

Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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2024 Aviation Awareness Art Contest Winners Announced!



Congratulations to the winners of this year's Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Aeronautics Division's Aviation Awareness Art Contest!

MDT Aeronautics Division programs, such as the art contest, show youth the many opportunities that aeronautics provides in careers, transportation, and the economy. Many past winners of this contest have gone on to find successful careers in aviation. Judges had a difficult time selecting winners from nearly 270 entries this year.

Category I (K-5th grade) winners:

- 1st place: Summer F. of Kalispell
- 2nd place: Hridwin V. of Havre
- 3rd place: Chase V. of Chinook



Category II (6th-8th grade) winners:

- 1st place: Lauren W. of Whitefish
- 2nd place: Emily B. of Kalispell
- 3rd place: Zeike F. of Columbia Falls



Category III (9th-12th grade) winners:

- 1st place: Kaitlyn W. of Belgrade
- 2nd place: Uuree E. of Fairview
- 3rd place: Damein C. of Cutbank



You are Invited: Canyon Ferry Fly-In June 22



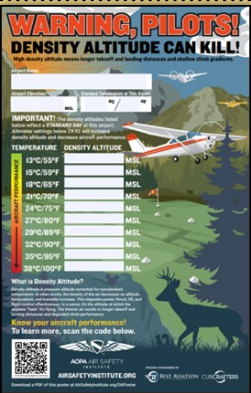
Please fly your aircraft into Canyon Ferry from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. to support the annual Aviation Career Exploration (ACE) Academy! This is a great opportunity to show off your aircraft and talk to high school students interested in aviation.

Students love to hear how you got started in aviation and about your careers in the field. We want you to spend some time with us and talk about the world of aviation.

We hope for a strong turnout with a variety of aircraft!

Please RSVP to mdtad@mt.gov or 406-444-2506 if you plan on attending.

Density Altitude Posters



Two years ago, the Airport Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) launched a new campaign to bring additional awareness to density altitude (DA). During the campaign, the AOPA developed a new DA reminder poster. The poster is designed to remind pilots of the effects of temperature on DA, since many accidents in the western mountain region of the United States have DA listed as a contributing factor. This poster is displayed at most Montana airports with airport-specific DA information, as well as near self-serve fuel pumps, pilot lounges, fixed base operators, outhouses, fenceposts, etc.

It is helpful to keep a copy of the Koch Chart in your cockpit for quick reference. This chart is a helpful resource to remind you to always consider DA and review your aircraft's performance charts before you fly!

To order a DA poster, visit the AOPA's website by scanning the QR Code:



SOLD

Dell Airport Sold

MDT is excited to announce that it sold the Dell Airport in May during a public auction. A private landowner purchased the airport property for the minimum bid amount. Proceeds from the sale go to MDT Aeronautics.

Part of the sale contract requires the new landowner to maintain the airport and keep it open to the public. The new owner may not charge landing fees to aircraft that weigh less than 12,500 pounds. If the owner fails to maintain the airport or keep it open to the public, ownership of the airport property will revert back to the state.

This innovative public-private partnership ensures the airport will be maintained and remain open to the public.

Search Pilot Program Updated

For nearly 40 years, the MDT Aeronautics Division has held a search pilot clinic to train volunteer pilots to search for missing aircraft. Montana is one of very few states to operate its own search services using both state and volunteer aircraft, pilots, and observers.

This year, MDT Aeronautics has changed the structure will the search pilot clinic. Now, participating pilots and observers will receive a full day of ground instruction relating to search procedures, safety, terrain considerations, how the incident command system operates, and responsibilities of searchers. Dual flight instruction will occur at a later time, in the volunteer's own aircraft with an MDT Aeronautics approved flight instructor to complete MDT Aeronautics flight training syllabus.

This training is open to volunteer aircraft owners/pilots and observers who are committed to being available when search services are needed.

Search pilot training dates and volunteer application will be available next month. Participants will be selected based on the type of aircraft they own, their geographic location in Montana, experience, and their availability to serve in the volunteer search and rescue network after their training is completed.

The training is also open to volunteer observers who will be trained to look for signs of a crash site and gain experience in documenting positions, altitudes, and communicating to the ground.

MDT Aeronautics staff Aeronautics will select up to 24 qualified candidates to attend the course. Please watch out for more information in next month's newsletter regarding requirements, training dates, and registration.

For more information about this clinic, contact:

Matt Lindberg
406-444-9568
mlindberg@mt.gov



5010 Airport Inspections

The 2024 Airport Master Record (5010) Inspection season has now arrived, along with improving weather conditions. This year 39 airports will be receiving their 5010 inspections in western Montana. You may see MDT's Aviation Support Officer performing the inspections with a range finder, survey wheel, and clipboard in hand.

