

Wing and Rotor of Western New York, Inc.

Reservoir Park Flying Site Rules

Applicable to members of Wing and Rotor of Western New York
Rev. 07-24-2024, Replaces Rev. 03-30-23, 11-5-21, 04-5-01 and 01-02020.

Safety Rules-General

1. Flying is by permit only, issued by Wing and Rotor. Multiple layers of rules are in effect: The AMA associated Chartered Flying Site Safety Rules and Regulations, FAA regulations and requirements, FCC regulations, Reservoir State Park permit/rules, Niagara Falls Control Tower FAA Form 7711-1 Airspace Authorization, Flying Site rules and the Emergency Action Plan (EAP). All members must abide by these rules. In addition, all members and guest flyers must comply with the Wing and Rotor By-Laws and Standing Rules as well as all local, state and federal laws. Disregard for these rules and laws may result in disciplinary actions; see Wing and Rotor By-Laws and Standing Rules documents for details.
2. Flying is permitted from dawn to dusk (No night flying or flying in dark conditions) per the Reservoir State Park permit. Furthermore, those flying large gas or glow-powered planes are restricted to flight operations after 8am and before 8pm due to noise concerns and again only during daylight hours, weather permitting.
3. Guest Flyers (US Citizens or Residents) - Guest flyers are always welcome to fly, watch, or ask questions. To fly, the guest must have a valid AMA membership or an AMA Affiliate Membership for non-residents. Complete the revised W&R Club Application completely, receive and understand a copy of W&R Flying Site Rules, EAP, and Airspace Authorization Form 7711-1, Confirm they understand the rules and sign the application. The guest must demonstrate flight competence as observed and approved by a flying member. No flying is allowed without completing all the requirements. Guests who are new to the hobby and who are interested in participating in the hobby may fly as a student on a buddy box with the aid of club instructor. A safety briefing, and a flying site rules briefing shall be given. A blank membership application will also be given to guests as a way to get started.
4. Guest Flyers that are Non-US Citizens or Non-US Residents- See FAA Requirements at: <https://amablog.modelaircraft.org/amagov/2016/06/20/faa-non-citizen-registration/>
All pilots, including those visiting from outside the United States, are required by the FAA to register if they plan to fly most unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) weighing 250 grams (8.8oz) or more outdoors. FAA registration can only be completed online using a United States based computer. Therefore, it is recommended these non-US citizen or non-US residents register once he or she arrives in the U.S. Pilots are also required to have a valid TRUST Authentication Token. AMA Requirements: Current valid AMA Affiliate Membership. Affiliate membership is for non-US permanent residents and provides full liability insurance benefits and competition privileges while flying in the US.
5. Guests New to the Hobby- Guests who are new to the hobby who are interested in entering the hobby may fly as a student on a buddy box with the aid of club instructor. A safety briefing, and a flying site rules briefing shall be given prior to an introductory flight. A blank Membership Application and the "Getting Started" documents should be given if the prospective member is interested in pursuing the hobby.
6. A paved vehicle unloading/loading area is provided west of the flying field shelter. Parking there for up to 15 minutes to unload or load his/her aircraft and equipment. Two handicap parking spots are also located in this area for any automobile with a valid handicapped placard. ADA parking is not restricted to Wing and Rotor members and the public.
7. The Reservoir State Park, including the flying site may contain ticks, spiders and other insects. Pilots and guests are encouraged to respond appropriately to protect themselves, their friends, their families and their pets.
8. No alcoholic beverages, recreational drugs, or illegal substances of any kind are allowed.

9. Smoking is NOT allowed in the park including the flying site as per NYS law.
10. Members are discouraged from flying alone for safety reasons.
11. The shelter and picnic tables are located in the Spectators Area. ATTENTION: Spectators, and their friends, families, children, and their pets are not permitted beyond the Spectator's Area. ONLY pilots, pilot helpers and emergency personnel are allowed beyond the Spectators Area for strict safety reasons.
12. All pets must be on a leash and kept away from aircraft, flight areas and pit areas.
13. Pilots (members) are encouraged to have a personal Fire Extinguisher and First Aid Kit.
14. Engine testing, tuning and break-in must be done ONLY at the far EAST end of the Pit Area and at least 20 feet away from the last flight bench for noise and safety reasons.
15. All trash shall be placed in the park garbage receptacles or taken home.
16. During emergencies, refer to the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for guidance.

