To join the USDA Flag Policy and Announcements:

- Go to the USDA Connect site by clicking on the following link [USDA Connect](https://www.usda.gov) and search for “Flag Policy”; or

- Go directly to the “USDA Flag Policy and Announcements” site at the following link [connections.usda.gov](https://www.connections.usda.gov).

You should see the following screen.

Click on the “Join this Community” button (red arrow) and you will automatically receive email notifications regarding half-staff announcements.

To receive notifications when new topics are posted, click on the “Follow this Community” (green arrow).

You can both “Join this Community” and “Follow this Community.”

When a half-staff notice is issued, you will receive an email with the subject heading “[USDA Flag Policy and Announcements] Half staff notice, Oct. 31, 2013, in memory of…..”