Camp Pleasant Valley, even overnight events. They really enjoy using the camp.	Nov 14, 2009 3:14 AM
278	It is extremely short-sighted of the Board of Directors and the employees of the Girl Scout Council to sell off our inheritances. It is also on the verge of criminal negligence to neglect routine maintenance on facilities and put off necessary and needed repairs. A 20 minute job to repair a crack on the roof prevents the lost of the building due to water damage.	Nov 14, 2009 3:56 AM
279	Old programs like Jazzy Junior Jamboree were fun. How about hosting a Kwanzaa celebration, Dyonheyko and/or Yuan Tan inviting all girls to learn about the meaning behind these special ceremonies. Another program that I haven't seen is Orienteering. Our camps are great places for the girls to learn how to find their way from one spot to another using a compass and a topographic map.	Nov 14, 2009 4:39 AM
280	I was not a Girl Scout as a child. My sisters and I were Indian Princesses. While that was a great experience, it was not as well-rounded as the Girl Scout program. I appreciate how intentional Girl Scouts is in meeting the needs of the girls at different age levels. It's been a wonderful experience for me and my daughter. I've enjoyed being her leader and getting to know the other leaders and girls in her troop. The troop was a true support to my famiy when my mother was very sick and then passed away. Girl Scouts have added to our family in ways I never imagined. Thank you. Sincerely, Tammy Gentry Leader, Troop 510	Nov 14, 2009 2:28 PM

Response Text		
281	<p>Our troop has participated in programming to support our camps/properties, but the experience has been less than satisfying. The events are not staffed properly. We had 10 girls who wanted to do archery. Of the 2 1/2 hrs we spent at Ledgewood, the girls only had the opportunity to shoot 5 arrows- each child has one turn (there was another troop participating). It was not worth our 1 hr drive and troop funds to participate for something the girls were not happy with. For the same money we could have gone to a archery range somewhere closer to home where the girls would have been able to shoot more than 5 arrows and not come home disapointed.</p> <p>We did have some girls participate in day camp which they loved and learned alot- they did get their money worth and more out of it. However, the majority of our girls did not attend beacuse the hours of 9-3 are not convenient for the parents of the girls who work. The complaints from the parents were that they can't go in late and leave early several days in a row from their jobs and they feel that some of the activites (even pick up at residence camp) are not working-parent friendly. The reality is that most families in our area of Geauga county have two working parents. Before and after care is a great need if you want a better turn out for the camps.</p>	Nov 14, 2009 3:00 PM
282	<p>We would really like to see more events at Camp Sugarbush. The other camps have much more activities at them and the troops in this area don't really have enough volunteers and time to go farther than 30minutes away. We used to have a big size troop and we always needed at least three vehicles to go anywhere, so the troop leader, co-leader, and another parent always had to drive because the other parents said they weren't driving that far. They were even talking about Camp Sugarbush. We never mentioned any other camp because we knew what they felt about the distance of Sugarbush. We have a smaller troop now and we only need the troop leader and I to drive wherever we go but neither her nor I want to go long distance for camp. Please consider having more activities at Camp Sugarbush and also for different age groups. We have Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes in Hubbard that would really like to see Camp Sugarbush open up to more opportunities. Thank you for considering this and please don't ever close Sugarbush, we would lose a lot of scouts if that happened.</p>	Nov 15, 2009 4:10 AM
283	<p>It would be great to see Great Trail remain a resident camp for generations to come. If that means leasing the space to the boy scouts or other reputable groups to raise funds then so be it. Great Trail is such a gem.</p>	Nov 15, 2009 3:03 PM
284	<p>I am so excited about all the opportunities my daughter (age 6) will have this coming summer at the Girl Scout Camps. I saved last summers Faces and Places and look forward to getting the new ones and making plans with her and her troop for their first camp experiences.</p> <p>It is fantastic that Camp Ledgewood and Camp Crowell/Hilaka provide 2 opportunities to experience different camps.</p> <p>We did Family Camp and felt very safe and secure at the private camp that only Girl Scouts have access to.</p>	Nov 16, 2009 2:50 PM
285	<p>The only thing that bothers me the most about girl scout camping, even beyond outdoor latrines, is the poor condition of the mattresses on the cots. They are filthy, disgusting and look as if they've not been replaced since 1950. Just because we are girl scout camping does not mean it needs to be unsanitary. For all the money girl scout cookies brings in, I feel you need to institute a replacement program for cots.....and use some of that money!</p>	Nov 16, 2009 4:08 PM
286	<p>I am very grateful to have camps within driving distance and have always had a great time!!! Thank you!</p>	Nov 16, 2009 9:06 PM

Response Text		
287	It would be nice to allow leaders or families of girl scout to have access to camping in Girl Scout camps - on a limited basis -for events like family reunions, or family camp outs - there are so few places in our area that have overnight camping in cabins. I think this would be a great money maker for the camps and would encourage many with to join girl scouts. It would also allow some camps the financial support they need to stay open. I think it could serve as a great recruiting tool - I also think more open houses for the camps are needed as well as district events or day camps during the day in the summer at the camps as well.	Nov 17, 2009 7:19 PM
288	We do not need electric trees or trees with internet access in our camps. I also feel that when looking at closing or selling properties, we need to evaluate what can be up-kept appropriately and what is in the best interest for the girls and the council as a whole. I am a huge advocate for outdoor education, and i have been to more then a fair share of camps in may parts of the country. It really isnt about the properties or the buildings on the property, it is about the lasting memories made there. What have the girls taken away from this experience at camp? Fighting over whether or not it is feasible to keep a camp open because of the positive memories isnt a good enough reason. Do we have the funds? Are these properties being used in a constructive way? Is this good in the long term best interest to the Girls and to the council to be keeping a dying camp open because a group of adults with an old grudge cant let it go?	Nov 17, 2009 7:46 PM
289	We need more sponsered events in Geauga County!!!!!!!!!!!!	Nov 17, 2009 9:17 PM
290	Can you make Girl Scouts more family friendly and cut some of the red tape? Insurance issues seem to be messed up and really hamper programming possibilities. Cant GSNEO offer badge camps and take some of the load off leaders?	Nov 17, 2009 11:24 PM
291	Please don't close my camp.	Nov 19, 2009 9:18 PM
292	I would like to see more events closer to Camp Pleasant Valley.	Nov 20, 2009 5:07 PM
293	I would like to see more activities offered at the outlying camps such as Pleasant Valley. It is very difficult for us in the Seneca East Service Unit to get our Troops to other camps that are 1-2 hours away. If more was offered within Seneca County I know that the local troops would really appreciate it.	Nov 20, 2009 11:56 PM
294	Would be nice to have "family" camp. Cub scouts invite family including sisters; would be nice if GS would expand to family.	Nov 21, 2009 12:47 AM
295	When I was a leader 30 years ago I loved camping and took my troop every chance we would get. At that time camping was falling out of favor with leaders who didn't want all the extra work. I would not have all the fond memories that I have today if it were not for those camping trips. My daughter and I stay in touch with many of the girls and their mothers. I often wonder if todays girls would still be interested in the primitive type camping we did? We all learned so much about nature and each others skills along with our strengths and weaknesses. We also went to a privately owned camp ground on our Easter vacations to groom horses, clean trails and the barn to prep for the coming season. For this service we received free camping and a lifetime of memories.	Nov 21, 2009 2:27 AM
296	Let the girls cook and serve with supervision. Set the tables.	Nov 21, 2009 3:22 AM

