

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 13 ag accidents including 2 fatal accidents so far this year. There has been 1 fatal accident not yet reported by NTSB.

DON'T LET FATIGUE RUIN YOUR SEASON – TAKE PRECAUTIONS TO RECOGNIZE AND STOP IT

The busiest time of the year for agricultural aviation is quickly approaching. Make sure you are doing everything you can to fight fatigue. This includes recognizing you may not be the best judge of how fatigued you really are. It may not be apparent to you until serious errors are made, which could likely mean it's too late to prevent an accident. If you find you have a loss of accuracy and smoothness of controlled movements or you're preoccupied with one task at the exclusion of others, you are already fatigued.

It is important to empower members of the ground/office crew to not only watch pilots for signs of fatigue, but to also speak up when they see those signs and tell the pilot to step away from the aircraft and rest. Learn the symptoms of fatigue and pass that knowledge on to all personnel at your operation. These include not processing details, sloppy performance, slowed reaction times, and impaired short-term memory.

Make sure you're taking care of yourself in other ways to assist in battling fatigue. Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated. When it's time for rest, eliminate all distractions. Avoid using your phone or other electronic devices when getting ready for sleep. Research has shown the light emitted from the screens suppresses the production of melatonin, the hormone that controls your circadian rhythm. For more information read NAAA's [Combating Fatigue in Ag Aviation brochure](#). And remember – need a nap, take a nap. No job is worth your life.

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 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. 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.