



Department of Missouri
VFW Auxiliary

Americanism
July / August

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Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Missouri Munchkin Land! Our nation's 249th birthday is here, and we must celebrate! Independence Day is one of our most well-known and celebrated holidays, with parades, picnics, and fireworks, but we have the perfect opportunity to engage with our communities and show them that this holiday is celebrated as a commemoration of the bravery and sacrifices of those who fought for a nation's freedom.



- Host dinner at your post home and invite the community to attend. You could set up a few stations with patriotic activities (arts & crafts) for children, have a veteran explain the meaning of the American Flag and demonstrate how to show proper respect.
- Host/assist with a community fireworks show
- Visit veterans' homes or long-term care facilities and bring small American Flags for the residents to display.
- Participate in a local parade with your color guard or create a parade float. You can have members walk the parade route and pass out information on flag etiquette.

Flag Etiquette at Parades

When the American Flag is being carried by a color guard or with a group of flags:

- Stand up.
- Remove your hat.
- Place your right hand over your heart, veterans salute.
- Remain silent.

Note: It is not necessary to salute every American Flag that passes

Don't be afraid to go out in the community and show them how much we love our country!



Always ***“Be the Reason a Veteran Smiles Today”***, as we travel ***“From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Our Veterans – Who Keep Us Free”***.