Response Text		
297	Please do not shut down the Great Trail camp. This would hurt the ability of the troops in our area participate. The other camps are too far away and most of our girls will not be able to travel this far away from home to go with the troop. Our troop recently went to this camp and had a wonderful time. The camp just needs to be used and taken care of a little by the troops who attend there. All of the troops who use this facility can take of it. I am not sure why in the past we were not allowed to use the camp but from what I understand there may have been some miscommunications as to the actual availibility of the camp and certain restrictions applied to allow the use that were not necessary and kept it from being used as often.	Nov 21, 2009 5:08 AM
298	Again, I have to say we are very disappointed with girl scouts. You are supposed to accept all girls, are you not? We have been trying for over a YEAR to get in somewhere with no avail. My girls are so disappointed with girl scouts right now, shame on you! How about helping people find a troop for girls that are interested in joining, instead of just poo-pooing them!	Nov 21, 2009 5:15 AM
299	Although I'm personally opposed to the idea of having computers and cellphone access for campers, I don't think we can pretend it's 1950, either. Campers are used to their electronic devices. I'm not saying that GS should go out of its way to offer computers and e-mail access for campers, but I think some compromise could be reached. One possibility is to print out e-mails from parents/family and distribute them to resident campers at night (i.e., campers don't get to respond). I also think that high school aged resident campers should have the perk of being allowed some electronic gadgets--be they ipods, phones or the like. There could be rules for when they are allowed to use them and when they are not. I tried this on a recent trip to Camp Fitch with my 11th-graders, and they did not abuse the privilege. I think girls will choose other camp options that allow them more freedom if GS doesn't show some flexibility.	Nov 21, 2009 1:51 PM
300	Greeat Trail Camp needs to be one of the camps offered as a resident camp again--please. This is a great camp and it needs to be a priority for GSNEO to not let this one go!!!!	Nov 22, 2009 3:42 PM
301	Need to market more and make girl scouts cool to teenagers. More info on trip in HS earlier in the program so that parents know and will encourage girls to stay in Scouting. Scholarships to Gold awardees and other small scholarship for milestones. If you can teach the younger girls about the benefits then you can motivate them. My sisiter in law did not want to do girl scouting b/c they would not let them build a fire and treated them like "girls". She did another group that was more challenging and treated her like a boy. Girls scouts= cookies to most people.. not teaching girls independence.	Nov 22, 2009 4:29 PM
302	I've heard some rumor about business training with ECITY. I hope that actually happens because ECITY is an awesome program.	Nov 22, 2009 7:46 PM
303	I went with my daughter to Camp Crowel-Hilaka and really enjoyed it. I also really enjoyed how close it was to us. After a long weekend of camping, it was nice to know that I did not have to drive over an hour to get home. I know that the parents of our troop will feel the same way about havingt o pick up their daughters if we go camping this year. We are just beginning to camp and that is a huge part of our decision.	Nov 23, 2009 1:19 AM
304	For our troop where we are located it is about an hour to get to a camp now that Jesse Mae is closed. Some of our girls parents are unable to drive that distance to take their girls to camp. we try to camp at least two times a year but that might not happen this year due to the closing of the Ravenna Camp.	Nov 23, 2009 2:46 AM
305	If there is any way to keep Crowell/Hilaka open, please try. Many many alumna would love to help return this amazing place to the way it was "back in our day" so that our daughters and the generations following us will be able to learn and grow like we did - at Crowell/Hilaka.	Nov 24, 2009 2:55 AM

