



## Myth-Busters

### November (revised August 07)

Myth 1) Permission slips are not necessary if the parents agree their daughter can attend.

Myth 2) *SafetyWise* is only for leaders of new troops.

GSPW has two different types of permission forms available for troop use.

These forms are excellent tools for any leader to use, although a creative volunteer may use another form to collect the same information.

1. **Parent Permission** – Download from the [gspw.org](http://gspw.org) website or get copies from your Service Area Manager and use when ever your troop will be doing activities away from the originally designated troop meeting place. Both day trips and overnights can be taken care of on one form. A parent should not sign and date “in advance” of activities, but should be aware of the activity, location, time and other information before signing.
2. **Troop Trip Permission** - Download from the [gspw.org](http://gspw.org) website or get copies from your Service Area Manager and use when ever your troop is planning day trips and overnight trips. Plan ahead and bring it to the Service Area meeting. It may also be completed by the Service Area trip permission giver when a phone call or e-mail is used to provide the information for day trips only. For overnight trips the Service Area Manager and Field Executive both must give permission for the activity.

*Safetywise* and GSPW Policy states that written permission must be given for any activity that takes place away from the designated troop meeting place, and whenever transporting girls.

Another method of collecting written permission is the sign-in and sign-out method. A roster of girls in attendance at an activity is kept at a designated sign-in spot and a parent or guardian signs the girl in at the beginning of the activity and signs her out when she is picked up. The roster is kept in the troop files.

When an emergency or accident occurs at a Girl Scout activity, a copy of the parental permission slip must be attached to the accident report sent to GSPW and will be kept on file.

GSPW council policies give more information on troop trip requirements. *SafetyWise* offers valuable information for the troop leader new to trip planning as well as for experienced leaders. Girls of reading age should know that decisions regarding their troop activities must be compatible with *SafetyWise* guidelines.