

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 6 ag accidents including 1 fatal accident so far this year.

EXPECT INCREASED UAV ACTIVITY THIS SEASON – INFORM UAV OPERATORS IN YOUR AREA TO SAFELY OPERATE NEAR AG AIRCRAFT

There were several close encounters with UAV during the 2022 season and there has been a near miss already this season. Expect an increase in UAV activity for agricultural purposes including remote sensing and applications. While manned aircraft continue to have the right-of-way over UAV in all situations, you can't rely on all their operators to be aware of the rules and safety protocols. In an encounter in Arkansas this year, the UAV operator incorrectly assumed the UAV had right-of-way over the ag aircraft because the airplane wasn't equipped with ADS-B.

Reach out to UAV operators in your area and inform them about your ag operations and instruct them on what they need to do in order to avoid colliding with an ag aircraft. While UAVs 55 pounds or less flying under [FAR Part 107](#) are not required to file NOTAMs, you can still encourage their operators to do so. NOTAMs are required under previously granted 333 ([now 44807](#)) exemptions. Check NOTAMs to see if UAV will be working in areas where you will be applying. A number of UAVs are equipped with ADS-B In technology so consider installing ADS-B Out so those UAV and ADS-B In-equipped aircraft can detect your aircraft. See [NAAA's UAV Safety Campaign](#) for more information you can pass on to UAV operators in your working area.

If you do have an encounter with a drone, follow [NAAA's UAV encounter checklist](#). Step 1, informing local law enforcement, was done in the Arkansas encounter earlier this season. Local police showed up and interviewed both the customer and the drone operator. Having a police report can be beneficial for steps 2 through 4 as it provides an official record of the event from other authorities which lends credibility to reports to FAA. Avoiding a collision with manned aircraft is the responsibility of UAV operators, but you can take an active role in educating them about safety around ag aircraft.

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!

Watch your e-mail every other Monday in April and May and every Monday in June, July, and August for scheduled issues. Supplemental messages may be sent when additional safety awareness is warranted. Please call 202-546-5722 or e-mail information@agaviation.org if you wish to be removed only from these Fly Safe messages or all e-mails from the NAAA.