



# Torchbearer Award

## Nomination Form

Torchbearer Ceremonies have been held in various parts of the United States to honor leadership and service in many different areas. In our council, the ceremony is held to recognize individuals who have had significant impact on our girls' outdoor experiences. Our first Torchbearer Ceremony was at Tamarack Notch Girl Scout Camp in Rutland, Vermont on July 30, 1960. Since then, ceremonies have been held at Merrybrook Camp and Camp Wapanacki. The tradition continues today at Camp Farnsworth, where we have welcomed new Torchbearers since 2009.

### Torchbearer Nominee Requirements:

- Registered, active Girl Scout adult member for at least five years;
- Involved and committed to the ideals of Girl Scouting; and
- Involved with outdoor Girl Scout programming or Girl Scout training beyond the troop level, for a minimum of three years.

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe how this candidate meets the requirements for Torchbearer. Be sure to include specific details.

Please suggest which tree best describes your candidate (see Torchbearer Tree Descriptions): \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit this form by mailing it to GSGWM, c/o Linda Trust, 1 Commerce Drive, Bedford, NH 03110 or emailing it to [customercare@girlscoutsgwm.org](mailto:customercare@girlscoutsgwm.org) by the first Friday in August.

# Torchbearer Tree Descriptions

- BIRCH:** *bending but never breaking, vivacious, friendly, modest*  
I am the dancer in the wood...I shimmer in the solitude,  
Standing by the water, sighing and murmuring to the woods.
- Across the lines of straighter, darker trees  
Though once bowed, they seem not to ever break.
- The birch, in its wrappings of silver gray  
Shows that beauty needs not to make a gorgeous display.
- APPLE:** *lots of charm, adventurous, sensitive, generous*  
The apple tree has branches strong to hold a child's swing  
Its leaves will give a cozy place for birds to nest and sing  
It bears us fruit from rosy buds that bloom each year in spring.
- MAPLE:** *strong and sturdy, sweet, useful to campers, hungers for new experiences, full of imagination and originality*  
Giving shade in the summer and warmth in the winter  
Clearest yellow, richest crimson, clamoring scarlet and brilliant orange  
The foliage of the sugar maple at once outdoes and unifies the rest.
- OAK:** *robust, courageous, strong, unrelenting, independent, sensible, keeps its feet on the ground, person of action*  
Mighty oak, strong, and enduring  
Growing tall with branches out-stretched wide  
Your russet leaves rustle in the winter wind.
- BLACK CHERRY:** *tall, straight, dependable*  
Tall, straight, dependable and beautiful  
Let me stand upon the hilltop like a tree against the sky  
Let me mark the way for travelers, rooted deep and pointed high.  
Fragrant blooms that come in spring form fruit to make the grosbeaks sing  
Your dark scaly trunk so tall holds lovely yellow leaves in fall.
- CEDAR:** *self-confident, knows how to adapt, soft and willing heart with a willingness to help*  
A soft wood, yet long lasting,  
The hue of reddish bark glimpsed through aromatic needles of green  
Bring beauty to high mountain peaks and swamps where you're seen.
- WHITE PINE:** *creative, active, trustworthy, practical, patient*  
Rapid growth and thick green needles form a sheltering windbreak  
Magnificent pine, what a beautiful pyramid your cones and branches make.  
Light, yet strong, with long-lasting qualities  
You have taught me that patience is part of life's plan and conquers all.
- EVERGREEN:** *ever ready, ever friendly, faithful*  
Oh evergreen, oh evergreen, how faithful are your branches  
They're green when summer days are bright  
They're green when winter snow is white.
- BEECH:** *tolerant, economical, reasonable, organized*  
Your stately pillars of olive-gray yield springtime glory bursts of green  
Become opaque and glossy on a sunny day – in fall those leaves like polished copper gleam.