

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 22 ag accidents including 6 fatal accidents so far this year. There have been 2 fatal accidents not yet reported by NTSB bringing the unofficial total to 8 fatal accidents.

SCOUT YOUR FIELDS THOROUGHLY EVERY TIME FOR PEOPLE AND OBSTACLES

Thoroughly scouting a target field and adjacent areas is critical for both others in the area and the pilot's safety. Orbiting a field to conduct reconnaissance for obstacles, people, and other hazardous situations should be done every time you treat the field, regardless of how many times or how recently you've sprayed it. Obstacles can change over time and not always at a rate that gives you sufficient warning time to observe their construction – a new wire or MET tower can show up in only a few days.

One thing that will likely change every time you spray a site is the number and location of people in and around the target field. While the presence and location of a house will be consistent every time you apply to a field, how many people are in or around the house can vary, based on day of the week or time of the day. Field workers also come and go in and around target fields. Examples include irrigation workers, corn detasslers, crop scouts, harvesters, and farmers. People working in fields are often difficult to see so look for other signs of their presence, such as trucks, tractors, buses, portable toilets, and tents. If applying near wind turbines, be aware of their maintenance workers. The [SeedFieldCheck](#) registry with [FieldWatch](#) allows seed companies to share where and when seed field workers will be present in seed production fields. At this time, SeeFieldCheck is only available in IA, IL, IN, MI, NE but it is expected to expand.

People can enter and exit your work area at varying speeds throughout your application. Cars, tractors, bicycles, ATVs, school buses, horse riders, and pedestrians all travel at different speeds. Regularly scanning for them needs to be done throughout the application, not just before you start. Spraying or drifting on someone is a label violation and can make you vulnerable to lawsuits. These incidents often get covered by the press which makes the entire industry look bad. Scout every field, every time, for everyone's safety.

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.