

# Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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## 2022 Montana Aviation Scholarships Awarded to Outstanding Candidates

Through the generosity of Montana aviation communities, organizations, businesses, families, and individuals, a total of twenty-four scholarships were awarded during the 2022 Montana Aviation Scholarships cycle. As part of this annual program, scholarships are offered to Montanans with the purpose of supporting their aviation education and career goals. These scholarships, totaling \$38,000, have been awarded to well-deserving students across the state. Scholarship sponsors and committees had the difficult job of selecting their winner(s) from hundreds of scholarship applications this year.

WOW, \$38,000 will go a long way and will help many recipients with their aviation goals! Both returning and new scholarship sponsors answered the call for help this year, after learning some sponsored scholarships withdrew recently, many due to lack of funding caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's sponsorships mark the largest amount of money ever contributed to this program. Due to committed people and organizations like these sponsors, aviation has a bright future; thank you for your support!

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

### Congratulations to this year's recipients!

**Aviation Organizations of Montana (AOM) Flight Training Scholarship - \$1,000 scholarship**  
-Tori Lapierre of Great Falls, MT

**Bob and Kathy Dewante Flight Training Scholarship - \$3,000 scholarship**  
-Caden Palm of Billings, MT

**Briar Creek Scholarship - three \$2,000 scholarships**  
-Luke Boone of Missoula, MT  
-Heather Hair of Bonner, MT  
-Laura Allan of Livingston, MT

**EAA Missoula Chapter 517 Scholarship - \$1,000 scholarship**  
-Meakin Vermillion of Hamilton, MT

**Edwards Jet Center Scholarship - \$1,000 scholarship**  
-Jamar West of East Helena, MT

**Mike & Julie Meloche Flight Training Scholarship - six \$1,000 scholarships**  
-Caleb Verreth of Bozeman, MT  
-Jack Cline of Miles City, MT  
-Walker Hill of Bozeman, MT  
-Caden Palm of Bozeman, MT  
-Laura Allan of Livingston, MT  
-Jacob Hageman of Billings, MT

**Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Scholarship - \$1,000 scholarship**  
-Tracy Lamb of Helena, MT

**Montana Aviation Education Scholarship (anonymous donor) - five \$1,000 scholarships**  
-Jack Cline of Miles City, MT  
-Lucas Trefzger of Helena, MT  
-Madisyn Garcia of Kalispell, MT  
-Jamar West of East Helena, MT  
-Kathleen O'Connell of Bozeman, MT

**Montana Ninety-Nines Scholarship - \$5,000 scholarship**  
-Laura White of Livingston, MT

**Montana Pilots Association Air Safety and Education Foundation (MPA ASEF) Flight Training Scholarship - \$3,000 scholarship**  
-Aaron Trueblood of Columbia Falls, MT

**Montana Pilots Association (MPA) Junior Pilot Scholarship - \$3,000 scholarship**  
-Lucas Trefzger of Helena, MT

**Parrott Family Scholarship - \$1,000 scholarship**  
-Gabriel Varns of Helena, MT

**Theresa (Nistler) Colley Flight Scholarship - \$2,000 scholarship**  
-Oceana Munsey of Victor, MT

# Montana Airport Directory

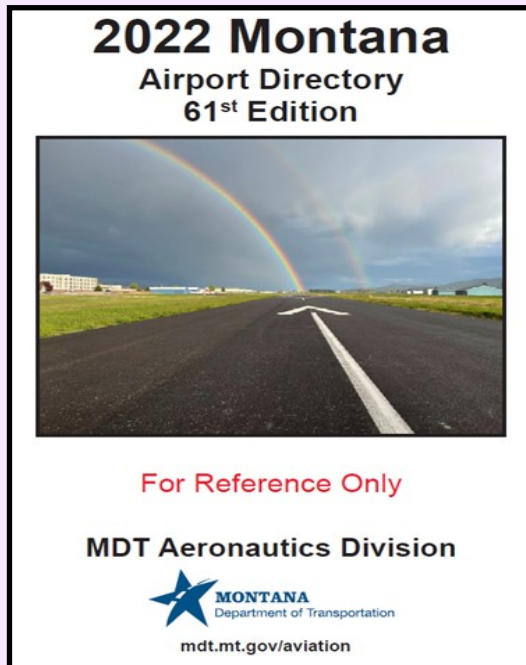
For 61 years, the Aeronautics Division has published a Montana Airport Directory. The directory is created by the division and distributed to pilots with their annual pilot registration (annual pilot registration is required by Montana law, some exceptions apply). Directories are also sold to the public. The directory contains information and diagrams about each of Montana's public use airports, like the FAA's chart supplement. The division's directory is more comprehensive and unique because it contains additional descriptions and local information that can be helpful.

