

## **2009 Eagle Island Summer Programs Update**

The Girl Scouts Heart of New Jersey, after a vote taken by the Council's Board of Directors upon recommendation by its Property Task Group, will be suspending the 2009 summer programs at Eagle Island.

The reason for suspending the summer season is so that we can strengthen its physical condition and its programming. We know this is a disappointment to our campers and to our alumnae.

As a new Council, we are doing due diligence on every aspect of the Council. After taking a strong look at Eagle Island Camp and based upon the harsh winters it has endured, there were safety and infrastructure concerns identified. Given the shortness of the available season in which to do repairs, we are choosing to address those concerns during this summer.

We are contacting registered campers' families directly to provide them with options available to them for summer camp programs within our Council. We have also investigated other camp possibilities for them.

We have hired a new Property Manager for Eagle Island who has already begun a physical evaluation of the island from stem to stern. Our goal is to inspect all physical systems on the island, identify needed repairs or replacements, and create a maintenance schedule and budget for the identified needs.

A strategic planning task group is being established to formulate a short and long term strategic plan for Eagle Island. This task group will also evaluate costs and a timeline associated with such a plan and report back to the Board.

Throughout the summer and in the upcoming year, we will be reaching out to other Girl Scout members and our alumnae for their assistance. We hope that you will enthusiastically answer our call.