

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 29 ag accidents including 4 fatal accidents so far this year. There have been 4 fatal accidents not yet reported by NTSB bringing the total to 8 fatal accidents.

HIGH NUMBER OF FATAL AG ACCIDENTS HAS GAINED THE ATTENTION OF FAA AND THE PRESS

In the eleven-day period from July 23 to August 2 there were four fatal ag accidents. These four fatal accidents doubled the number of fatal accidents for the 2022 season from four, as of July 2, to eight. NAAA received direct communications from senior level managers at the FAA last week inquiring, on behalf of the FAA Administrator, about the recent spate of fatal ag aviation accidents and asking how the FAA can help. NAAA also fielded calls about the recent accidents from its general aviation coalition partners and from local and national aviation press outlets— from Aero News Network to Aviation Week—that highlighted in their news reports the recent number of fatal accidents.

While we don't have final reports with causes from the NTSB for any of these accidents, we do know that each of these fatal accidents caused tremendous grief and loss for eight families. Please take a moment before each flight and think about your loved ones. Your customer may be demanding you need to treat their field, but they don't need you as much as your loved ones do. If you aren't comfortable flying in the current weather conditions or are worried about how many wires are in and around a field, postpone or turn the job down.

Fly safe for the remainder of the season and your career. Scout all your fields thoroughly for obstructions and keep those obstructions in your short-term memory so you don't inadvertently forget about them. Remember that you cannot count on seeing wires – you must read the hardware to determine their location. Ferry above 500 feet, use radios to communicate with other ag pilots when working off busy strips, and install ADS-B In during your off season. Minimize distractions while conducting operations, especially during the application passes and turns. Turn your aircraft safely, not aggressively. Focus on only those activities required for your mission and do not deviate from your mission to buzz someone. Wear a helmet, fire resistant flight suit, and your seat belt and safety harness. Please do not become fatality number nine.

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 and May and every Monday in June. July and August for scheduled issues. Supplemental messages may be sent when additional safety awareness is warranted. 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.