The directory is created from user input, and heavily relies on airport managers to provide the division with updated airport information. The division sends an annual survey to all airport managers to update, add, change, and correct any information to their respective airport pages. Once the division receives the changes, an intern team at Montana State University updates the diagrams in the directory and division personnel make the rest of the necessary changes. The State Print and Mail Division formats and prints the directories, preparing them for distribution.

Please keep in mind the directory is published the first week of January every year and should be used for reference only. The FAA constantly updates and publishes its chart supplement every 56 days and is considered the official source of current airport information.

Congratulations to Todd Clark as the winner of this year's airport directory photo contest! His picture was taken at the Kalispell City Airport.

Thank you to everyone who submitted photos as part of the photo contest! Good luck in all your adventures and be sure to chase that pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. As this photo confirms, you may just find it down a Montana runway.



## Yellowstone Airport Expects Increase in Traffic



Photo courtesy of Yellowstone airport staff

Yellowstone Airport (WYS) is preparing for another busy season in 2022! Visitation to Yellowstone National Park is expected to be very high once again. Additionally, the Jackson Hole Airport is expected to have a complete airport closure April 11th – June 28th. WYS is the closest commercial service airport to Yellowstone Park and will likely see an increase in General Aviation patrons as well as airline passengers. Lodging is very limited, so it is advised to make your travel reservations well in advance.



Tim Conway, Administrator

**Montana and the Sky**  
Department of Transportation

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Follow MDT on social media!



# Montana Aeronautics Board Awards Funding for FY 2023

On January 11-12, 2022, the Montana Aeronautics Board met to award \$3,000,000 in grants and \$350,000 in loans to various Montana airports as part of its annual loan and grant program. Due to increased federal funding through COVID-19 related relief funding for the past two years for federal projects, along with increased fuel tax revenues in 2021 because of more people travelling, there was more grant money available this year. The Board awarded funds for 61 out of a total of 97 different project requests across 35 Montana public airports, including federally and non-federally funded projects. This will provide much needed improvements to the airport infrastructure in Montana, to include pavement rehabilitation, beacon repair/replacement, lighting, security fencing, weather reporting equipment and cameras, and more.

A large portion of the money given in grants and loans each year goes to leverage 90/10 Federal (FAA) match dollars for airport construction projects, but there is usually a significant percentage awarded for nonfederal airport projects as well. Applications for loans and grants opens July 1 and are due to the Aeronautics Division by November 15<sup>th</sup> each year, and the money is typically awarded in January of the following year. Although awarded in January, the funds are not available until the beginning of the state's next fiscal year, July 1. The nine members of the Montana Aeronautics Board have sole responsibility for awarding loan and grant funds. This program is open to all public-use airports except for federally owned or privately owned public-use, and the money can be used for any qualifying airport or aviation related project. For more information regarding the program, contact Karen Speeg at 406-444-9569.

The projects funded for FY 2023 are as follows:

<b>AIRPORT</b>	<b>GRANT AMOUNT</b>	<b>LOAN AMOUNT</b>
<b>Anaconda</b> –Master Plan/Lighting	\$30,500	\$0
<b>Bridger</b> - Beacon	\$14,000	\$14,000
<b>Broadus</b> - PVMT Rehab	\$14,900	\$0
<b>Browning</b> – Fencing	\$140,250	\$0
<b>Choteau</b> – PVMT Rehab/Signs	\$15,000	\$0
<b>Columbus</b> – Weather Cameras	\$7,500	\$0
<b>Conrad</b> – PVMT Rehab/Lighting	\$23,000	\$0
<b>Cut Bank</b> – PVMT Rehab	\$39,300	\$0
<b>Deer Lodge</b> – Construct Rwy Safety Area/Weather Cameras	\$24,900	\$0
<b>Dutton</b> - PVMT Rehab/Construct Twy	\$88,200	\$0
<b>Ekalaka</b> – Beacon	\$16,000	\$0
<b>Eureka</b> – Weather Cameras	\$7,500	\$0
<b>Fairfield</b> - PVMT Rehab	\$78,060	\$0
<b>Gardiner</b> – PVMT Rehab	\$580,000	\$102,852
<b>Glasgow</b> – PVMT Rehab	\$50,400	\$0
<b>Great Falls</b> – Snow Removal Equip/Extend Twy	\$117,000	\$0
<b>Havre</b> – Emerg. Generator/Weather Cameras	\$28,750	\$0
<b>Helena</b> – Weather Cameras	\$3,750	\$0
<b>Kalispell City</b> – Lighting	\$394,187	\$0
<b>Laurel</b> – Master Plan/Fencing	\$51,000	\$0
<b>Lewistown</b> - PVMT Rehab/Fencing	\$297,450	\$29,550
<b>Libby</b> – Weather Cameras	\$7,500	\$0
<b>Livingston</b> – Construct Twy	\$31,500	\$50,000
<b>Malta</b> – Beacon	\$15,845	\$0
<b>MDT Aero</b> – Weather Cameras	\$17,305	\$0
<b>Plains</b> – AWOS	\$36,000	\$0
<b>Red Lodge</b> – PVMT Rehab	\$36,150	\$0
<b>Scobey</b> – AWOS/NAVAIDs/Rehab Rwy	\$38,050	\$3,950
<b>Shelby</b> – AWOS	\$32,400	\$0
<b>Sidney</b> –PVMT Rehab/Lighting	\$315,000	\$35,000
<b>Stanford</b> - Const. Twy	\$30,000	\$15,000
<b>Superior</b> – Weather Cameras	\$7,500	\$0
<b>Terry</b> – Master Plan	\$11,500	\$11,500
<b>Three Forks</b> – PVMT Rehab/Extend Twy/Twy Lighting/Weather Cameras	\$363,603	\$88,148
<b>White Sulphur Springs</b> – AWOS	\$36,000	\$0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 3,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>



# Pilots Gather for Winter Survival Clinic



In January, around 30 pilots, student pilots, and future pilots from across Montana and Idaho gathered at the Sugar Loaf Lodge outside Anaconda to participate in the Aeronautics Division's Winter Survival Clinic. As part of the clinic, special forces military experts provided two days of training in shelter construction, signaling, fire starting, hydration, and first aid to attendees.

One can never predict when an aircraft accident will happen or how long it may take to be rescued after, but we can prepare and learn how to survive when the odds are against us. Staying warm, dry, sheltered, and hydrated, as well as having knowledge of constructing snow shelters, signaling, fire making, and taking care of yourself were the key take-aways of this course. During the clinic, participants learned how to construct various types of survival shelters from basic survival kits, natural resources, and snow. Students and instructors camped in the elements overnight in their shelters to finish off the course and test the skills they learned in the classroom the previous day.

This course has been offered intermittently for many years by the Aeronautics Division and has been wildly popular. It is a great way for pilots to learn winter survival skills in a controlled environment.

Advertising for the 2022 Winter Survival Clinic was brief, as we were overwhelmed with interest from pilots to obtain this valuable training. As always, be sure to watch the Aeronautics calendar of events at: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml> for next year's Winter Survival Course dates, as well as other Montana aviation events. Reserve your spot early, next year's Winter Survival course will likely fill up quickly!

All photos courtesy of Aeronautics staff







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 ..... Prizes ..... Entry Requirements**

**Category 1:**

Kindergarten - 5th grade

**Category 2:**

6th Grade - 8th Grade

**Category 3:**

9th Grade - 12th Grade

**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. 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 will be sent via mail.

