



# AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

## Department of North Carolina

### Americanism Program Action Plan

**The purpose of Americanism is to promote patriotism and responsible citizenship. To encourage units to participate and report their activities.**

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#### **What can you do?**

1. Be knowledgeable on flag history, etiquette, and proper disposal methods
2. Promote the observation of patriotic holidays
3. Participation in the Americanism Essay Contest
4. Encourage participation in "Get Out the Vote" campaigns
5. Promote the American Legion Americanism Programs
  - a) American Legion Baseball
  - b) Oratorical Contest
  - c) Veterans in the Classroom

#### **Flag History, etiquette and disposal**

1. Publish flag etiquette tips in your local newspaper, social media and community events
2. Work with local schools throughout the school year to share basic facts and history of the flag, proper flag etiquette, National Anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, Constitution etc.
3. Collect flags ready for disposal and conduct a flag disposal ceremony. Invite the community to attend the ceremony
4. Encourage businesses and Legion family members to display/fly the American Flag, especially on patriotic holidays
5. Order and disperse pocket flag kits to members and the community, veterans and active-duty military personnel
6. Provide American flags to your local schools and/or classroom

#### **Promote observation of Patriotic holidays**

1. Volunteer for and participate in local patriotic events
2. Work with the local Legion Post of Patriotic Day observations
3. Flags on the graves of Veterans/Wreaths Across America

### **Encourage youth to participate in the Americanism essay contest**

1. Visit the National website for essay contest theme and guidelines
2. Create an information package explaining the contest, guidelines, theme, deadline, etc.
3. Distribute essay information at local school administration, guidance counselors, instructors
4. Encourage Junior members at all levels to complete an essay

### **Encourage participation in Get out to Vote campaigns**

1. Encourage members to “Vote in Honor of a Veteran”
2. Encourage participation in local “Get out to Vote” campaigns
3. Educate children on the voting process by utilizing “Kids voting USA Campaign

### **Reports:**

Reports provides units the opportunity to reflect and report unit activities. It is important for you to share your unit accomplishments and tell the world and especially or veterans what we do. We do this not only in a narrative but thru pictures. Display your accomplishments in local newspapers and social media. Reports should be submitted to the Chairman, Division, Department and National. Awards are given by the department, division and national levels.

Mid-Year Reports: December 15

Annual Reports: April 15

### **Awards**

1. Unit: Dorothy Pearl Most Outstanding Americanism Program
2. Department Award: Best Department Americanism Program

### **Resources**

America the Beautiful Coloring books [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)

Essay theme and eligibility guidelines: [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)

Americanism Annual Supplement to the Program Action Plan

Vote in Honor of a Veteran: [www.ncsbe.gov](http://www.ncsbe.gov)

“Indivisible: The Story of Our Flag”

“Let’s Be Right on Flag Etiquette” – Emblem Sales

[www.citizensflagalliance.org](http://www.citizensflagalliance.org)



**“VETERAN SUICIDE AWARENESS”**

**“SEE SOMETHING,**

**SAY SOMETHING,**

**“BE THE ONE”**

**TO DO SOMETHING!!!”**