Response Text		
306	It's really nice to at least start the girls at a GS camp. I have an older troop & a younger troop. We started using a fully equipped cabin, then others without heat & kitchens, then tents. We haven't been able to arrange canoeing for the younger girls. It never seems to schedule when we're there. We would like to canoe with them.	Nov 26, 2009 12:30 AM
307	After being at Cheraga Barn this past weekend, it was a welcome surprise to see the nice indoor bathrooms and the new serving counter. I fondly remember the trek to the outdoor latrine in the middle of the night on a snowy icy night 30 years ago. We did have one problem-someone thought building a second ring around the fire circle was a good safety idea. Bad idea. As we were cooking pie iron pizzas for dinner in the pitch black fire ring in the evening, even with several adults saying be careful two of our girls fell on these rocks and pitched themselves into the fire area. Luckily neither was hurt- but we couldn't get over someone thinking this was a safety issue to have two fire rings circling each other. For us, they needed to be dissolved. We also had a pregnant leader who we carefully watched to make sure she didn't fall. And just to cook you need to be able to get near the fire; of course you could have six foot arms. We would appreciate your checking this out and it was mentioned to be camp manager. Judy Ely	Nov 26, 2009 4:09 PM
308	Please keep our facilities up to date and energy efficient. Let's provide an experience the girls and leaders enjoy! We need our own girl centric facilities that allow our girls to explore their world and develop new interests.	Nov 27, 2009 2:53 PM
309	Ones the children learn & have fun. with out breaking the bank.	Nov 27, 2009 7:40 PM
310	Keep the camps any way possible. You'll never be able to afford to purchase anything close to what you will lose if you have to sell them. "Sell" the right to individual buildings, put that person or company's name on a plaque attached to the building, "sell" 1/4 acres of land, the right to a person to "own" it, just keep them. My mom went to camp, I went to camp, our kids go to camp. History is a terrible thing to lose.	Nov 28, 2009 4:31 AM
311	Would love to see Ledgewood updated like Timberlane with more cabins with flush toilets. I suggest that the methods used to update Timberlane (Corporate and individual sponsorship) be used to update the camps that need rehabilitation. This merger was supposed to maintain what we had, not give it back or just close it.	Nov 29, 2009 5:52 PM
312	Just getting started with my daughter. I was a girl scout back in the 60-70's and loved it.	Dec 1, 2009 3:19 AM
313	We cherish our experiences at girl scout camp and hope to increase our attendance there this year.	Dec 1, 2009 2:30 PM
314	Our troop has mentored other troops that have never gone camping so that the leaders could gain the confidence to take their own troops in the future. A mentoring program for the troop leaders would help give leaders who have not gone camping in the past, gain the confidence of taking their troops camping. I have taken the camp training and this is not enough to encourage leaders to make the leap to taking their troops camping.	Dec 1, 2009 3:59 PM
315	It was so nice to be a Girl Scout. It is the whole reason for my job today. I am a Children's Naturalist that presents and develops programming for scouts at Lake Metroparks. It is rewarding to present to a Girl Scout group. I remember being there but to inform them I was a Girl Scout and recieved my Gold Award which got me my job. Without my experience of being a Girl Scout and doing my Gold Award Project within a park district I would be down a different road.	Dec 1, 2009 7:18 PM
316	More emphasis needs to be made on promoting outdoor girl skills. Leaders need to be given more places to give their troops camping experience. Camping experience can lead to team building and bring girls who are not friends away from scouting together for a common goal.	Dec 8, 2009 9:01 PM

Response Text		
317	<p>Yes, there are troops that use Great Trail and leaders who want to give their troops outdoor education!</p> <p>There are girls whose families who cannot afford the prices charged for Girl Scout resident camp and would benefit from the experience in many ways. I personally paid for 3 of the 5 girls that attended the 4 night resident camp held this summer at Great Trail which was an affordable \$55. It would be nice if there was a way to open up resident camping to more girls in lower income brackets without writing a check myself. Please keep Great Trail open so it will be available for our girls. I thank the volunteers from Great Trail who made it possible for the girls in my troop to experience resident camp.</p> <p>Driving farther to camp would be a difficult both on our troop budget (we reimburse for gas) but my enthusiastic co-leaders who do not own reliable cars.</p>	Dec 10, 2009 4:16 PM
318	Please keep Great Trail open. Please reopen Lycopodia.	Dec 11, 2009 1:51 AM
319	Camp Crowell/Hilaka is my absolute favorite place on earth. PLEASE don't let it fade away!	Dec 11, 2009 5:34 AM
320	<p>My daughter really wanted to go to horse camp this year, but you didn't offer it in day camp or resident camp.</p> <p>We thought about trying a day cam, but the ones she was interested in were either, when we on vacation, too far (the closest one to our house was Medina, about 45 minutes too much to travel everyday, or the day camps were at night.</p>	Dec 11, 2009 10:25 PM
321	I would love to see Great Trail Camp fixed up like new. It has so much potential.	Dec 11, 2009 11:13 PM
322	We love Girl Scouts! We have time to bond, talk, and just have fun!	Dec 12, 2009 3:04 AM
323	Investigate the increased use of volunteer help to offset some expense of maintaining camps and offering programs -- corporate, civic, historical societies, camp friends. There are all kinds of good ideas -- and a wealth of expertise -- which could be implemented if they were given honest consideration.	Dec 12, 2009 4:44 AM
324	I remember day camp as a child at Camp Ledgewood and loved it, it was horse riding camp. I want my daughter to have those memories too. She has enjoyed every event she has been to so far. What a wonderful resource to have so close to home. Please keep Ledgewood going.	Dec 12, 2009 11:32 AM
325	We appreciate all the planning and time dedicated to the day camps!	Dec 12, 2009 1:10 PM
326	Please actively market all camps to the general public, via Cleveland.com or other internet sites. The PD might be a good option, as well. The public can fill in dates when scouts aren't there. Camping in a cabin in the winter is the best!! It allows you to re-charge your body and soul. My husband does living history and they frequently use Boy Scout camps. Also, for families that want to try the camping experince, the GS camps are close and have wonderful opportunities to enjoy nature and the outdoors. Discounts for Scout families might be a great option! I understand that it's difficult to do all the maintenance at the camps, but perhaps if a project was specified, a group could camp free while they work on it! Also, I think that there are many people who would offer their talents and resources as volunteers for this cause. Girl Scout families already know what a teasure the camps are, LET THE PUBLIC KNOW WHAT THEY ARE MISSING, TOO!!!	Dec 12, 2009 3:22 PM
327	It would be nice to book camp more than 2 months out (even if only as a temporary hold) As a troop we are competing against many other outside activities and the ability to plan 3-4 months out seems to be most effective in our troop - once the girls commit, for the most part i don't have many cancellations because they love it - the problem is trying to schedule something in say a 6-8 week timeslot i hear - oh we already have...that day	Dec 13, 2009 12:04 PM
328	Keep Camp Crowell/Hilaka!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	Dec 15, 2009 1:33 AM
329	Location and times for events has a big factor for my daughter and me.	Dec 15, 2009 7:20 AM

Response Text

330

I really think the GS Camps would be utilized more if members were more aware that families and outside groups can pay to use them. If marketed properly, they can sustain themselves. Groups and churches are always looking for inexpensive meeting areas outside of their regular space. This would require some technology updates (Gund Hall), but I do believe it would work .

