

Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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May 2021

Montana's First FAA Aviation Weather Camera is Live

Montana Aeronautics is excited to announce the first Aviation Weather Camera in Montana is now broadcasting live on the FAA's website. The weather camera installation is located at the Lincoln Airport, offering views of the sky in three directions. The images update every ten minutes and are an excellent tool for both local and transient pilots to assist with preflight and enroute flight planning.

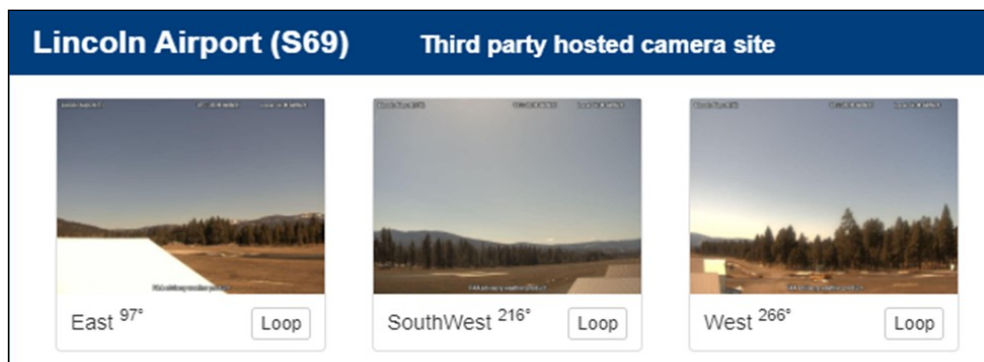
Montana is the second state in the lower 48 states to offer aviation webcams hosted by the FAA. Colorado recently installed and activated 52 cameras across 13 locations. The FAA weather camera program began in Alaska, where some of the most severe and rapidly changing weather can greatly impact routes and safety of flight. There are currently 230 weather cameras across Alaska, with plans to install more. As a result of this added flight planning resource, Alaskan aviators have experienced an increase in safety and efficiency, highlighting an 85% reduction in weather-related accidents in mountain passes with the addition of new weather technology, electronic flight bags, and the new weather cameras. Additionally, NAV Canada hosts 178 sites across Canada; Hawaii will soon jump onboard with 23 camera systems placed in critical locations across the Hawaiian Islands.

Starting the Web Camera program was a large undertaking. Many pilots, the FAA, and organizations in Montana assisted with its development. We extend a special thank you to Terry Spath of Lincoln for providing space on his hanger to mount the first camera equipment, along with the use of power and internet. He also engineered and built the pole mounting system for the camera array. Additionally, the Montana Pilots Association graciously surveyed their members and provided us with a list of locations cameras would most benefit the Montana pilot community with their flight planning needs. Thank you! The FAA is a critical partner in providing technical support and hosting of the online camera images.

In the very near future, cameras are to be installed at the Seeley Lake and Yellowstone airports. After this initial installation period, mountain pass cameras will be a priority. We are excited to have this new tool available to assist the flying community with near-live visual weather observations.

Additional site hosts are needed to expand the web cam network. Airports, entities, or individuals interested in purchasing camera equipment and hosting a camera site will need to provide an area with clear views along with power and a static IP address internet connection. If a static IP address internet connection is unavailable, a cellphone modem and phone plan can be used. For more information, please contact Derrick Olheiser at the Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-9592 or dolheiser@mt.gov.

Please check out the feeds at <https://weathercams.faa.gov> to view the Lincoln camera footage live. Stay tuned for more updates!





Seasonal Commercial Service Expanded to Include DEN and SLC into Yellowstone Airport

SkyWest Airlines has announced resuming jet service from Salt Lake City (SLC) to Yellowstone (WYS) for an extended summer season, starting May 6, 2021, and continuing until October 13, 2021. The seasonal Delta Connection ensures visitors to Yellowstone National Park can enjoy quick, unmatched access to Yellowstone National Park. Round-trip jet service will be available onboard a 50-seat Canadair Regional Jet (CRJ200) to Salt Lake City under the Delta Airlines banner. Additionally, multiple round-trip flights a day have been added to Denver (DEN) by United Airlines starting in early June.

