

Subject: 6-14-11 eBlast from NRCS



June 14, 2011

FLAG DAY REMINDS US OF OUR INDEPENDENCE AND UNITY



As we celebrate Flag Day today, all Americans have the opportunity to celebrate and show respect for the flag of the United States of America—representing our independence and our unity as a nation...one nation, under God, indivisible. Our flag has a proud and glorious history. It was at the lead of every battle fought by Americans. Many people have died protecting it. It even stands proudly on the surface of the moon.

Eddie Sandaval, NRCS Special Emphasis Program Manager for Veterans Affairs, has taken the time to remind us of the proud history of our flag and the proper way to display and show respect for our U.S. flag.

Properly Display Our Flag

There is a right way and a wrong way to display the flag. The American flag should be held in the highest of regards. It represents our nation and the many people who gave their lives for our country and our flag. Here are the basics on displaying the American flag:

- The flag is normally flown from sunrise to sunset.
- In the morning, raise the flag briskly. At sunset, lower it slowly. Always, raise and lower it ceremoniously.
- The flag should not be flown at night without a light on it.
- The flag should not be flown in the rain or inclement weather.
- After a tragedy or death, the flag is flown at half staff for 30 days. It's called "half staff" on land, and "half mast" on a ship.
- When flown vertically on a pole, the stars and blue field, or "union", is at the top and at the end of the pole (away from your house).
- The American flag is always flown at the top of the pole, with the state flag and other flags flown below it.
- The union is always on top. When displayed in print, the stars and blue field are always on the left.
- Never let your flag touch the ground, never...period.
- Fold your flag when storing. Don't just stuff it in a drawer or box.
- When your flag is old and has seen better days, it is time to retire it. Old flags should be burned or buried. Please do not throw it in the trash.

Did you know? There is a very special ceremony for retiring the flag by burning it. It is a ceremony everyone should see. Your local Boy Scout troop knows the proper ceremony and performs it on a regular basis. If you have an old flag, give it to them. And, attend the ceremony.

Periodic news reports from NRCS Utah



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