

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 31 ag accidents including 7 fatal accidents so far this year. There has been 1 fatal accident not yet reported by NTSB.

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS DIVERTING ATTENTION AND PAINTING BAD IMAGE OF AG AVIATION INDUSTRY

A recent social media post showed a complete disregard for safety. It is clear from the video that the pilot made a sweep of his cockpit with his phone while in an application pass. Not only is this a major distraction, it is completely unnecessary. There are already many distractions that are related to your mission. To add one that is not required is a major risk. The [July 13th Fly Safe](#) described a fatal accident involving a helicopter striking a bird wire that the landowner had failed to mention to the pilot. With obstacles such as that out there, spending time with a phone filming a spray pass could quickly turn in to an NTSB investigation team filming the scene of a fatal ag aviation accident.

Other recent social media posts attempting to disparage one type of aerial application in favor of the other only serve to make the entire industry look bad. It is understandable to passionately defend your preferred aircraft type. Posting images online, however, that show unsafe and ineffective applications for any ag aviation aircraft type makes everyone look bad. It promotes the entire industry as unprofessional and ineffective.

When the EPA, FAA, or other federal or state agency decide to regulate the aerial application industry, they do not separate between fixed wing and helicopters. Many growers, crop consultants, and other agricultural experts are already misinformed about the effectiveness of aerial applications. As an industry we should be highlighting our efficacy, safety, and successes, not airing our dirty laundry. Remember: upon the performance of each rests the fate of all.

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.