Yellowstone Airport is very excited for the newly extended season. The extra operating weeks and new connections added to the existing air service will provide easier and more convenient access for both the community and our visitors. Yellowstone Airport is the closest airport to America's first national park, only two miles from the west entrance. The increased demand for airline travel has resulted in expanded airline service to include two flights to SLC and three to DEN. The airport is undergoing a new terminal development which will help address the increased traffic and replace an aging terminal building.

In addition to serving as a key connection for bringing tourism directly to the West Yellowstone area, the airport benefits the local area by hosting a Smoke Jumper base and Medivac services.



Tim Conway, Administrator

Montana and the Sky
Department of Transportation

Greg Gianforte, Governor
Malcolm Long, Director

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Follow MDT on social media!



Free Recurrent Online Training Courses for Drone Pilots



Photo Credit: General Aviation News

Drone pilots with Part 107 Remote Pilot Certification can now take their required training courses online. The training ensures pilots have the knowledge necessary to operate in accordance with the Operations Over People rule when it goes into effect on April 21, 2021.

The training is free and available on the FAA Safety Team website: FAAsafety.gov.



Calling All Youth Artists!



The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Aviation Awareness Art Contest is designed to broaden awareness of the importance of aviation and aerospace to the economy and to promote careers in these industries. The contest is open to all students in grades K-12 in public, private, and home schools.

Categories

Category 1:

Kindergarten - 5th grade

Category 2:

6th Grade - 8th Grade

Category 3:

9th Grade - 12th Grade

Prizes

FIRST PLACE in each category:

1. A round trip flight to Helena for the winner and his/her parents (legal guardians) for the awards ceremony in Helena. Date to be decided.
2. All three first place winners will be presented with a trophy, certificate, and their framed artwork during the awards ceremony by a state official.
3. Following the ceremony, the winners and their families will tour the Helena airport and enjoy lunch.

SECOND & THIRD PLACE in each category:

1. A trophy and Certificate of Achievement.

Entry Requirements

1. Contest deadline is: Friday, May 7, 2021.
2. Contest is open to all Montana students, grades K-12.
3. Size of poster is not to exceed 11" x 14".
4. Artwork must have an aviation theme - can be color or black & white.
5. Please no tracing the images.
6. All artwork must include the following:
Name of Student, Student's Grade, School's Mailing Address, Phone Number, and Teacher's Name
7. Previous year's first place winners are welcome to participate but are not eligible for first place prize.

Get More Info

Artwork will be returned only to first place winners unless return is specifically requested. Winners will be contacted after the contest deadline. Arrangements will be made at that time for air travel to Helena.

All prizes and awards are subject to change, modification, or cancelation under latest COVID-19 guidance.

Mail Artwork To:

MDT Aeronautics Division
P.O. Box 200507
Helena, MT 59620-0507

Visit Our Website:

mdt.mt.gov/aviation/

Or Contact:

Matt Lindberg
mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov
406-444-2506



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Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Contact the Office of Civil Rights, Montana Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone (406) 444 - 9229. TTY may call 1 (800) 335 - 7592 or through the Montana Relay Service at 711.

Cape Air Getting New Fleet for Montana

Cape Air, which services seven flights from Billings to rural eastern Montana, is adding a new model of commuter airplane to replace the airline's aging fleet of twin Cessnas. The new Tecnam P2012 Traveller is a short-haul airplane meant for the quick type of commuter flights Cape Air offers.

The Essential Air Service routes are designed to connect rural communities to larger hubs and are heavily subsidized by the federal government. Most airplanes in this category, nine-passenger commuter planes, are more than 35 years old and no longer in production; this is the first new model of its category in nearly four decades.

Montana is the second of Cape Air's markets to be re-fleeted, behind the Midwest region. The aircraft is already in service between Wolf Point and Billings. Billings currently has three Tecnam planes, with five more on the way to complete Montana's fleet. The aircraft is only slightly larger than the Cessna and flies about the same speed, but offers more space and an updated interior for passengers.

