

Buddy Poppy

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DISTRIBUTION

Any time of the year is a good time to have a Buddy Poppy distribution. The most common times are around Memorial Day and Veterans Day, though.

A distribution event can be an all-day affair in your community(ies), or it can be as simple as passing the poppies and container to your members during an Auxiliary or Post meeting.

If you do have a community event at various businesses, remember that you must call or talk to the business owner or manager before you show up at their business. The businesses want to know and give approval for you to be there. Many businesses will provide a chair or someplace else to sit so you don't have to stand all day. If they don't and there's room, bring a chair of your own as long as you know there's a place to put it where you won't block their flow of customers. Be sure to thank the businesses for letting us be there.

You do not need to have permission to be outside of the U. S. Post Office or a Federal Building. These are public property areas. But we are not allowed to go inside to distribute the poppies.

It's a good idea to publicize your Buddy Poppy distribution event. The radio stations offer free public service announcements. If your cable TV has a local channel, they may put your information there. Use your social media outlets as well.

If you do have a VFW building, leaving Buddy Poppies and a container for money in a visible place is always a good idea. I would recommend doing this during a designated period rather than all the time.

When there's a vendor event, craft show, Farm & Home Show or some other type of gathering, your Auxiliary/Post can have a table and distribute Buddy Poppies there. This is also a good time to have membership information available or advertise any upcoming community events you may be planning.