Airport Managers and Sponsors receive a copy of the inspection and field notes via email after the inspection. Airport staff are not required to be present for the 5010s, but it is a great opportunity for MDT Aeronautics staff to catch up with the managers and go over updates to airport data.

5010 Master Record Airport inspections are the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) mandated safety and information system for every public use airport in the US. In Montana, the MDT Aeronautics Division performs these inspections for public-use non-commercial airports.

The FAA Chart Supplement (formerly known as the Airports and Facilities Directory) derives all airport information within it from 5010 inspections. Other publications, such as aeronautical charts and instrument approach procedure plates, also derive some of their information from these inspections.

Numerous privately produced publications rely on 5010 information as their primary source of data. Information is determined during the inspection including obstructions, number of airport operations, visual landing aids, pavement conditions, lighting information, and various other safety and general data elements. The inspections also determine or verify runway approach slope obstruction gradients. These are used in determining whether runways meet the necessary criteria for precision and non-precision approaches.

For more information or questions about 5010 inspections, please contact:
Stephen Torske at 406-444-9569 or storske@mt.gov.



Attention Airport Sponsors

As a friendly reminder, airport sponsors who were previously awarded a loan or grant from MDT Aeronautics Division are required to complete a status update or project closeout form each year. To be eligible to apply for additional funding this year, the closeout form or status update must be completed first.

The loan and grant application period opens on July 1 and will close on November 15, 2024.

For assistance or questions, please contact Stephen Torske at 406-444-9581 or storske@mt.gov.

Calendar of Events

June 8 - Big Timber Fly-In Breakfast. Hosted by Yellowstone Air Service. Donations accepted for breakfast. Short takeoff and landing (STOL) competition and car show. For more information, contact Gabriel Chandler at 701-339-5843.

June 8 - Butte Wings and Wheels Fly-In or Drive-In. 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Walt McIntosh 406-670-1846.

June 15 - Choteau Fly-In. 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. Free breakfast, donations welcome. Young Eagles airplane rides available. For more information, contact Scott Gasvoda at 406-590-2836.

June 15 - Meadow Creek Airstrip Work Party. Work starts at 9 a.m. If you're handy with a chainsaw, bring one along as there are a lot of downed trees to cut and stack for firewood. Lunch will be provided. For more information contact Scott Newpower at 406-670-3169.

June 15 - Thompson Falls Fly-In. Fly-In and pancake breakfast June 15, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more information contact Robert Rice at sanderscopilots@gmail.com.

June 15 - Geraldine Fly-In. 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. In conjunction with Geraldine Fun Day. Lots of activities downtown and breakfast at the fire station. For more Fly-In information, contact Butch Hankins at 406-737-4244. For information on Geraldine Fun Day go to geraldineac.com.

June 18 - Del Bonita Work Party. Starting at 9 a.m. Contact Stephen Torske for more information at 406-444-9569 or storske@mt.gov.

June 20 - 22 - Aviation Exploration (ACE) Academy. Helena. For more information, contact Barbara Barnum at 406-444-2506 or bbarnum@mt.gov.

June 20 - 23 - Fly-In. Annual Missouri Breaks Fly-In. The Fly-In starts Friday, June 21 with arrivals in Winifred. Fly out to Missouri Breaks strips, then dinner in Winifred's hangar. Saturday June 22, fly out to Lewistown's MPA Central Hangar Fly In Breakfast, then fly to the Breaks followed by dinner in Winifred. Breakfast in Winifred Sunday, June 23. For more information, contact Ralph Rogers at 406-350-5487.

June 22nd - Canyon Ferry Fly-In. 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. See page 1 for details. For more information, contact Matt Lindberg at 406-444-2506 or mlindberg@mt.gov.

June 22 - Montana Pilot's Association (MPA) Fly-In and Pancake Breakfast. Lewistown. 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Hosted by the MPA Central Montana Hangar. Once again, we will be serving our word famous, Jeff and Stacy Martinez, cinnamon chip pancakes! For more information contact Pete Smith at 406-366-1435 or pete180@gmail.com.

July 4 - Plains-Paradise Rural Fire Department Pancake Breakfast. Plains Airport. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Ride an antique fire truck shuttle to the breakfast held at the fire held next door. Contact Randy Garrison at 406-370-6179.

July 13 - MPA South-Central Hangar Wings and Wheels Fly-In & Drive-In. Laurel Airport. 8 a.m. Food trucks will be on site for the day to purchase meals. EAA Young Eagles rides. Avgas discount available. For more information, contact John Roberts at 406-855-2372.