Cape Air has operated for nearly eight years in Montana, offering multiple daily flights from Billings to Sidney, Glasgow, Glendive, Wolf Point, and Havre.



Tecnam P2012 Traveller
Photo credit: Larry Mayer, Billings Gazette

Airport Courtesy Car Grant Application Period Open

The Airport Courtesy Car Application period is April 1- May 31, 2021. Two state surplus vehicles will be awarded and up to four reimbursable financial grants of up to \$5,000 each are available this cycle.

The application and more information about the program can be found here: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/courtesy-cars.shtml>.



Do You Remember What Windssocks Tell Us?

Springtime in Montana can mean gusty conditions. This photo is a great reminder of how windssocks indicate wind velocity.

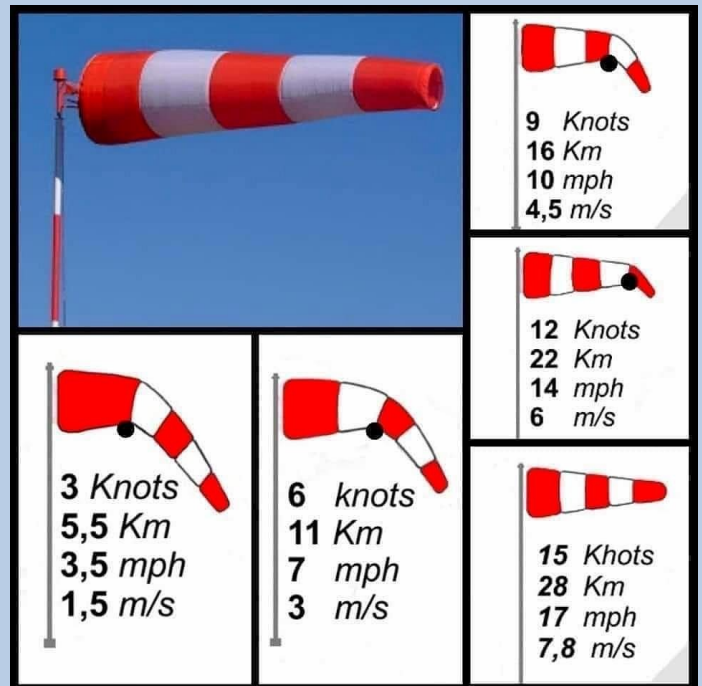


Photo Credit: Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

Aviation Career Exploration Academy

The Aviation Career Exploration (ACE) Academy is a resident camp offered each summer for high school students to learn about careers in aviation and explore flight. Provided by the Montana Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Division, this camp helps students from across the state learn what is available within the industry. This year, ACE Camp will be held June 25-27, 2021, in Helena and at the Montana Learning Center. Tuition of \$120 includes lodging, discovery flight, meals, snacks, supplies, drinks, and ground transportation.

On the first day, students will learn survival skills, signaling, and fire and shelter construction during a campout in the mountains. Later in the afternoon, students will have an opportunity to signal a search plane to their location in the mountains using their newly learned rescue methods.

On day two, the theme focuses on exposing students to as many areas and careers in aviation as possible. Students will tour local aviation facilities and hear from industry experts. They will receive introductory flights in Division aircraft and tour the Montana Air National Guard helicopter base, Department of Natural Resources helicopter wildland fire suppression unit, a fixed based operator, charter operator, an air ambulance company, a crop duster business, the Helena Air Traffic Control tower, the Helena Airport, a local fire department crash rescue facility, an aircraft restoration hobbyist, an aircraft mechanic school, the Boeing manufacturing plant, and the cockpits of two retired airliners. Additionally, students have the opportunity to hear from an airline pilot, airport engineer, aircraft mechanic, flight nurse and paramedic, various local aviation business owners, and other aviation professionals.

On the final day, students attend a fly-in at the Canyon Ferry airstrip and have a picnic while socializing with volunteer aircraft owners and pilots who bring their aircraft to support the event.

