



## WOODSY OWL ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD TURNS



**A patch program designed by Girl Scouts of NE Kansas & NW Missouri**

**Program Age Level:** All levels of Girl Scouts

**Purpose:**

- To learn ways to use resources wisely
- To become aware that your efforts improve the physical landscape
- To preserve the solitude and spirit of the wilderness

**Requirements:** Complete an environmental good turn.

## ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD TURNS!

What is an **ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD TURN**? A good turn is a project developed and carried out anywhere to help use our natural resources wisely.

It may be done in backyards, schoolyards, and grounds of a public library, picnic areas, and hike sites. Get permission before you start. Day or resident sites offer many girl-size projects, which can be done by the troop or by an individual Girl Scout.

*\* Please note that the patch will say Mid-Continent Council.*

## Here are some examples of Environmental Good Turns:

### **ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD TURNS for the air**

Avoid air-polluting activities. Trees breathe the air you can't breathe, and release oxygen, the air you can breathe. Planting trees helps fight air pollution. Participate in tree planting in your community.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS TURNS for the land**

Prevent soil erosion, cover the bare soil, using nearby leaves, hay, straw, grass clippings, wood chips, evergreen needles or gravel. Walk on designated paths and trails.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS TURNS for the water**

Use water sparingly. Carry your own cup, drink water from a jug. Place a bucket under the faucet/jug to catch excess water. See that faucets are turned off, with no drips. All excess water can be used for watering trees, plants, flowers and putting out fires.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD TURNS for the plants**

If downed wood is available, gather the amount you need to cook with and use it sparingly. Consider the purpose of each fire. If a meal requires two or three pots, make two or three small fires the size of the pots. Add wood as needed. Extinguish the fire as soon as you finish cooking.

Enjoy wild plants, but do not destroy them. Look and identify flowers and plants take photos or draw them. Please, do not pick. Leave them for others to enjoy.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD TURNS for the animals**

Permit native animals to live unharmed in their natural homes. Carefully, observe turtles, snakes, frogs, etc... carefully. Leave all wildlife on the site. Their homes, food and water are nearby.



### **ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD TURNS for solid waste**

Look for ways to practice **RECYCLING**. Buy things in packages that can be recycled (not thrown into the trash) or things made of recyclable materials. At camp, less packaging means less garbage. Follow the guidelines for trash and garbage disposal. Before leaving any site have a "Little Hunt" to pick up gum wrappers, flip tops, Kleenex, etc. Stash your trash in the proper containers.

### **WHAT'S NEXT AFTER YOU'VE JOINED WOODSY OWL'S TEAM?**

Offer your troop the opportunity to identify other environmental problems and create a solution. Additional environmental action activities are in each of the Girl Scout Handbooks, and the council environmental patch program, *Earth Saver*.