

Fly Safe Campaign



Watch your fax or e-mail every other Monday in April, May, June and August and every Monday in July for scheduled issues. Supplemental messages may be sent when increased flight activity warrants additional safety awareness.

MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 14 ag accidents including 1 fatal accident so far this year. There have been 3 fatalities that have not yet been reported by NTSB.

FOUR FATALITIES SO FAR IN 2019 – FLY IN THE CLEAR AND COMMUNICATE

The agricultural aviation industry is off to a deadly start for the 2019 season. It is only the end of May and there have already been 4 fatalities. While the NTSB has yet to fully investigate these accidents, poor weather conditions with low visibility are rumored to have played a role in several of the recent accidents.

Flying into fog in an ag aircraft is often lethal. All 3 ag aviation accidents between 2008 and 2016 that resulted from flying into fog were fatal. In 2017 there were 3 fog related accidents – 2 fatal. According to the FAA, 78% of the time a flight in visual meteorological conditions (visibility sufficient to avoid obstacles) enters instrument meteorological conditions (visibility insufficient to avoid obstacles) the result is a fatal accident. Don't leave in the dark unless you're sure of the weather. If you are headed in to marginal weather, make sure you know where your way out is at. If the weather is iffy, have another cup of coffee. You'll be safer and you'll be more likely to avoid low-level inversion conditions too.

Two recent fatalities were the result of a mid-air collision. Current information points to the fact one aircraft was ferrying and the other was in a turn when the collision occurred. Heed the PAASS slogan of ferry above five and stay alive. If you are unable to make it to 500 feet because of the short distance between the airstrip and the field, be especially vigilant for other aircraft, use a radio and ADS-B technologies to increase awareness of other pilots working near you.

Check Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs)

Always check TFR NOTAMs before flying! Make sure you have proof of a preflight TFR briefing from sources such as FSS or <https://www.1800wxbrief.com>.

Make a “Fly Safe” Resolution Now!

To be removed from the “Fly Safe” fax list, please call 202-546-5722 or e-mail information@agaviation.org. Let us know if you wish to be removed only from these Fly Safe messages or all faxes or e-mails from the NAAA.