July 20 - Schafer Meadows Work Party. Work starts at 9 a.m. Dinner provided Saturday night, so come help out and camp for the weekend. For more information contact Scott Newpower at 406-670-3169.

July 20 - 21 - Saint Ignatius Fly-In. Saturday July 20, free BBQ, helicopter rides 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday, July 21, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., free huckleberry pancake breakfast, 100 gallon avgas giveaway, many door prizes, helicopter rides. Contact Michael Kuefler 406-544-2274 for more information.

July 25 - 28 - Big Sky Balloon Rally. Amend Park, Billings. 6 a.m. balloon launches. July 25 through 28. Field opens to the public on July 27 at 6 p.m., live music starts at 6:15. Balloon glow at dusk (weather permitting)! For information, go to bigskyballoonrally.com.

July 27 - Lincoln Fly-In. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. BBQ and Potluck at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Contact Jerry Cain at 406-461-5631 or jeromecain@gmail.com for more information.

August 3 - Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Fly-In. Three Forks. Hot breakfast available for purchase from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m., free lunch from 11a.m. to 1 p.m.. Ping pong ball drop, young eagles discovery flights, flying events with awards, static display with peoples choice award. Dinner food available for pilots camping both Friday and Saturday nights. For more information, visit www.mt-aaa.com [mt-aaa.com] or contact Nick Hunt at 503-209-1041.

August 24 - Anaconda Fly-in and Car show. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Food and drinks available to purchase, games for the kids, airplane rides and lots of other exciting activities. Please call Greg Bahr at 406-490-7281 with any questions.

September 1 - Red Lodge Wings-n-Wheels Fly-In/Drive-In. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. with free breakfast, donations go toward improvement of the airport. For more information contact Bo Ewald at b.ewald@att.net.

September 7 - North Central Hanger Fly-In. Havre. 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Contact William Hurd at 406-945-3646 for more information.

September 21 - Lincoln Fly-In. Pancake breakfast from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Contact Doug Vulcan at vulcandg406@gmail.com for more information.

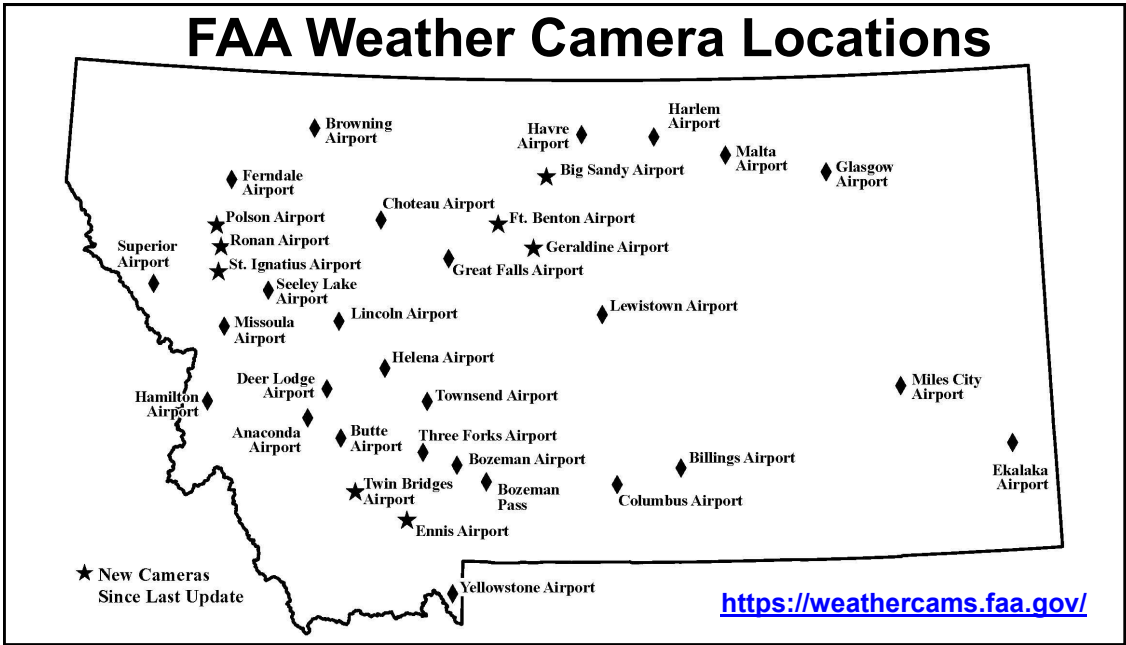
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