

The SPAARO UAV will take off from one of two airstrips at the Kentland Farm. Takeoff will either be via manual control through a 900MHz link from a pilot on the ground or using the autopilot's "auto-takeoff" feature. After takeoff via manual control or autopilot, the UAV autonomously climbs to a 100 meter radius "safety circle" over the ground control system (GCS) to verify that all communication links and other systems are operating normally. Once all systems are verified to be operating normally, the GCS operator commences the planned flight operations.

Landings will be performed via manual control through the 900MHz link or using the autopilot's "auto-land" feature. All take-offs and landings will occur at one of the two grass airstrips identified at Virginia Tech's Kentland Farm. An image of these airstrips and the flying area at the Kentland Farm has been uploaded into the map section of this application.