

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB reports 24 ag accidents, including 6 fatal accidents, for 2024. An additional 4 fatalities are unreported, making 10 fatal accidents.

USE ALL AVAILABLE SAFETY EQUIPMENT TO REDUCE YOUR RISK OF INJURY OR DEATH

There are numerous types of safety gear available for ag aviators. Some are part of the aircraft, such as airbags, safety belts, shoulder harnesses, ADS-B, and radios, while others are for the pilot to wear including helmets and fire-resistant flight suits. Some ag pilots question using a particular piece of safety gear because it can't provide a 100% guarantee they'll avoid or survive an accident. If this was to be the standard for safety equipment, would anything ever get used? No piece of safety equipment can always prevent an accident or provide you complete protection from injuries. However, safety gear can still be effective at reducing the chances of an accident and reduce severity of injuries if one occurs.

A study of fatal aviation accidents in Alaska found that helmets can increase the chances of surviving an accident by about 30%. Use of safety belts and shoulder harnesses are required under Part 137. FAA research has found that for small aircraft overall, use of both shoulder harnesses and safety belts reduces major injuries by 88% and fatalities by 20%. Nomex® fire-resistant suits can provide up to 20 seconds of protection from second-degree burns. NTSB research has found that airbags in general aviation aircraft can reduce the severity of injuries.

Combining safety components together offers you a much greater chance of avoiding and surviving an accident. For example, wearing a helmet will increase your chances of surviving impact and remaining conscious. If your aircraft catches fire, being conscious means that you can immediately begin to free yourself from the aircraft. A fire-resistant suit will give you more time to get yourself out of the cockpit before you suffer burn injuries. Use every available safety component to increase your chances of avoiding or surviving an accident.

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.