

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB reports 16 ag accidents, including 3 fatal accidents, for 2024. An additional 3 fatalities are unreported, making 6 fatal accidents.

ALWAYS OPERATE PROFESSIONALLY - THE PUBLIC IS WATCHING AND RECORDING

There has been a report of ag aircraft using public roadways without getting required permission or following any of the requirements for using the road safely. In addition, while not yet confirmed by NTSB, there has been word of an accident that occurred when an ag aircraft landed on a road. If you choose to operate off a public road, be sure to do so legally and safely. Operating off roads is not covered in Part 137, so all rules and regulations governing this activity are state and local. Rules may include a limitation on the type of road that can be used and a traffic count limitation to ensure the road is not too busy.

A barricade and flagmen will likely be required to ensure vehicular traffic does not inadvertently enter the section of road being used for ag operations. You may need permission from a road commissioner or highway superintendent. Limitations on how long traffic can be delayed may exist and emergency vehicles must never be delayed. Don't abuse the privilege to use public roads for your operations. It can be revoked if the public decides they are being endangered or inconvenienced.

Remember the public is always watching, and they all have smartphones that serve as video recorders. They are quick to post anything unique on social media. You must operate professionally at all times, even if you think no one is watching. A single incident can spiral out of control, especially if broadcast by the media and brought to the attention of law and/or policy makers. A truck buzzing incident last season went viral on social media, and NAAA leadership was questioned about the professionalism of the industry by regulators, chemical manufacturers, and grower groups. When we act irresponsibly and unsafely, we are creating our own regulatory environment.

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 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. Please call 202-546-5722 or e-mail information@agaviation.org if you wish to be removed only from these Fly Safe messages or all e-mails from the NAAA.