

## EARTH HOUR PATCH PROGRAM

One of the 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Take Action projects, the Earth Hour Patch Program takes you beyond the Earth Hour initiative with fun activities inspired by Girl Scouts' three Leadership Keys: Discover, Connect, and Take Action.

1. **Register, Share, and Take the GSUSA Forever Green Pledge** ([click here](#)) (<http://www.girlscouts.org/geforevergreen>) and participate in Earth Hour: Turn off all non-essential electronic devices from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 31. **Everyone participating in Earth Hour must take the Forever Green pledge to earn the patch.** Girls under 14 should take it with their parent or guardian.
  2. Choose at least **one activity from each** of the Girl Scout Keys to Leadership below.
  3. Complete an online survey, available on our website (one per troop or family).
  4. **Conserve paper—don't print!** But if you must, please contact Kristen Simon at [ksimon@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:ksimon@girlscoutsla.org). Patches will be available in late April. Remember—take the Forever Green Pledge FIRST!
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### DISCOVER! (Choose one)

- Discover your carbon footprint! With a parent, visit the [carbon footprint calculator](#) (<http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>), and find out what your household's footprint is!
- Find the difference between a renewable and a non-renewable energy source. What kinds of source(s) power your neighborhood?
- Find the different ways your city, town, or county supports energy conservation.
- Find out how much trash the average household produces daily. How much of that is recyclable?
- Where does our recycled trash go? What does it become?

### CONNECT! (Choose one)

- Contact your local government representative and tell them that you're a Girl Scout who cares about energy conservation. Ask if they know what Earth Hour is and invite them to participate!
- Connect with local Departments of Water and Power and ask them about their Sustainability Plan.
- Get a local school, church, or business to participate in Earth Hour, and to promote it to the public!
- Visit your local recycling center and learn about all the different materials they recycle.
- Learn what "E-waste" is, and find out where it can be recycled in your neighborhood.

### TAKE ACTION! (Choose one)

- Have an "Earth Hour" campout in your backyard! Invite friends and family, enjoy outdoor activities and games and see how long you can go without using electronic devices.
- Have a candlelight picnic with friends or family. (Use good sense and observe fire safety precautions.)
- Check for drafts in your house. Make your own draft stopper and install it! ([Daily Green](#), [eHow](#)) (<http://www.thedailygreen.com/green-homes/latest/door-draft-stoppers-draft-snakes-460109> and [http://www.ehow.com/how\\_17253\\_make-draft-dodger.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_17253_make-draft-dodger.html))
- Take the five-minute shower challenge! Time how long it takes you to shower and then see if you can reduce it to five minutes every day for a week. (It takes energy to heat water.)
- Visit your local hardware store. Learn about simple ways to conserve energy (Energy efficient appliances and light bulbs, draft stoppers, low flow faucets, etc.) and about recycled materials (insulation, flooring, carpet, etc.).



## MORE INFORMATION

For more about Earth Hour, visit [www.earthhour.org](http://www.earthhour.org).

***Want to participate in the Earth Hour Council activity?*** Check out our “Power It Up” program and register for it here! (registration link to come)

***How do you earn the patch?*** Participate in Earth Hour, do a Discover, Connect and Take Action activity and finish online with your parent or troop leader! Please submit any pictures or comments to Kristen Simon at [ksimon@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:ksimon@girlscoutsla.org), or if you have additional comments or questions!