

## ***Fly Safe Campaign***



### **MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS**

***Don't become a statistic!***

**NTSB reports 12 ag accidents, including 3 fatal accidents, for 2024.  
An additional 2 fatalities are unreported, making 5 fatal accidents.**

### **FIVE AG PILOTS KILLED BEFORE JULY**

Last week saw a dark day for ag aviation – two ag pilots lost on the same morning. This brings the total to five fatalities before the industry even gets to July, which is the busiest month for ag aviation and consequently the month that has historically had the most ag accidents. Take a moment to think about those four pilots who never made it back home to their families. As you work hard to provide for your family, make sure you work hard at coming home every night too. Preventing an accident is up to you.

Scout your fields thoroughly and keep the wires and other obstructions in your mind throughout the whole flight. Remember that in two thirds of wire strike accidents, the pilot was aware of the wire they collided with. Do not let distractions divert your attention to the point you forget about obstructions. According to the NTSB, a collision with tower guy wires earlier this season occurred when the pilot became distracted by a map and focused his attention on it instead of the approaching tower. At 150 mph, an aircraft covers over 600 feet in just three seconds. If something really needs your attention, get your aircraft up and out of the obstruction environment before you focus on it.

Make sure you consider aircraft weight, temperature, engine performance, density altitude, runway length, and wind direction when taking off, especially if you're working off an unfamiliar airstrip. Use extra caution if you have less than 500 hours in the type of aircraft you're flying. No matter how busy you are or how demanding your customers get, safety must remain your top priority. Set your personal minimums and don't deviate from them. Fly safe, not aggressive. Say no to unsafe fields or being pushed to fly in bad weather. Ferry at a safe altitude, use ADS-B and radios, and scan for other aircraft to avoid a mid-air collision.

### **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!**