

## **HOW TO MAKE A TREFOIL LAWN SIGN**

- Have each troop member make 1 to 3 Trefoil signs each and gather your materials according to the number of signs you will be making. The more Trefoil signs on the lawn, the more festive it looks!
- Once the girls have created the Trefoil signs have them decide on a time to secretly meet at their leaders homes to decorate their lawns with the Trefoil signs – remember this is a surprise, so decorate their lawns in the early morning, evening or when they are at work and take lots of pictures.
- Please share photos with us on Facebook and Twitter! Be sure to state your troop number and service unit to see who is “trefoiling” their leaders! Use the hashtag #Trefoiled when spreading the word— whether you are a troop participating or a leader who has been surprised. Sample social media posts can read, “We’ve just #Trefoiled my leader’s lawn because she’s AWESOME!” or “I’ve just been #Trefoiled! Thanks Troop 8308!” The key is to have fun with it and make it your own. Happy Trefoiling!

### **Materials:**

Large Poster Board or Cardstock in Girl Scout green – or Green foam core – one 22” X 28” poster board will make 2-3 signs;

1 Large Square White Cardstock to create into Trefoil stencil;

If using Poster Board, Empty Girl Scout Cookie Boxes –larger ones better – at least 1 box per sign – to strengthen sign;

Duct Tape or Wood Glue

If you want to make 3-dimensional signs:

Styrofoam pieces – cheapest is to make them out of Styrofoam cylinders/tubes (sold in package of three); you will need to cut them while in package into three equal sized discs;

Styrofoam glue;

3 foot high, ¼ inch or 5/16<sup>th</sup> inch thick dowels – 1 per sign (can also use plastic plant stakes but more expensive);

Markers & Scissors per girl;

## **At meeting:**

- 1) Have 1-2 girls draw a trefoil design with a pencil on the Large White Cardstock; have them draw it to be almost as large as the cardstock itself;
- 2) When design is to the girls liking, have them cut it out to make the stencil;
- 3) Have girls in teams use the stencil to draw their own trefoil designs onto the Poster Board or other Large Cardstock;
- 4) Have the girls cut one or two trefoil patterns out of the poster board or cardstock;
- 5) Have the girls cut out squares of empty cookie cases smaller than the trefoil pattern if they want to strengthen their poster board or cardstock;
- 6) On one side of each trefoil pattern, have the girls decorate/draw designs/write messages to their leader in marker; "You've been trefoiled!" / "To a great Girl Scout Leader" / Happy Leader Day! / "A great Girl Scout leader lives here!" / etc.;
- 7) Use Craft glue to glue the cookie case squares to the poster board or card stock – one square for each trefoil pattern and to glue the dowels to the board or between two boards to make the sign;

## **For Three Dimensional Sign:**

- 8) Insert Styrofoam pieces between two signs to hold the stake;
- 9) ADULTS ONLY - If making your own Styrofoam pieces, take Styrofoam cylinders/tubes (still in packaging - 3 tubes wrapped in plastic wrap), along with a cutting tool, such as a hacksaw, outside (in open area that you don't mind getting blanketed with Styrofoam pieces) and cut the tubes through the packaging into three (3) equally thick discs approximately 1 inch thick; will need 3-6 discs per sign;
- 10) Put the two trefoil poster boards with the cookie case backings together with the cookie cases facing each other; open them up like a book, so that the cookie cases are facing up;
- 11) Place the three (3) 1 inch Styrofoam discs on one of the cookie case signs in a straight line vertical pattern from the bottom trefoil point, thru the middle and with one disc at or near the top of the trefoil pattern;
- 12) Use the Styrofoam Glue to glue the discs to the one trefoil pattern, then use the same glue to glue the other trefoil pattern to the discs with the poster board/cardstock facing outward and the trefoil patterns lining up; (Make sure not to smear the designs on the outward facing sides when gluing);
- 13) Wait until you are about to place the signs in the leaders lawn before you insert the ½ inch dowels into the lowest Styrofoam disc.