Troops are also having an increasingly difficult time finding meeting spots for their regularly scheduled meetings. What about having the camps open one or two nights per month where troops can sign up to hold their meeting in a cabin or camp area? Free advertising for the council and troops will begin to think of the space as their own. Even leaders who "aren't into camping" might feel more comfortable if they are exposed to the camp more.

Dec 17, 2009 12:48 PM

Response Text

331

Dec 19, 2009 6:46 AM

Our camps should be at least equivalent to parks (State parks where you can overnight). It should be cost competitive with those state parks as well. If it is open to more usage, a company wants to use it for a bonding experience, etc, then it should be open to them as well - will help keep it funded and the cost competitive. It could be open to weddings, such as the state parks - again, the more usage from non-scouts it's getting, then the more it will keep the cost competitive, I'd imagine. There could be a fee paid by the non-scout groups that would not be refunded if they didn't return the facilities to the same cleanliness or they damaged something, but this means checking the facilities out after each usage of it. Even the girls(scouts) should be fostered in to learning to maintain the facilities as long as it's safe - they could paint, do some basic repairs, clean up, check the facility after a non-scout usage, etc.

I'd like my girls to learn the basics (these in no particular order), and in such a way that it does bond them. Basic Self defense as so many children are now being kidnapped and trucked and sold into a porn world, First Aid - how to handle problems encountered in the camping/hiking etc. Flag ceremonies - important to know how to honor and fold our Flag. How to survive in nature- what's edible and what's poisonous, what to do in the case of snake/spider bite etc. Archery, ropes(builds confidence, hopefully conquers fear for those with height fears), cooking over the fire, storytelling, camp songs, swimming/canoeing, how to hunt an animal for food (rabbit) tied in with gun safety, how to make soap, how to make candles so that you can navigate in the dark, how to make butter, cheese, even how to make shoes (mocasins type), clothes, making jewelry or beadwork on a costume, how to sew to fix a hole, sew on a button, etc.- these are basics our ancestors had to do to survive - our girls should know how to do the same, even though they don't have to survive - the knowledge should pass on or it will be lost. However, with technology so important, I think they should know a bit about that too - not games, but taught lifeskills with it - how to hook up a network of computers, or just basics of how to hook up a computer to be able to use it in a remote area, how to create a killer resume, how to even attach things such as documents, pictures (we had to have a basic class on that to teach the other Moms our age), how to set up and use a database and spreadsheet, how to use Quicken, how to use a program such as Powerpoint to create a presentation - that could be on nature they're learning about at camp. How to research to find specific information via the computer. How to use a GPS and/or compass to find their way around a remote area (and I've been to some of those) and basically how to take lemons (in poor yucky weather conditions) and make lemonade (make the best things happen no matter your situation) So, you camp out and it rains, go indoors and play card games or skill games, such as chess, yatzee, euchre, etc. So many girls don't know how to play these as many have not had the experience nor the parent's/family time being taught it.

I'd also not mind seeing the following, a manners "class" on how to properly set a table and use proper table manners etc., writing a script and acting it out or having others act it out - can be done with role playing good scenerios such as saying "no" to drugs and alcohol and being a social group of inclusivity of all members, even those who may be different in some way, or in teaching stranger danger and how to properly handle scenerios, how to handle a peer coercion to do something non appropriate, maybe even writing poetry with a Poetry reading session/competition, or having a geography bee - many people all ages have no clue where countries are, let alone the differences between countries and states - this is good to know in a globally competitive world we now live in and to know geography will help get a sale in an international market, possibly.

They say a family who prays together stays together, a family who plays together stays together - so why wouldn't that be the case with a group of girls - something like a sorority - the more they "play" and have to work hard together to achieve a small common goal, the more they'll stay in it longer and stay together as a group - part of a good peer pressure.

On the other hand, I'm extremely disappointed to see that those who now run our scouts, have not come up through the ranks and been experienced scouts that I know of. Unless you've been a grunt yourself and been willing to do the time and work at grunt level, how can you understand the girls? I look at this Macedonia corporate office and just see big \$\$\$ wasted, also not part of our GS Promise of not wasting resources. There should be no big \$\$\$ corporate - that money should be passed back to the girls whom it is for in the first place - to offset the

Response Text		
332	Please offer a chance to troops to use the Girl Scout camp facilities. Our first graders are too young to be sent on their own, but we'd like to invite families to come with their girls for some overnights this summer. I hear that Camp Timberlane is wonderful, and we'd like a chance to enjoy it!	Dec 19, 2009 1:34 PM
333	I have been a volunteer leader for less than a year. That was not one of the options for question number 5. My answers reflect stereotypes as I have not had the time to personally have a "Girl Scout Experience."	Dec 19, 2009 3:04 PM
334	Thank you for checking with membership. However, this survey misses all of those members and past members without internet access, particularly the older ones who are no longer listed as members.	Dec 19, 2009 5:09 PM
335	If you have to sell any camps...you'll never be able to afford to buy back land to have them again. Try to keep them. Start selling shares in them...find creative ways to keep the land and camps you have. There must be a way.	Dec 20, 2009 3:24 AM
336	I would hate to see the girl scouts give up any of their camping properties. These are a treasure for the girls that would probably never be replaced.	Dec 21, 2009 12:52 PM
337	More programs for Cadettes through Ambassadors. Bring back the Myster Dinner Theater- the girls really want this. Solving cases and mysteries has become popular again.	Dec 21, 2009 3:43 PM
338	I am not sure what a Resident Camp is - or really what you mean by troop or family camp	Dec 21, 2009 4:13 PM
339	GSNEO needs to be responsive to leaders and troops and not loose paperwork and get back to leaders and troops with answers in a timely fashion. Also better programming for older girls. Since merger and more so since the move to new headquarters many times do not get responses to emails or phone calls or takes months or numerous calls. You are too impersonal and inefficient. Many leaders are frustrated and so are the girls and are dropping out.	Dec 21, 2009 4:24 PM
340	I truly believe that Crowell/Hilaka should not be closed because of the great experiences that it allows the girls to have. Also the camp is set up to where it is comfortable for the girls. I feel that every girl should have the chance to experience Crowell/Hilaka.	Dec 21, 2009 4:28 PM
341	Camps should be in better condition. Hilaka is run down, or was when we were there. Should have activities to do like Boy Scouts and YMCA camps do.	Dec 21, 2009 6:00 PM
342	We hadn't been able to access all of the facilities until the recent merging of councils to create the new GSNEO. It might be premature to try to make property decisions based on opinions of a still relatively inexperienced population. I'd guess the average troop gets out to one or two properties a year... That doesn't give us a lot of time to check out other camps.	Dec 23, 2009 11:20 PM
343	We have a difficult time booking a cabin at Ledgewood and Crowell/Hilaka because everything is always booked. If one was to close, we'd never get a cabin!	Dec 24, 2009 12:56 PM
344	Bring back camp Siningriver River.	Dec 26, 2009 6:55 PM

