



Girl Scouts of Minnesota and Wisconsin River Valleys

Religious Holiday Observance Practice

Recognizing that there are several important religious holiday observance dates that girls and adults may be participating in please join the council program staff in the following practice.

- 1) The Council program staff will observe this practice when setting event/encampment dates.
- 2) This practice will be followed no matter where the function takes place.
- 3) The following religious holidays will be observed:
 - Easter - Christian (April 12, 2009)
 - Rosh Hashanah - Jewish (September 30, 2008; September 19, 2009)
 - Eid-al-Fitr - Islamic (October 2, 2008; September 21, 2009)
 - Yom Kippur - Jewish (October 9, 2008; September 28, 2009)
 - Eid-al-Adha - Islamic (December 9, 2008; November 28, 2009)
 - Christmas - Christian (December 25, 2008 & 2009)
- 4) Council Sponsored Program Events that only take place once during the year will not take place on these dates. If a particular Council Sponsored Program Event takes place several times during the year, one of the date options can be a date above.

Volunteer-led Regional Encampments that only take place one time during the year will not take place on these dates. If two volunteer-led Regional Encampments decide to work together to promote and offer both encampments to the various service units they draw from, then they may plan one of their encampments on a date above.

The types of functions listed above will not be able to rent a space at one of the Council Camp Sites for a date above without verification that it is being offered more than once during the year.

- 5) Service Units and Troops should consider the importance of these dates for their girls when planning their functions, but will not be prohibited from holding their functions on these dates, except in the case of New Member Events.

The site and equipment registrar will contact Service Units and Troops that make Council Camp Site reservations on these dates to alert them to the fact that they might have girls and adults who cannot participate due to the religious observance.

Healthy Food Practice

In addition, when planning food for events, consideration should be taken for:

- The different cultures and eating styles that may be present.
- Serving food that is lower on the food chain and more environmentally friendly to produce; i.e. more fruits and vegetables and less meat.
- Choosing foods that are healthy; i.e. less processed foods, and foods made with trans fats and corn syrup
- Be mindful of potential food allergies

If you have questions about this practice please contact the Outdoor Program Manager at 763-535-4602