1. Contest deadline is: Friday, April 1, 2022.
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, Teacher's Name, School's Mailing Address and Phone Number, and Parent's Name and Phone Number.
7. Previous years' first place winners are welcome to participate but are not eligible for first place prize.

*Get More Info*

Submitted artwork will not be returned unless specifically requested.

Winners will be contacted after the contest deadline. Arrangements will be made at that time for air travel to Helena.

**Mail Artwork To:**  
MDT Aeronautics Division  
Attn: Art Contest  
P.O. Box 200507  
Helena, MT 59620-0507

**Visit Our Website:**  
[mdt.mt.gov/aviation/](http://mdt.mt.gov/aviation/)

**Or Contact:**  
[mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov](mailto:mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov)  
406-444-2506



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## Airport Highlight: Geraldine

If you have visited the Geraldine Airport in the last few years, you may have noticed that the runway and apron pavements were disintegrating and were in disrepair. In the summer of 2021, Chouteau County and the Town of Geraldine received FAA funding to reconstruct all pavement areas, reconstruct the airport beacon and runway lighting, install a wind cone, expand the GA Apron, and install perimeter wildlife fencing around the airport property. They constructed a taxiway in anticipation of airport growth and have plans to install a 100LL self-serve fuel system and construct a T-hangar to help generate revenue for maintenance of the newly improved airport. Other plans include acquiring snow removal equipment along with a storage building, and a courtesy car. Geraldine was previously awarded a state grant to assist with this project, but these projects were all 100% federally funded thanks to the COVID-19 related relief federal funding packages. The county also purchased a large revenue-generating hangar that includes a restroom and pilot lounge, so be sure to check it out on your next visit. They do not have the courtesy car yet, but most of the town is within walking distance from the airport, including the historic Milwaukee Depot. This wood-constructed railroad depot displays history of the area and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

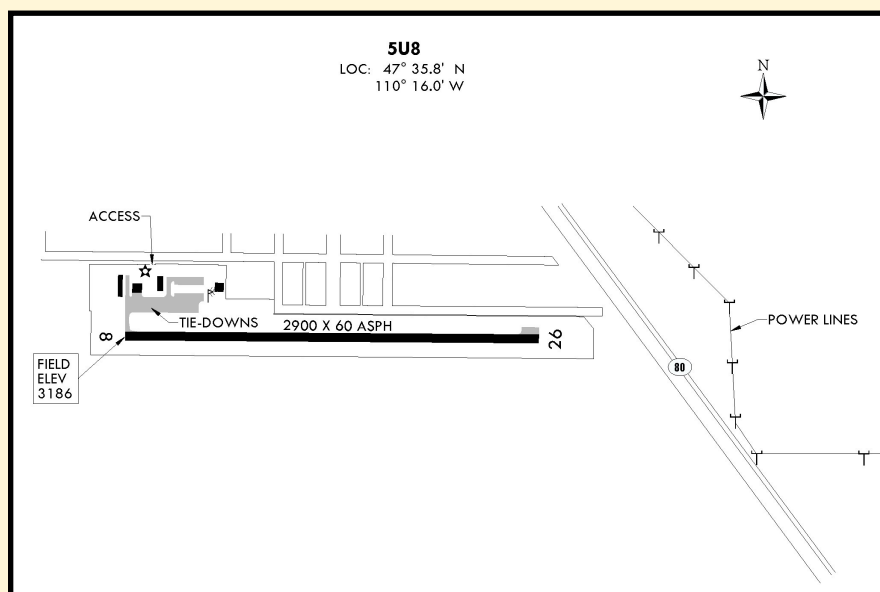


Diagram courtesy of Robert Peccia & Associates

William Rockefeller's wife and daughter, either one or both of whom the town was named after. William was the director of the Milwaukee Railroad when Geraldine was established as a stop between Harlowton and Great Falls in 1916.

