

Monday, November 27, 2006

Memorandum to potential users of the Kentland Airfield:

A grass airfield for small (R/C scale) aircraft has been established at the university's Kentland Farm agricultural research facility. This airfield was made possible by the effort of Dwight Paulette, Jr. (College Farm Coordinator), David Schmale, III (PPWS), Shawn Askew (PPWS), and several others within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs). The airfield's primary purpose is to enable research collaborations involving UAVs among university faculty, however the facility is available to others in the university community who have an educational or outreach related need. If you wish to have access to the site, please e-mail David Schmale, III (dschmale@vt.edu) or Craig Woolsey (cwoolsey@vt.edu).



Following is a brief list of procedures to follow when using the Kentland Airfield:

1. **Announce your planned activity.** An online calendar has been established to enable users to to notify others of their planned experimental activities. The URL is <http://www.unmanned.vt.edu/kentlandfarm/index.html>. Users *must* announce their activity in advance using this calendar program.
2. **Bring supplies.** The Kentland Farm has few amenities. Use the bathroom before you go. Bring water, food, sunscreen, bug spray, etc., as necessary. Also bring a small medical kit in case of minor accidents. Note that A/C power and wireless internet are available at the site.
3. **Sign in and post warning signs.** A logbook and two yellow safety signs are located on the porch of the building at the main entrance of Kentland Farm (5250 Whitethorne Road). Before you begin using the airfield, sign into the logbook, post the smaller sign near the gate at the main entrance, and post the larger sign beside the road at the airfield. Please return the signs after you finish.
4. **Don't park on the airfield.** The airfield is itself a turgrass research experiment and should not be driven on. Park in the gravel area adjacent to the barn across the paved road from the airfield.
5. **Fly safely.** Follow established safety policies, observing relevant guidelines provided by the FAA and the Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA). Avoid overflying people or buildings, especially if you are flying an unproven aircraft.
6. **After-hours use.** The gate at the entrance to the research farm is generally open during regular business hours. If you need to use the airfield after hours, you may contact Craig Woolsey directly to borrow a key to the gate.