During each evening, students will learn about space and astronomy and have access to the most powerful space observatory telescope in Montana located on the north end of Canyon Ferry Reservoir. They will fly drones, learn about the forces and principles of flight, build gliders for a flying contest, and fish, swim, and build relationships around the campfire after long days of aviation activities.

Scholarships may be available for students to pay their tuition. In order for a student to receive a scholarship from the donation fund, students must submit an essay explaining their interest in aviation and financial need for the award. Applicants will be selected by the Aeronautics Division prior to ACE Camp.

While there is a small tuition fee for ACE camp, the Aeronautics Division supports and funds the remainder of multi-day resident camp, sleeping accommodations, flights, meals, and other transportation. In previous years, the majority of students' tuition fees were sponsored by generous individuals and businesses in Montana. Thank you! For 2021, we have 15 slots available. Direct donations are accepted, and sponsors are welcome to attend and participate in ACE Camp. Volunteers are always welcome!

You can impact a student's future with your life-changing donation of \$120 to the scholarship fund and send a student to ACE! Some of Montana's youth live in areas without access to aviation exposure. For many, this will be their first time flying or even being around someone in aviation.

ACE Camp is open to high school students and to those who just graduated. An online registration form is not yet available but will be posted at <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml> later in April.

Contact Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506 or email mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov to set up your sponsorship or register your student!



2019 ACE Camp—Canyon Ferry Fly-In Photo credit: Aeronautics Staff

**This camp will be subject to change, cancelation, or modification per latest COVID-19 guidance.*



2021 Montana Aviation Scholarship Awarded to Audrey Banfill

Congratulations to awardee Audrey Banfill. Audrey is the recipient of the **Montana Antique Aircraft Association** \$1,000.00 scholarship.

More information about Montana aviation scholarships can be found at MDT Aeronautics Division website <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/scholarships.shtml>.

Aviation Maintenance Technician Day

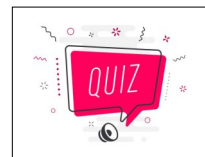


*Derrick Olheiser MDT - Aeronautics Aircraft Mechanic
Photo Credit: Aeronautics Staff*

Aviation Maintenance Technician Day is a United States day of recognition observed on May 24 that recognizes the efforts of aviation maintenance professionals as well as the achievements of Charles Edward Taylor, the man who built the engine used to power the Wright Brothers' airplane. May 24 was selected to honor Taylor's birth date.

The day of recognition is currently observed by 45 states in the United States. On May 24, 2007, a United States House of Representatives resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a National Aviation Maintenance Technician Day was introduced. Congressman Bob Filner of California was the sponsor of the resolution. On April 30, 2008, the resolution passed by a voice vote.

Aviation Quiz



1) You have just been hired as a ferry pilot to deliver aircraft all over the USA. What is the lowest class medical you need to hold for this job?

- A: 1st
- B: 2nd
- C: 3rd
- D: Basic med is now approved

2) What is the average accuracy radius of a 406Mghz ELT?

- A: 20NM
- B: 5NM
- C: 100NM
- D: .5NM

3) How many state-owned airports does Montana have?

- A: 44
- B: 1
- C: 0
- D: 16

4) Name the below Montana airport:

- A: Condon
- B: Schafer Meadows
- C: Spotted Bear
- D: Seeley Lake





Calendar of Events



May 07, 2021 — Aviation Art Contest Deadline. See Page 3 for more information.

May 15, 2021 — Aviation Organization of Montana (AOM). Spring board meeting 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. For more information, contact Marc McKee at mmckee@mt.gov or (406) 444-9581.

May 29, 2021 — Spotted Bear Work Session. For more information, contact Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506.

May 31, 2021 — Airport Courtesy Car Grant application deadline. See Page 4 for more details.

June 10, 2021 — Aeronautics Board Meeting. For more information, please contact MDT Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506.

