

FLAG DAY - JUNE 14TH

Flag Day is June 14th and is meant to observe the anniversary of the adoption on June 14, 1777, by the Continental Congress of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States of America. It is also the proper day to dispose of unserviceable flags -- *"(k) The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning."* -- U. S. Flag Code (36 US Code 10). The following service is adapted from the *American Legion* and *Veterans of Foreign Wars* flag disposal ceremonies. The ceremony involves the following: Camp Commander, Camp Senior Vice Commander, Camp Junior Vice Commander, Camp Chaplain, Camp Color Bearer with 3 additional Brothers to assist as his Detail, an Honor Guard to render honors (could be the members of the Camp Guard or a reenacting unit) and a Bugler to play *"To the Color."* A burn receptacle is required and should be lighted prior to beginning the service. The service takes about 20 minutes to conduct, however, it should be noted that it takes about 90 minutes to completely dispose of 50 flags, so the Color Bearer's Detail may want to carry representative flags for disposal during the ceremony and complete the disposal afterwards. Also, it is highly recommended that you check with your local authorities with regard to local open fire ordinances.