

**“Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Program**  
**Department of Maryland**  
**March 2025**



## ***VFW National Home***

We continuously support our VFW National Home because there are veterans and military families who need our help. With warmer temperatures on the way, it is now time to **“Spring into Action”**. Here are a few ways that you can support the VFW National Home. Links have been provided for your convenience.

- **National Home Wish List** – Purchase the needed items for National Home on their Amazon wish list.  
[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)
- **Tribute Bricks** - Honor or memorialize someone or put your name or organization's name on a brick to be placed in a sidewalk at the National Home.  
[Tribute Bricks - VFW National Home](#)
- **Tribute Park** - Create a lasting tribute for a person or organization in a beautiful setting while helping build the permanently restricted endowment fund.  
[Tribute Park - VFW National Home](#)
- **One Time Gifts:** Your gift will be life-changing for the families of our nation’s heroes.  
[Donate - VFW National Home](#)
- **Become a Home Front Hero!** Home Front Heroes take a leading role in the National Home mission by pledging to make a recurring monthly contribution. They are the front line of support, helping provide a steady, reliable source of funding. As a monthly donor and Home Front Hero, you will help ensure the strength and longevity of all the VFW National Home programs and services.  
[Home Front Hero - VFW National Home](#)



## **Buddy”® Poppy”**

We promote our Memorial Flower in all our programs to bring awareness to this little but mighty flower. For each “Buddy” ® Poppy purchased for Distribution:

- \* Once-and-a-half (1-1/2) cents go to the Department’s Veterans Service Fund
- \* One cent (1) goes to VFW National Headquarters Veterans Service Fund
- \* One cent (1) goes to the VFW National Home

### ***Spring Projects to promote and bring awareness to the “Buddy” ® Poppy incorporating them in the National Programs:***

- \* Include “Buddy” ® Poppies in your Springtime wreaths. Donate the wreaths to your local VA hospitals, local hospital and nursing homes. (Hospital)
- \* Decorate tables for your fundraisers or functions with an arrangement of Spring flowers, American Flags and “Buddy” ® Poppies. (Americanism)
- \* Include “Buddy” ® Poppy pictures/clip art in your Spring Newsletter (Historian/Media Relations)
- \* Write a letter to your legislators using a buddy poppy picture on your letterhead. (Legislative)
- \* Spring is a great time to host a Family Freedom Festival. Have plenty of “Buddy”® Poppies on hand to distribute to the community. (Veterans and Family Support)
- \* Decorate a Basket with “Buddy” ® Poppies and fill it with Springtime and Patriotic books to donate to your local schools. (Youth Activities)

All this and more are ways we can show our “*Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes®*”. The “Buddy” ® Poppy/ VFW National Home program is essential to our Hometown Heroes.

It’s time to get ready for the “Buddy”® Poppy Contest. Please remember to follow all the rules so that you are not disqualified. The Department of MD will comply with the National Rules. For more information please follow this link: [VFW National Convention Buddy Poppy Display Contest Rules](#) ***Spring into Action*** and create your works of art!

***We are “Setting Sail for Our Veterans and their Families as we continue  
“From our Roots to Our Branches Extend Service to our Veterans”***

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# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR'S OF THE UNITED STATES DEPT. OF MD CONVENTION "BUDDY"® POPPY DISPLAY CONTEST

These guidelines have been designed to place emphasis on the purpose and effectiveness of the displays.

## RULES

(1) Displays will be presented and judged in three categories:

### **CATEGORY 1. Public Promotion of Poppy Campaign (Window, booth, parade, poster displays, campaign promotions, etc.)**

A. Displays must be designed for public exposure and must bear a message soliciting a donation for and wearing of the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.

B. At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

### **CATEGORY 2. Memorial or Inspirational Displays (Wreaths, memorial tablets or plaques, patriotic or devotional themes)**

A. Displays must be designed to honor the dead, to inspire devotion to God and Country, or to dramatize the activities supported by the "Buddy"® Poppy.

B. At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

### **CATEGORY 3. Artistic or Decorative Use of Poppies (Post Home displays, table centerpieces, corsages, pictures, plaques, models, scenes, hats, novelty pieces, etc.)**

A. Any display not meeting the qualifications for Categories 1 or 2 shall automatically be entered in Category 3.

(B) At least one (1) of the Poppies used in the display must be in its original form and color, with label attached.

(2) Displays may or may not be accompanied by a white card, not to exceed 4 inches by 6 inches in size, on which is lettered in black ink an explanation of the theme for the display or other information of interest to the viewers or the judges.

(3) Post name, number, city or state (including the shape of your state) may not be visible on the displays. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

## JUDGING

Judging of displays will be on the basis of effectiveness, purpose, clarity of theme, suitability, originality, beauty and number of Poppies used. Where a sample of a large number of identical items (such as corsages or wreaths) is entered, full credit shall be given for the total number of Poppies used.

For Complete National Rules click on link:

[VFW National Convention Buddy Poppy Display Contest Rules](#)

