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**Leading Flag Association Wishes America “Happy Birthday”**  
*FMAA Offers Helpful Tips For Flying Your Flag This Fourth of July*

**MT. LAUREL, NJ** – June 30, 2005 –The Flag Manufacturers Association of America (FMAA) urges all citizens to celebrate America’s birthday safely this Fourth of July and to proudly display our nation’s symbol, the U.S. flag, responsibly.

Independence Day honors the adoption of the Declaration of Independence and is a day of significance for so many reasons. This day has inspired speeches and musical compositions and provides us the opportunity to ponder the meaning of our nation's heritage and celebrate our freedoms in our own unique way.

The American flag flies proudly across the nation, from homes to car antennas and can bring a tear to your eye when viewed at baseball games or atop tall ships or even fire trucks.

FMAA offers a few helpful reminders to properly respect your American flag, small or large:

- To salute the flag, all persons should come to attention. Those in uniform give the appropriate formal salute as specified by the uniform service. Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over their hearts. Men wearing a head cover (a hat, cap or other headwear) are to remove it. Women may wear a head covering.
- In parades or reviews, at the moment the flag passes, stand at attention facing the flag and salute.
- The Flag of the United States is saluted as it is hoisted and lowered. The salute is held until the flag is unsnapped from the halyard or through the last note of the national anthem; whichever is the longest.
- When the national anthem is played or sung, stand at attention and salute, by placing your right hand over the heart, at the first note and hold the salute through the last note. The salute is directed to the flag, if displayed, otherwise to the music. If in uniform, salute in the formal manner. It is proper to salute wherever the national anthem is played, for instance, on a college campus, in a public park, in a church, at a ball game, sports event, etc.
- When the Pledge of Allegiance is recited, stand at attention and salute by placing your right hand over your heart with the first word and hold the salute through the last line of the Pledge. The salute is directed to the flag by facing the flag during the Pledge.

*Flag Etiquette provided by the National Flag Foundation [www.americanflag.org](http://www.americanflag.org)*

“Fourth of July has always been a day of parades, patriotic speeches, fireworks and a variety of other jubilation,” commented Sandy Van Lieu, FMAA Chairman. “More importantly, this is a time to remember and celebrate the values of liberty and justice that make our country great.”

In a recent address, President Bush called on Americans to use small gestures to rally round U.S. servicemen and women around the world on Independence Day. "This Fourth of July, I ask you to find a way to thank the men and women defending our freedom, by flying the flag, sending letters to our troops in the field or helping the military family down the street," remarked President Bush.

The Flag Manufacturers Association of America is a non-profit trade association, established in 2003, representing the leading United States flag manufacturers. It is dedicated to educating and promoting the quality, variety, and proper use of flags manufactured in the United States. FMAA sponsors the “Certified Made in the USA” program that certifies your flag has been made in the USA of materials that are domestic in origin and that all processes in every step of its manufacture were completed in USA facilities with USA labor.

For more information on the Flag Manufacturers Association of America or the “Certified Made in the USA” program, please contact the headquarters office: 15000 Commerce Parkway, Suite C, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054; Phone: 856-439-0500 or fax: 856-439-0525.

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