

Town of Sharon
Flag/Banner Display Policy

POLICY

Whereas, the Town of Sharon allows flags and banners on Town property which is within the custody and control of the Select Board of the Town;

Whereas, the Select Board desires to accommodate reasonable requests for placement of flags and banners on Town property in accordance with clear, content-neutral rules regarding such use; and

Whereas, the Select Board recognizes that the School Committee has control over school buildings and grounds, and the Library Trustees regulate the use of the library building(s) and grounds, this policy does not apply to said school or library buildings and grounds,

Now, therefore, the Select Board hereby adopts the following policy:

The Town of Sharon, acting through the Town Administrator, may allow the flying and/or raising of a flag or banner to commemorate an event or occasion if so requested by a tax-exempt, non-profit organization, charitable organization, or a Sharon resident. In such an event, the Town will follow the following procedure.

1. Requests to raise flags or banners must be made by application to the Town Administrator's office at least four (4) weeks prior to the requested date and will be reviewed on a first come, first served basis, in accordance with the Banner Request Form available at the office of the Town Administrator and on the Town of Sharon website.

2. At no time will the Town of Sharon display flags or banners deemed to be inappropriate or offensive in nature or those supporting discrimination, prejudice, or religious movements.

3. The applicant must provide the flag or banner. The flag or banner shall comply with the banner specifications contained in the Banner Request Form, or as otherwise specified by the Town Administrator's office. The applicant must deliver the appropriate size flag or banner to the Town Administrator's office and retrieve the flag or banner from the Town Administrator's office after the raising. The Town of Sharon will not be responsible for the flag or banner or any harm that comes to the flag or banner, while it is in the possession of the Town. The Town is not responsible for flags or banners that are not retrieved within 24 hours of being taken down from flying.

4. Organizations may request one flag or banner flying per calendar year. If the same or similar flag or banner was previously flown by a different organization within the one year period, the application may be denied.