Response Text		
345	<p>Being part of LEGS since I was a Pixie has given me time to see the changes in the camps from when I was a scout and on to being a leader and parent of scouts. I can compare the 4-H, BSA and GS programs well being active in all three. There is a huge difference in the amount of things the older girls can do at camp. While 4-H camp is a resident program the older kids are the leaders for the younger campers this builds leadership quickly. BSA is the same. GS even at the day camp level it is more adult run. The girls loose interest and do not have the want to continue to be those leaders. While most GS leaders were not leaders themselves the traditions of outdoor cooking, games, songs, etc are going away. We saw at day camp this past year at Lejnar the renewed interest girls had as well as adults with well thought out programs and taking the kids back to the basics of what camp is about. Trying new skills at an age appropriate level to peak their interest to hopefully get them to branch out and learn more. Having watched the day camp programs and being involve with them since 2001 on many different levels and at many different camps we can find the things that bring the girls to camp, just look at their evaluations. This year there were girls from an hour away at Lejnar day camp, they attend day camp in Avon held in a park. They do crafts, sing and play games. They thought fishing, swimming in a lake and archery were wonderful and in a letter said it was the best camp experience they ever had. They loved the outdoor cooking which was guided by adults that knew different methods of cooking. Leaders can not be expected to be a jack of all trades. Somehow there needs to be more support given to leaders to be able to give the full camp experience to their troop. The amount learned in outdoor training is not enough to give leaders the knowledge to go out and tackle a campout more than once. We know how many troops cook indoors at camp, this is a shame. Most troops do not have the money for the equipment anyway and it can be very difficult to get it from council or it can be in such bad shape you would not feel comfortable using it. Again this can not be thrown on the leaders themselves, perhaps a support group that can come out and assist troops that will not cost an arm and a leg. Maybe alumni. They know the history, love to work with the kids and the generations working together is always a good thing. I understand the consolidation of camps especially with the merger and the repairs that are needed at many of the camps, some due to neglect of I am not sure who, I also understand as a long time scout that this is not going ot get better until council starts treating volunteers with respect and listening to them.</p>	Dec 26, 2009 9:05 PM
346	<p>We love camp Ledgewood. As an adult I would prefer indoor toilets, but I understand the cost involved. Installing them would also take away from the camping experience.</p>	Dec 26, 2009 9:44 PM
347	<p>I believe reaching out to past girl scout campers and counselors would be a fantastic way to keep the Girl Scout camp experience alive and with vitality. Contact past leaders, girl scouts and parents. Invite them to be trained and to experience the "camp experience" again! They are such a valuable resource.</p>	Dec 27, 2009 2:08 PM
348	<p>I think camping experience should focus on the fundamentals of the outdoors. Computers, etc are not a necessity for camping, they get enough of this at home and at school. the camp experience should be an introduction to the outdoors, how to have fun with limited resources, how to use a compass, how to mark a trail, fire safety, how to build a campfire, our natural resoures, learn about plants in the wild(poison ivy) etc. Believe it or not, you remember these things later in life and these are skills that you would never learn in school. I was a girl scout through Seniors in the early 80's, I still recall the things I learned at camp.</p>	Dec 27, 2009 4:48 PM

Response Text		
349	<p>Shower, showers, showers! I myself do not care about them, that is part of camping. On the other hand, 95% of my troop complained about not being able to shower.</p> <p>On my end, my only actual request is a "Camp Brochure". As I nor my Co-Leader don't have at lot of free time to tour the different camps. I would like something (Brochure for lack of a better word) telling me about each camp (amenities, activities, equipment, etc.) and what facilities are there (including amenties of each site, capacities, etc.). There is very little information on the interenet about our camps and something like a "Brochure" would help our troop to decide what camp we would like to go to next, dependant on what we can or cannot do there. Also put it in pdf format towards Going Green!</p>	Dec 27, 2009 7:28 PM
350	Camp Ledgewood is great, however facilities are old and could use some updating to function efficiently such as restrooms and building maintenance.	Dec 28, 2009 12:51 AM
351	Keep up the good work!	Dec 28, 2009 8:56 PM
352	My oldest daughter loved the day camp but because of the cost she only went one year. My youngest daughter has not been able to experience the day camp. When my oldest went it was because she worked her butt off to sell cookies and put cookie credit towards the day camp, if not for that she would not have been able to have gone.	Dec 28, 2009 9:17 PM
353	Hope to see the repairs made to Great Trail so both sides of the camp can be opened again. I believe this camp was utilized more than the Board thought.	Dec 29, 2009 2:57 PM
354	I WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE SERVICE PROJECTS AND WORK FOR CAMPING PROGRAMS, TO DIFRAY THE COSTS AND TO HELP KEEP CAMP PRICING DOWN,	Dec 29, 2009 9:26 PM
355	As a leader I would love to utilize the local camp (Lejnar) but I find it to be too expensive for our small troop. If we could rent it hourly or at a 1/2 day rate that would be more convenient. We feel for our age level the girls would not want to (or be able to handle) the outdoors all day long . . . yet.	Jan 1, 2010 3:07 AM
356	In this economic climate, I understand the need to limit offerings -Just don't forget to expand when needed! And maybe leasing to non- Girl Scout groups may be a way to offset cost of running camps (Bingle Camp has a set up like that -they run a Faith based camp, but rent to other organizations too during their off time)	Jan 2, 2010 3:12 AM
357	As you consider this feedback, please remember that we do not get a second chance on giving away our history. Change must and should happen, and certainly we cannot abide by the Girl Scout Law without committing ourselves to financial responsibility. Yet part of the Girl Scout experience and tradition also involves remembering our history in a living way. In our society, the new is often cheaper than the old, but if we forget to invest in our past, we are poorer for making that choice. Camp Crowell/Hilaka may require more financial investment in the short run than others of our camps; however, it also holds a rich history, which we cannot easily reclaim once we have signed it away.	Jan 2, 2010 4:48 AM

