



Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri
2130 Kratky Road
St. Louis, MO 63114
800.727.4475

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Janet Vigen, Marketing & Communications Manager,
314.592.2326, jvigen@girlscoutsem.org

Girl Scouts prepare to collect more than one million personal care items

Local Girl Scouts plan to collect more than one million personal care items for local families and individuals in need during Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri's April Showers Personal Care Item Drive.

For three days, April 4, 5 and 6, Girl Scout troops will be delivering 850,000 bright green April Showers bags to area homes. On Saturday, April 12, Girl Scouts will return to collect the bags filled with new, unused personal care items. Individuals who miss the collection day or wish to contribute additional items may deliver these to any Dierbergs Market in Missouri, April 12 through May 9.

Needed items include soap, shampoo, toilet paper, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, mouthwash, feminine hygiene products, facial tissue, disposable diapers, baby wipes, baby powder and first aid supplies.

"April Showers is an important service project that will benefit many people in our community," said Marcia Barber, CEO of Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri. "The efforts of Girl Scouts and volunteers will have a positive impact on improving the quality of life for those in need."

Personal care items cannot be purchased with food stamps. These items often contribute to an individual's basic health, hygiene and positive self-esteem. The Girl Scout April Showers program provides 99 percent of all personal care items distributed in our region, according to Operation Food Search.

(more)

Girl Scouts Prepare to Collect One Million Personal Care Items

Operation Food Search and Central Missouri Food Bank will distribute the personal care items to hundreds of community agencies throughout the council's jurisdiction.

"The local need for personal care items continues to be great, as families are faced with higher energy costs and other financial challenges," said Operation Food Search Executive Director Sunny Schaefer. "Thanks to the caring efforts of Girl Scouts throughout eastern Missouri, April Showers meets a critical need as personal care items otherwise are a very small amount of our donations."

The 2008 April Showers personal care item drive is sponsored by Emerson.

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About Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri

Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri serves more than 64,000 girls supported by 17,000 adult volunteers in the City of St. Louis and 28 surrounding Missouri counties covering 15,700 square miles, including Adair, Audrain (Van-Far School District), Clark, Crawford, Franklin, Iron, Jefferson, Knox, Lewis, Lincoln, Linn, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Putnam, Ralls, Reynolds, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, St. Charles, St. Francois, St. Louis, Ste. Genevieve, Sullivan, Warren and Washington. For information on how to join, volunteer or donate to Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri, call 1.800.727.GIRL [800.727.4475] or visit www.girlscoutsem.org.