

UAS/Drones/Quadcopters:

Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), drones, or quadcopters are popular and increasingly available online and in stores. Prospective drone operators—from consumers to businesses—want to fly safely, but many do not realize that, just because you can easily acquire a drone, does not mean you can fly it anywhere or for any purpose.

Operating a drone of any size poses a danger to military, commercial, corporate, general, and emergency medical aviation. Particular care must be taken when operating within five (5) miles of an airport. The FAA's <http://knowbeforeyoufly.org>, provides drone operators with information and guidance needed to fly safely and responsibly.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics, www.modelaircraft.org, is an FAA-preferred resource for learning how to fly a drone and where to fly safely. The AMA has a number of organized local clubs in the Coeur d'Alene and Spokane areas and across the United States.

KNOW THE RULES:

Both manned and UAS operators should know the basic operating rules for small unmanned aircraft (FAR Part 107). Unmanned aircraft must:

- Weigh less than 55 pounds – including payload at takeoff
- Fly in Class G Airspace
- Be kept within visual line-of-sight
- Fly at or below 400 feet
- Fly during daylight or civil twilight
- Fly at or under 100 mph
- Yield right of way to manned aircraft
- Not fly directly over people
- Not be piloted from a moving vehicle, unless in a sparsely populated area

Additional UAS resources:

FAA Unmanned Aircraft Systems: www.faa.gov/uas

B4UFLY: Mobile App: www.faa.gov/uas/where_to_fly/b4ufly

FAA Drone Zone: <https://faadronezone.faa.gov>