



girl scouts  
of western ohio



# National Park Service American World War II Heritage City Patch Program Guide



The National Park Service has designated Montgomery County as an American World War II Heritage City. This recognition is given to one jurisdiction from each state and spotlights that city's historic contributions to the World War II home front war effort and their preservation achievements in the area. Discover how the Dayton community was forever changed by industry, migration, and innovations during WWII. For more information on Montgomery County's designation, check out [nps.gov/places/montgomery-ohio.htm](https://nps.gov/places/montgomery-ohio.htm).

Explore this American World War II Heritage City in partnership with the National Aviation Heritage Area and a council patch program from Girl Scouts of Western Ohio. To earn the patch, complete the following activities for your grade level.



### Daisies

One heritage activity, one field trip to a Dayton site, and one reflect & share activity.



### Brownies

Two heritage activities, one field trip to a Dayton site, and one reflect & share activity.



### Juniors & Cadettes

Three heritage activities, one field trip to a Dayton site, and one reflect & share activity.



### Seniors & Ambassadors










Four heritage activities, one field trip to a Dayton site, and one reflect & share activity.

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# Heritage Activities



-  Check out the National Park Service's American World War II Heritage City website for information about this designation: [nps.gov/places/montgomery-ohio.htm](https://www.nps.gov/places/montgomery-ohio.htm). Name one thing you learned about the region's connection with WWII that you did not know before.
-  Learn about WWII from someone who experienced it. Listen to a WWII Veteran oral history on the Library of Congress Website: [loc.gov/programs/veterans-history-project/about-this-program/](https://www.loc.gov/programs/veterans-history-project/about-this-program/) or interview a local WWII veteran.
-  Learn about Victory Gardens and why civilians grew them as a way to support the war effort at home. Plant your own version of a Victory Garden. Consider how your garden could support your community.
-  Air crews during WWII took great pride in their planes, giving them creative names and adorning them with artwork generally on the nose of the plane, commonly called nose art. A famous plane with nose art from WWII, called the "Memphis Belle", is on display at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. Check out some famous pieces of nose art on WWII planes, then design your own!
-  Learn about WAVES (Women Accepted to Volunteer Emergency Service) and their work in Montgomery County decoding the Enigma Code/Bombes at Sugar Camp, located at Carillon Historical Park. Can you "code" a simple activity? Complete your age level's Coding For Good badge or write out step-by-step directions for a simple task and have a friend or family member "test" your directions. Was your "code" experiment successful?
-  Explore women's contributions in WWII, focusing on "firsts" for women. For example, Charity Adams Earley, an Ohioian, was the first African-American woman to be an officer in the Woman's Army Auxiliary Corps and commanding officer of the 6888th Central Postal Director Battalion. What other "firsts" for women happened during this time period?
-  At Wright Field during the war, staff tested different types of materials for parachutes to support airborne cargo delivery capabilities. Can you make a parachute that successfully allows an egg to drop from a height of 10 feet (or more) without cracking? Test it out!
-  Find a WWII themed mural or piece of public art. Research how the art connects with this time period, then create your own piece of WWII themed art.
-  Show support and appreciation for American service members who served during WWII and beyond. You can partner with the Montgomery County VA or a local veteran's group to make holiday cards for veterans. Or, send care packages to active service members deployed overseas.

# Field Trip Options



Visit one of the AMWWII sites and exhibits in the Dayton Area. Check each site for its unique hours of operation.

- **National Museum of the United States Air Force**
  - “Memphis Belle” and WWII Gallery
- **Carillon Historical Park**
  - WAVES Sugar Camp Cabin
- **Mound Cold War Discovery Center**
- **Aviation Trail Parachute Museum**
- **Memorials/Other Sites:**
  - Dayton Metro Library Local History Research Room
  - Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Memorial Park
  - North Dayton Patriots Memorial
  - Gold Star Mothers World War II Memorial
  - City of Centerville Veterans Memorial in Leonard Stubbs Park
  - City of Union Veterans Memorial
  - City of West Carrollton Veterans Memorial
  - Corporal Tony Stein Memorial Bridge



# Reflect & Share Activities



During World War II, Girl Scout troops operated bicycle courier services, ran Farm Aide projects, collected fat and scrap metal, and grew Victory Gardens, as well as sponsored Defense Institutes that taught women survival skills and techniques for comforting children during air raids. How would you have helped on the home front if you experienced WWII? What ways could you help your community now? Share what you learned about WWII, and/or the Montgomery County area, with a family member, a friend, or your Girl Scout troop.

- Did you enjoy an activity or a field trip site? Snap a photo and share it on social media (with caregiver permission). Don't forget to tag #GSWOadventures and #NAHA.
- Share your adventure with Girl Scouts of Western Ohio. Tell us your story at [gswo.org/share!](https://www.gswo.org/share!)