June 12, 2021 — Choteau Fly-In Breakfast. Hosted by the Teton County Airport Commission. Enjoy a free breakfast, Avgas discount, Young Eagles flights, and flour bombing and spot landing contests. Donations accepted. For more information, contact Scott Gasvoda at (406) 590-2836.

June 12, 2021 — Butte Wings & Wheels Fly-In. Fly-in or drive to Bert Mooney Airport in Beautiful Butte for aircraft display & car/truck show. Hosted by the Butte Composite Squadron-Civil Air Patrol. Enjoy a free breakfast 7:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Avgas discount at Butte Aviation, and fun for young and old alike. Donations accepted. For more information, contact Walt McIntosh at (406) 670-1846

June 19, 2021 — Meadow Creek Work Session. For more information, contact Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506.

June 25-27, 2021 — ACE Academy. See Page 5 for more information

June 25-27, 2021 — Missouri Breaks Fly-In Winfred (9S7). Watch for updates at <https://www.supercub.org/>

June 26, 2021 — Canyon Ferry Fly-In. Support of ACE Academy, see Page 5 for more information.

July 16-18, 2021 — Straight Tail 182 Fly-In Smiley Creek, ID. A Fly-In of straight tail Cessna 182 aircraft at the Smiley Creek Airport, Idaho. Recommended you contact the organizer at phil4id@gmail.com.

July 17, 2021 — Schafer Meadows Work Session. For more information, contact Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506.

July 24, 2021 — Lincoln Airport Community Open House with Fly-In BBQ Potluck. Burgers and all the fixings will be provided from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to share and enjoy the aircraft and emergency vehicles on display. For more information, contact Jerome Cain at (406) 461-5631 or email sgr@linctel.net.

July 26 - August 2, 2021 — B-17 Bomber Sentimental Journey. Static tours and rides will be available in Belgrade at Yellowstone Jet Center. For more information visit <https://www.azcaf.org/location/bozeman-mt-tour-stop/>.

August 6-7, 2021 — 44th Annual MAAA Three Forks Fly-In. Fly or drive to Three Forks on Friday and spend a relaxing day catching up with friends. Dinner for MAAA members and their guests will be served at 6:00 p.m. The flour bombing, spot landing events, and ping pong ball drop will take place on Saturday afternoon, as well as airplane judging. The awards meeting at 5:00 p.m. will be followed by dinner. For more information, contact Pat Green at (406) 539-1880.

September 11, 2021 — Columbus Fly-In Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast served 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Come participate in the flour bombing competition. For more information, contact Hardin Graham (406) 780-0034.

All events are subject to modification or cancellation per the latest COVID-19 guidance

WANTED: Your Montana Aviation News

Do you have exciting aviation news from Montana to share? Did you know you can send it to the Aeronautics Division to be considered for publishing in the *Montana and the Sky* newsletter? We love to hear about and share your Montana Aviation news, photos, and stories. Please send contributions to mdtaerosafetved@mt.gov before the first Friday of each month for the next month's issue.

Quiz Answer Key: 1:B 2:B 3:D 4:D

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VISION ZERO

zero deaths · zero serious injuries

MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION

May 2021

5403

Aeronautics Division
2630 Airport Road
PO Box 200507
Helena, Montana 59620-0507



Vision Zero: A Goal for Everyone

In 2020, there were 209 fatalities on Montana roads.

What does that mean? 209 parents, children, grandparents, friends, siblings, spouses, and other loved ones had lives that were cut short. It also means countless tears and shattered lives for those left with the aftermath of unsafe driving behaviors. Which loved one are you prepared to lose? If your answer is none, then Vision Zero is also YOUR goal.

It will take every one of us to work towards the day that Vision Zero is met, and the fatality total reads "ZERO." Two of the highest contributing factors to traffic fatalities in 2019 were alcohol and no seat belt.

These are behaviors that can be changed! Start by always wearing your seatbelt and planning for sober transportation. Remind your loved ones and those around you to do the same.

-Director Malcolm Long, MDT

Visit www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero for more information.

VISION ZERO ★
zero deaths · zero serious injuries

**MONTANA DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

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