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!
The NTSB has reported 24 accidents with 3 fatalities so far in 2014. Fly Safe!

UAVs CAN BE DANGEROUS TOYS
An Idaho ag pilot had a close encounter with a model UAV last week which demonstrates the danger low level pilots face from these seemingly innocent toys. As the pilot entered a field, he saw a stationary object he assumed must be a kite. Just as he reached it, it moved rapidly vertical, just missing the aircraft. It was so close the pilot could identify the make of the quad-rotor model.

The sheriff was notified and the UAV operator was located and informed he could be arrested and be liable for any damages should they have occurred. When asked if he had insurance to cover damage to a turbine airplane, he became very remorseful. The operator did not choose to press charges.

Traditionally, model aircraft have not been a problem because they were rather expensive and difficult to fly. The new models are easy to fly, relatively inexpensive and capable of carrying technology, like cameras, making them appealing to many buyers.

NAAA reminds pilots and operators to add surveying the target field and nearby area for UAVs as they circle and look for other obstacles before starting to apply. Also be sure to report any incidents of near collisions or interference by UAVs to the county sheriff, the local FSDO and the NAAA. NAAA has been told by the FAA that documentation of such incidents will likely be necessary to make the case that UAVs be equipped with strobe lighting and ADS-B out tracking.

Remember TFR Awareness
Check Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) before flying! FAA recommends you obtain TFR NOTAMs from FSS. Make sure you have proof that you made the effort to comply as verified by briefing records at FSS or by DUATS log in.

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.