Response Text		
358	<p>I don't know how to fix the problem you are facing. I can only say that I LOVED Girl Scout Camp (whatever facet I attended). It enriched my life, opened my eyes, taught me many skills that I still apply today. I can NOT imagine a world where there is no Girl Scout Camp. The problem I see is that the "Girl Scout" label is no longer given respect by today's society. I know that the programming (badge work, etc.) has tried to keep up with the change in mindset, but I don't know that it is very effective. I don't have any suggestions on how to fix that either. People's priorities are just different now than what they used to be. They are so self centered, which is completely contrary to the Girl Scout philosophy. People are no longer committed to girls becoming leaders.</p> <p>I attended Girl Scout camp as a girl, and loved it so much that it was my ultimate goal to become a camp counselor for the summer. The leaders inspired me. When I finally got the chance I jumped at it. I had a handful of friends who were just as dedicated to that goal as I was, and so we did it together. It was tough work, but we knew how rewarding it would be. I was really sad because I only got through CIT1 and CIT2, and the next summer the camp format was changed to Core camping- no longer requiring as many counselors. But, the skills I learned, I still use today.</p> <p>I guess you would have to call me a 'camping purist', because I hated going to Camp Lejnar instead of Crowell-Hilaka. Sleeping in the lodge made me feel fake, and that I wasn't really camping. Camping to me meant being outside, learning about trees and animals, learning arts and crafts, boating, horseback riding, hiking through wet grass in the morning- everything that I would not be able to do when I was home.</p> <p>People are just different, and I am very sorry for the situation that you are facing. When I heard Crowell-Hilaka was being considered to close, I cried. I know that sounds completely stupid, but there is so much there that SHOULD be saved. I always dreamed of bringing my own daughter there (I don't have one yet, but I hope camp is still around when she is!)</p> <p>Maybe get historical societies to sponsor the repairs to some of the houses: they could always do historical tours on fall weekends. Maybe allow, but limit outside groups access? Like, one or two weekends in the fall, do a camp switch with the boys scouts? They camp at our camp and we camp at theirs? I know that poses difficulties with staffing, but it might be fun. Family camp sounded fun- we didn't have that when I was growing up (or at least I didn't know about it). Mother-daughter camping would be the best option.</p> <p>Last though (even though I can say more)- SAVE CROWELL-HILAKA!!! ::Say hey, hey! Do you remember? The good times we often shared. Say goodbye 'til September, and come along and go with me. To where the sun shines down on the golden sand and the breeze makes ripples on the lake. To where the moon shines down on the silver woods, Camp Hilaka that's where I'll be! Hey!::</p>	Jan 2, 2010 2:15 PM
359	<p>Girl Scout camping was an integral part to my growing up... I learned independence, appreciation of nature and for others and learned how to get along with a group of people I did not previously know. As a counselor, I learned more about life than I thought possible. The biggest take away that still applies is how to stick it out under tough circumstances and keep giving your best even when things are not going well. It's a priceless life lesson that I use to this day.</p>	Jan 2, 2010 2:56 PM
360	<p>Camping was an integral, memorable part of my childhood, adolescence and adulthood and I don't know what I would do if these opportunities were not available for my children as well!</p>	Jan 2, 2010 5:28 PM
361	<p>Crowell/Hilaka is the best camp ever!</p>	Jan 2, 2010 10:05 PM
362	<p>I feel that back in the early 90s the resident camp at Hilaka was in full force. Lots of staff and campers. It was an amazing place to be. I am still friends with many of the staff that I met there and some of the campers as well. Resident camp is a place that is very important for young women to attend. It is a place to step away from the makeup and computers and have some time to meet new friends and enjoy the outdoors.</p>	Jan 4, 2010 12:33 AM
363	<p>Keep Camp Crowell-Hilaka open!</p>	Jan 4, 2010 2:55 AM

Response Text		
364	I think with proper marketing to schools etc, camps that offer girls a chance to develop character and talents, skills and independence, can make a real comeback. I hate to see any of the properties sold, as re-acquiring the type of acerage that is now available in close proximity to cities, will become impossible. I just hink the image needs to be reworked, maybe even renamed for an older age group, add an additional age group beginning at the age where you now see fall off. I think one problem might be more working mothers, so fewer leaders are available, and some brainstorming needs to b e done in that arena.	Jan 5, 2010 12:14 AM
365	It's really valuable to have girl scout camps like Crowell-Hilaka! A lot of girls have really found themselves there, and it is a place that could continue to mean a lot to future generations, even though it may appear that times are hard, these things always come around again!	Jan 7, 2010 4:43 PM
366	My troop loves to camp but it takes its toll on the leaders...not sleeping well, scrawny cots, no bathroom, etc. We should be allowed to take a coffee pot and USE IT! We need a few perks to put up with the inconveniences of taking a troop camping. Indoor plumbing is a necessity. The girls won't go camping in the winter because of having to use latrines in the cold. We are taught the rules as leaders but there are always circumstances that we aren't prepared for...large number of spiders in the latrines, things left by other groups, etc. and the site monitors are sometimes overly harsh. No one means to go against the rules but you can't expect us to be perfect all the time. Sometimes I have come home feeling bad and that makes me not want to go back. I know they are doing their job but they don't have to talk down to us and if there was no harm done they don't have to mention every little thing. Once I had a site monitor who made me re-mop the floor after my troop left. The floor wasn't dirty, she didn't think we had done it because the mop bucket was dry. We had wet the mop at the pump outside and went over the floor with it that way.	Jan 9, 2010 1:33 AM
367	My daughter and I have had such a great time together in girl scouts. I think it is a very good activity for girls and moms,if they can be in it with their daughters. I have loved every minute if it!! I know both of us will always have great memories because of GS! I started just coming to the meetings and driving the girls,I went to everything with my daughter, and then I became a leader into the third year. It's alot of work but I love it even more, the girls & moms are so great, I am learning so much!	Jan 9, 2010 3:58 AM
368	The time it takes to request camping sites. The time it takes for a response. This should be only a phone call away but it seems some times you can't get to the people you need too. You have grants for some camps why not all. If camps are not being filled maybe you need to look at reducing the price one month prior to them booking the camp site.	Jan 10, 2010 2:20 PM

