

American Flag Retirement Program



Members of Boy Scout Troop 1607 have donated a new collection bin for American Flags to the Southbury Resource and Recovery Station. This bin, constructed by Life Scout Matt, replaces an old worn out plastic storage container previously left by the Troop for this purpose. Troop 1607 started collecting American Flags for retirement from the Southbury Resource and Recovery Station at the request of Harmon Andrews, Commander of VFW Post 1607. The VFW is the scout troop's sponsor. In the first year, after 9/11, over 200 flags were collected. Since that time, annual averages of 85 flags have been left at the Southbury Resource and Recovery Station for retirement. In addition to these flags the troop also annually collects and retires over 400 military grave markers placed by VFW Post 1607 with the assistance of Boy Scout Troops in town honoring those veterans locally buried.

Employees of the Southbury Resource and Recovery Station states that our town members often come up to our office asking what to do with American Flags. The town is very patriotic and doesn't wish to just throw the flags out. With this new collection bin done up as an American Flag and a sign added to the entrance of the Southbury Resource and Recovery Station it is expected that the number of questions will lessen while the number of flags collected will increase.

Town members are reminded that flags do wear out. Faded or torn flags should be replaced. Worn out flags can be dropped off in this new bin or left with Boy Scout Troop 1607 during their meetings on Monday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 at VFW Post 1607 on Lakeside Road. All flags received will be honorably retired by Boy Scout Troop 1607 in a private ceremony in accordance with federal laws.

For more information please contact Ronald Porell, Troop 1607, 262-6297.