



## **FLAG CARE**

### **- FLAG STORAGE:**

- Store the flag you want to preserve in a dark place. Bright light, especially sunlight, causes fading and deterioration of fabrics. Avoid very humid places and rooms where temperatures vary a great deal.
- Store your flag where you have sufficient access to inspect it for pest or mildew damage at least once a year. Garages, basements, and attics are probably the worst places to store textiles because these risks are high.
- In fact, it is important to avoid storing your flag in contact with wood. Be sure to line the storage drawer with a polyester film or other inert material, or wrap the rolled-up flag in a cover of unbleached cotton or some other acid-neutral material. Don't use pesticides or mothballs. They contain chemicals that are harmful to fabrics.
- If exposed, after a heavy rain or snow storm, take down the flag and spread out to dry. **DO NOT FOLD OR ROLL UP A WET FLAG (will cause mildew).**

### **- FLAG CLEANING:**

- Minimize washing or cleaning flags or other textiles you want to keep.
- New flags should be clean when they are stored. Depending on the type of material, the flag can be washed gently by hand using a mild soap (don't use washing machine). **Do not use the drying machine, let the flag air dry and make sure it is fully dried before you fold or roll it for storage.**

### **- FLAG DISPLAY:**

- Of course you may wish to display a flag occasionally. Be sure not to leave it in bright sunlight for long; if at all possible, take down the flag at night, it prolongs its life.

20249 NE 16th Place | Miami, FL 33179 | Ph. 305.999.0399 | Fx. 305.999.0397 |

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