## NTSB to FAA: Require Carbon Monoxide Detectors in General Aviation Aircraft

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has called on the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the second time, to require carbon monoxide detectors in general aviation aircraft. The safety recommendation report is one of the latest efforts by the NTSB to alert the general aviation community to the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

The NTSB identified 31 accidents between 1982 and 2020 attributed to CO poisoning. Of these 31 accidents, 23 were fatal, killing 42 people and seriously injuring four more. A CO detector was found in only one of the airplanes and it was not designed to provide an active audible or visual alert to the pilot, features the NTSB also recommended. The NTSB toxicology testing for CO was only performed as part of fatal accidents when a suitable blood specimen could be obtained; the actual number of accidents caused by CO poisoning may be higher.

CO is an odorless and colorless gas byproduct of engine combustion. It can enter the cabin of general aviation aircraft through defective, cracked, or corroded exhaust systems or damaged or defective firewalls, door seals, landing gear compartments, fuel burning heaters, or steering boots.

The NTSB, citing numerous accidents caused by CO poisoning, first recommended that the FAA require CO detectors in general aviation aircraft with enclosed cabins and forward-mounted engines in 2004. The FAA declined to require detectors and instead recommended that general aviation airplane owners and operators install them on a voluntary basis. The FAA also recommended exhaust system inspections and muffler replacements at intervals they believed would address equipment failures before they led to CO poisoning.

The NTSB also recommended that the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and the Experimental Aircraft Association inform their members about the dangers of CO poisoning, encourage them to install CO detectors, and ensure their aircraft exhaust systems are thoroughly inspected during regular maintenance.



Photo courtesy of the National Transportation Safety Board

Article summarized from a 01/20/2022 press release from the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). The original NTSB press release, as well as the complete safety recommendation report, can be accessed at: <https://www.nts.gov/news/press-releases/Pages/NR20220120.aspx>



# WYS Facebook Page



Want to stay up to date on happenings at Yellowstone Airport? Be sure to check out and follow the official WYS Facebook page! Scan the QR code (right) with your phone to access the page, or search "Yellowstone Airport – WYS" in Facebook. The official Facebook page for WYS contains the Yellowstone Airport logo, (left).



## Calendar of Events



**March 1, 2022 — Aircraft and Pilot Registration Renewal Deadline**

**March 3-5, 2022 — Montana Aviation Conference**, Missoula. For more information, visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/conference.aspx>

**March 4-5, 2022 — Montana Aircraft Mechanic Refresher & I.A. Renewal Seminar**, Montana Aviation Conference, Missoula. For more information, visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/conference.aspx>

**April 1, 2022 — Aviation Awareness Art Contest Deadline** See Page 5 for additional information and submission guidelines.

**May 28, 2022 — Spotted Bear Work Session** Come out to 8U4 for a work party! The fun begins at 9:00 a.m.

**June 11, 2022 — Butte Wings & Wheels** Fly-in or drive to Bert Mooney Airport in Beautiful Butte for our second annual aircraft fly-in & car/truck show! Hosted by the Butte Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol. Enjoy a free breakfast 7:30-10:00 (donations accepted), Avgas discount at Butte Aviation, and fun for young and old alike, plus prizes! For more information, contact Walt McIntosh at (406) 670-1846.

**June 18, 2022 — Meadow Creek Work Session** Starting at 9:00 a.m. Bring your shovels to 0S1 and pitch in!

**July 16, 2022 — Schafer Meadows Work Session** Fly in to Schafer for the annual work party! Work starts at 9:00 a.m.

**July 23-24, 2022 — Flight Over the Falls Montana Military Open House** The Malmstrom Air Force Base 341st Missile Wing and the Montana Air National Guard 120th Airlift Wing are co-hosting a Montana Military Open House at the Great Falls airport. There will be aerial demonstrations both days, including the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, as well as a variety of other organizations and aircraft. This event is free and open to the public. For more information and safety reminders, please visit [www.greatfallsairshow.com](http://www.greatfallsairshow.com).

### 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 [mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov](mailto:mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov) before the first Friday of each month for the next month's issue.



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

## MDT Aeronautics FAA Weather Webcam Locations

The Montana Department of Transportation has created a map of the FAA weather web cameras that are currently in place and operational throughout Montana (green), as well as scheduled installations for 2022 (yellow) and possible future weather camera sites (orange).

This map will be updated as more cameras are added.

View all current webcams at <https://avcams.faa.gov/>