Safety Rules-Equipment

1. Transmitters using 50 and 72 MHz frequencies must display the channel on which it is operating on a pole in front of the operator's flight station or on the transmitter's antenna. Frequency control coordination is the responsibility of those operating at these frequencies.
2. All aircraft must set the failsafe feature (*if so equipped*) to engine idle or off to avoid flight into controlled airspace.
3. All gas ignition engines shall have two means of ignition cut off utilizing a manual exterior accessible switch on the aircraft and a means to cut off the ignition using the transmitter.
4. All engine-powered aircraft equipped with engines larger than 1/2A size (.049/.051 cubic inch displacement) require mufflers.
5. Each pilot shall have no more than a maximum of two gallons of fuel in the pit area.
6. Fuel dumping is prohibited; proper recycling/reclaiming is required.
7. All batteries beyond their useful life are to be disposed of properly (recycled per New York State regulations) by the owner and not disposed of in the park trash receptacles.
8. Lithium batteries being charged must never be left unattended. Also do NOT charge batteries near any type of fuel or accelerant.
9. No fuel-powered turbines of any type are allowed including pulse type jets and rocket powered aircraft.

Safety Rules-Flight Operations

1. Beginners must first be approved by a qualified experienced club instructor prior to attempting solo flight.
2. A maximum of up to four aircraft are allowed to be flying at any given time except during RC combat events.
3. Hand starting of glow and gasoline engines is discouraged.
4. All powered aircraft shall be restrained during engine starting and running.
5. Taxiing is not allowed in the pit area behind the flight safety line in front of the flight benches.
6. Pilots must make appropriate announcements (Callouts), (examples: Taking Off, Landing, On The Field, All Clear, Dead Stick, Heads Up...) of their intentions when taking-off, landing, entering the Runway Area and or during any other emergencies.
7. Dead stick (engine out) and landing aircraft have priority over all other RC aircraft operations. Carefully check for landing traffic before attempting taxi and take-off and announce your intentions. COMMUNICATION promotes SAFETY. Safety is EVERYTHING!!!
8. The direction of landings and take offs is determined by the wind direction as indicated by the windsock, however, they shall NEVER be towards the pit area or spectators. If the wind is strong and from the south, taxi or carry the aircraft to either the East or West end of the field and take off to the southwest or southeast away from the pit area and spectators.
9. Do not stand in front of the safety flight line or on the runway at any time while flying.

10. Deliberate flying behind the safety line (Flight Line) is prohibited.
11. All flights must fly under 400 feet, within the boundary of the adjacent roadways and ALWAYS give the right of way to manned aircraft. Upon observing manned aircraft, normal flight operations cease by reducing the altitude to 100 feet (AGL) or landing until the area is clear.
12. High-speed low passes, maiden flights, landing practice and or aggressive aerobatics shall be conducted responsibly, with proper Callouts, and ONLY from beyond the Runway Centerline out and to the North.
13. Flying large aircraft utilizing the entire flying center of the field is limited to 12-minute flights in order to accommodate other flyers.
14. Helicopter flights and quadcopter flights are allowed on the outfield of ball diamond #2 if the diamond is not occupied or in use.
15. Uncontrolled, or loss of any controlled flight, lost link, or fly away into controlled airspace that is creating a hazard to manned aircraft (above 500 feet) must be reported to the Niagara Falls Air Traffic Control Tower at (716) 297-1310.
16. Chasing or harassing birds or wildlife is prohibited.
17. Flight operations and occupation of the flight area shall cease during thunderstorms or rain, grass mowing or other park maintenance on the field.
18. Sailplane high start lines shall run parallel to the runway unless wind conditions are unacceptable. In that event, they shall be placed beyond the ends of the runway.
19. Pilots are required to fly within the boundaries of our club's Flight Line, Military Road and the I-190.
20. The flying site is FAA FRIA approved. No, on board RID is required.