Response Text		
369	<p>I'd like to see the Girl Scouts continuously promote an atmosphere for helping and sharing with others. A supportive family and great school is ideal but the Girl Scouts can be a great opportunity where they can be well-rounded in their God-given personality amongst their peers.</p> <p>The statement, "We Really Don't Change the Girl... we Help the Girl Change the World" seems to be an oxymoron and political in nature. I don't want to see Girl Scouts turn into a POLITICAL organization where they are more liberal in their agenda. Girl Scouting SHOULD change the girl when the girl is offered so many opportunities to change herself for the good through the Girl Scout experience. Only then will the girl be inspired to help change the world because the girl can then share her experiences with others. With GS being a global organization, local participation provides the ideal platform for the girl to share her experience and maybe get an opportunity towards global participating (i.e. missions trips, helping with Red Cross of America...).</p> <p>We must also remember Juliette Gordon's vision of developing girl(s) mentally, physically, and SPIRITUALLY. Her biography is something that all Girl Scouts should read and know! I want to emphasize the SPIRITUAL because our nation was founded on this basic (but sadly deteriorating) principle of FAITH in GOD and in COUNTRY. The ultimate Girl Scouting experience will definitely provide opportunities for the girl to develop in all three areas: MENTAL, PHYSICAL, SPIRITUAL.</p>	Jan 10, 2010 9:26 PM
370	<p>I really like to my daughter to go to Summer camp, but the price is really a sticking point. Last year she had to pick between Girl Scout camp or Church Camp. She went to Church Camp, because it was closer and the price was over half what Girl Scout Camp is. My church paid for half. I think you need to lower the price so that people who are not in the area where they would qualify for financial aide, because my husband and I both work, but can't really afford 200.00 or more for our daughter to go camp.</p> <p>I think if you fix up places like the East Palensine Cabin you could have more troops in the area use it. People don't want to have to clean for days before you could use the place. People break in and use the cabin area for who knows what, we found condoms in the cabin. So I wouldn't let anyone sleep on the mats that were on the bed. The bathroom are nasty. I really didn't even what to use it. I know that some girls have made some changes in the kitchen area, but it needs to be better taken care of then maybe we leader would rent it our for an outing.</p> <p>That is an option closer to our area for girls to expeirence the girl scout camp.</p> <p>Thank you!</p>	Jan 10, 2010 9:37 PM
371	<p>Do hope the changes are for the girls and include the girls when making these changes, so they can experience the memories we have.</p> <p>Only adults who have been in scouting and have had the experiences to decide the future of girl scouts</p> <p>Juliette Low wanted girls to learn and be independant and feel they have done something. To give every girl the chance to dream and achive their goals.</p> <p>Just so we don't forget the girls come first.</p>	Jan 11, 2010 6:19 PM

Response Text		
372	<p>See response to #17</p> <p>Our C/H experience was during an SU weekend in spring 2008 and much was happening for our then Brownie Troop. I was at Ledgewood for overnight camp training during a training only period. This past Oct we camped as Juniors at Lejnar, there was little if any other traffic there, and nothing offered in any way that I was aware of. In fact, I had asked to "rent" hobo pie irons and hotdog sticks and there were none to be found.</p> <p>We are very impressionable right now and are attempting a monthly adventure. We will have three Troop camp experiences and another SU weekend under our belt by the spring but are right now very "green".</p> <p>Appreciate the chance for input!</p>	Jan 12, 2010 4:37 PM
373	please save camp jessie mae.	Jan 13, 2010 7:02 PM
374	I really hope Crowell/Hilaka stays open, it is a great camp and just the right distance from home.	Jan 18, 2010 2:15 AM

