



The concept of the **Silver Trefoil Award** started as the Little Flower Award, which was presented in memory of Senior Girl Scout Linda Curtis. The first awards were given for meritorious service to the council. A committee was formed in the fall of 1977 to explore the possibility of a special recognition. They expanded on the idea of this early award to include a wider spectrum of service. The Silver Trefoil Award is unique to this council and it is the highest earned recognition presented to a Girl Scout by GSCNC.

• **REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETION OF THE SILVER TREFOIL AWARD**

- All requirements must be done in the council's jurisdiction.
- All service hours must be completed prior to submission of final application.
- Keep an accurate record of dates and hours of service.
- You may begin logging hours when you bridge to teens, but at least 50 hours must be earned as a "Senior" teen (ages 14-17)

**International: - 25 hours**

Must be service to and direct experience with an international group or individual. Painting faces at an international fair is not the same as being part of an international exhibit or working with an embassy and would not qualify as international service. The goal is to learn about culture and traditions of another country.

- Help with GSCNC's linguistic outreach program, tutoring ESL students, clothing drives
- Serve as an in-transit hostess, hosting a foreign exchange student
- International Red Cross, (making refugee packs)
- Help with International festivals, museums or exhibits Government: (Any combination of 25 hours for Federal, State or Local government, of which at least 15 must be Federal)

**Federal Government - 25 hours**

Any service to a federal office or agency can be applied. Some examples include:

- Serve as a Congressional Aide (see information in Kaleidoscope)
- Federal service in the local community (courts, local congressional office)
- Service during the Inaugural parade/activities
- Service during special events at Smithsonian activities (watch for announcements in TTG, or contact the Smithsonian museum in which you are interested)
- Service with any Federal Gov't Agency including any of the "Keepers" programs (see TTG)

**State and local government**

If you choose to do State or Local Government service, the maximum number is 10 hours.

- Provide service to local or state government office or agencies, or non-partisan civic organizations such as the League of Women Voters.

**Girl Scout Council - 50 hours**

Council - Any combination of 50 hours of which 10 must be service to the Council. Some examples include:

- Serve on the GSCNC Board or other council committees
- Serve on Special event committees
- Volunteer on the day of a large event such as Leaderfest, or the annual meeting
- Volunteer for Summer Program or Core Camp
- Volunteer for office work in council shop, mobile shop, Council departments
- Assist in delivering a GSCNC program

**Service Area, Service Unit, or Association**

If you choose to give service to the Service Unit or Association, the maximum number of hours is 40.

Some examples include:

- Plan a service unit encampment
- Assist leader of a troop in a level other than Seniors
- Provide administrative assistance to a service unit
- Serve as an Association delegate
- Serve on an Association committee

**GUIDELINES FOR SERVICE**

- The emphasis of the Silver Trefoil Award is on the quality of the experience and development of skills. This is best achieved by serving multiple hours with one organization versus limited hours with several organizations. 10 hours of service to one organization is more meaningful than 1 hour given to each of 10 organizations.
- The same service hours cannot be applied to more than one award or recognition. Service counted for any other award or recognition cannot be used for the Silver Trefoil Award. However, service hours may be divided between awards or recognitions. For example, of the 40 hours of service as a Congressional Aide 25 may be applied toward the Silver Trefoil and the remaining 15 applied toward another award.
- Individual girls who are members of a troop may work together on service but each individual girl must complete all of the required hours.