Response Text

375

I think I did this survey already, but not sure that I got all the way through so my apologies if it did and I did not realize it. I got the impression that I was cut off part way through and it didn't go through all the way. The Girl Scout Council needs to realize that if they want to increase use of their facilities, then they need to increase their staffing of these facilities and do more to help the volunteer leaders get their troops out to camp. The training that is required for leaders to take their troops camping on their own is time consuming and tedious and while it provides a lot of useful information, most leaders are not going to take advantage of it because they are too busy trying to run their troops and get through everything else they have to do as leaders. They will opt for programs where they can take their troops and not have to have the training, and I don't blame them. The YMCA camps in North East Ohio are fabulous and provide leaders with wonderful support and assistance in meals and activities on their sites. If you want to take a group from one troop to twenty troops, they are with you all the way and have staff for meals, activities and on site at all times so you don't feel like you have to go it alone. While the YMCA camps cost approx. \$20 per night plus meals and activities, the support they provide is well worth it. In particular, I planned service unit campouts for two years, once at Timberlane and once at Camp YNoah and the differences were astounding. We were basically on our own trying to plan meals and activities for our 200 campers which we had to split into two separate nights of camping. At Timberlane for 200 campers, we had to hire a cook, plan our own meals, and order our own food. Troops and service units would be willing to pay a bit more to the Girl Scout Camps than they do now if the services would be made available to them. There is no reason that the girl scout camps shouldn't be booked to capacity every single weekend all year long. The YMCA camps are booked out almost a year in advance. And the improvements made to Camp Timberlane, while beautiful, were done very extravagantly and with no thought as to increasing camp capacity while providing useful improvements but not over the top improvements. Tall Timbers is beautiful and our troop has stayed there many times. But if it had not been built, and instead, more cabins like Green Meadows were built instead (which is also extravagant but not as much as Tall Timbers), or even just smaller basic cabins like at YNoah without bathrooms (a wooden cabin that sleeps 10-20 with only bunk beds, electricity and heat) with centralized bathrooms, they would have been able to build more cabins with more capacity for more troops. And if they provide the services for meals and activities then more troops would want to go to camp and be able to experience it. And charging more per night (even if the girl scout camps charged \$10 per girl for one night of camp it would still be affordable and the council would see a large increase in funding, and then be able to provide more staffing.) And service unit activities should be able to be accommodated at at least a couple of the camps in the council. Timberlane has a huge program center that would be fine for girls to camp out on the floor for a night or two-it could hold 150 or more overnight (250 is the actual capacity I believe for daytime activity). But we had been told that it was not built to accommodate overnight camping for large groups. Why wasn't it???????? Our service unit had to look elsewhere to accommodate our 200+ campers. I would have much rather spent the \$8,000 that we paid to YNoah at a girl scout camp that was closer to home instead but we have no facilities to accommodate that large of a group. I just feel that more support needs to be given to the leaders for camping and getting their troops out to camp. It is enough that we volunteer to lead a troop and do all of that planning and administrative work, but it is overwhelming for most to get the camp training and coordinate camping trips as well. I did it and I'm glad that I did, but most are overwhelmed by it and don't have the time for it on top of everything else that they do for the troops. My apologies if I sound like I am ranting. I only wish to point the council in the direction of the YMCA camps-go out and take a look and take their ideas and bring them back to our girl scout camps and I think over time you would see a tremendous increase in usage of the girl scout facilities. And charge a reasonable fair price and it will be accepted if the services are available, for both individual troops and service units. I LOVE to take my troop camping and will continue to do so at Girl Scout camps and YMCA camps as well. Thank you for any consideration you may give to my comments. I mean them only in a constructive way. Thank you.

Jan 18, 2010 3:01 PM

Response Text		
376	I surely hope there is a way to save Great Trail so that when the time comes my daughter and others can enjoy the same experiences I had there as a young girl. I would feel so much more comfortable with knowing she was closer to me and in a place that I am somewhat familiar with. I have never been to Lycopodia but they tell me it is a wonderful camp also (and much closer to our home).	Jan 18, 2010 4:10 PM
377	Thanks so much for the survey.	Jan 19, 2010 3:20 PM
378	I hope to see Camp Hilaka restored for full camping availability. It is a beautiful camp and is close to home. The facilities are much better than Ledgewood and cannot see why council would choose to keep Ledgewood open instead of Hilaka.	Jan 19, 2010 3:24 PM
379	My only suggestion would be to keep Great Trail open. If it closes I know a lot of girls who will have to give up GS camping events completely. Some families can't afford the gas to drive two hours one way just for a 4 or 5 hr. event at a camp several counties away.	Jan 20, 2010 2:39 AM
380	I wish you would please fix up Camp Pleasant Valeey. You put so much money in the camp Timberlane and it's so far away from us. Why can't you fix one up out at this end of council. We always seem like the forgotten county, but yet you want our donations.	Jan 22, 2010 9:58 PM
381	I think this survey was a good idea.	Jan 23, 2010 5:09 AM
382	OUTDOOR experiences are so important to girls. They provide an opportunity to learn about and gain experience in things that are not taught in school. These experiences give the girls confidence that they can take care of themselves in unusual situations. Identifying star constilations, trees, birds, flowers and weeds etc. Being able to start and cook over a wood fire or how to find her way when lost. Give a girl knowledge that they can use forever. LIFE SKILLS. PLEASE DON'T TAKE THE OUTDOORS OUT OF GIRL SCOUTING.	Jan 23, 2010 6:26 PM
383	Daughter and Father activities have mostly disappeared. My husband and daughter always looked forward to those activities. We usually have at least 3-4 daughter and dad groups to attend. Girl scouts has moved away from Family activities. This is one thing we enjoy about Cub Scouts. Families are under so much pressure today, We need to help. Girls need strong families!	Jan 24, 2010 11:09 PM
384	Keep the camps open and the programs coming. Camp experiences have been the best for my girls.	Jan 25, 2010 2:22 PM
385	How wonderful life would be if the Macedonia office would take lessons from the Niles Office. To be Friendly, Courteous and Kind. To answer the phone instead of letting voicemail answer instead. To actually respond to phone messages and e-mail messages promptly. Rather than having to contact again and again. I have been told I can not receive hard copy literature for my girls because Girl Scouts are going Green. So why is it that in order to register for a weekend camp I need to print, complete and mail a troop roster, request for camping form, credit card authorization form and a trip application. Of course this is at my expense and not councils but how is this going green? Also, how does it benefit the girls when they can not access or have access to program information because council is trying to save money and claiming to going green? My suggestion for Faces and Places would be to break it down into age groups so that the girls don't need a whole book to see whats available to them. Then maybe council could actually give them a copy of this so they can see what is being offered to them.	Jan 25, 2010 9:57 PM

Response Text		
386	As much as I love Girl Scouting and have a family history of it, when it comes to residential camping my own daughter prefers to go to church camp where there are flush toilets, warm showers, and a wider variety of activities (such as ropes courses) than Camp Ledgewood used to offer. From 6th grade on, she also enjoyed some shared camping time with boys groups at church camp. Possibly older girls might enjoy some shared camping activities with Boy Scouts.	Jan 26, 2010 1:56 AM
387	We have some wonderful camps and I'd like to save them all. Camping is a great experience for all girls. There is nothing like it! We need to make it a priority to maintain our camps and encourage all leaders and girls to camp as often as possible. It would be good to start an endowment fund for maintenance and to keep the cost of using the cabins down so troops can continue to camp reasonably.	Jan 26, 2010 5:01 AM
388	Please don't close Crowell/Hilaka!!!!	Jan 26, 2010 10:39 AM