



**Somerset County Park Commission
Flying Field Regulations
North Branch Park**



In conjunction with all current AMA (Academy Model Aeronautics) field and safety regulations and FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) regulations, the Somerset County Park Commission has established the following regulations governing the Model Aircraft Flying Field at North Branch Park.

Flying Field Hours: 10:00am – 7:30pm Weekdays – Motorized Aircraft
 10:00am – 5:30pm Weekends – Motorized Aircraft
 8:00am – 1 hour before sunset – Non-motorized and Electric Aircraft
Hours may be modified due to special events conducted in the park
North Branch Park Closed one half hour after sunset
FAA regulations limit the flying of model aircraft to under 400 feet.

1. Flying by Permit only. (Initial permits must be obtained at Somerset Park Commission Headquarters.) Applicants and guests must have current Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) membership certification and an FAA Registration number. Flyers must have in their possession the current AMA card, FAA Registration Card and Park Commission Flying Field Permit while utilizing the Flying Field.
2. All Pilots are considered Students/Trainees until certified by an approved Check Pilot and must have a certified pilot assist them at the flight station. Check Pilot information may be obtained at the Park Commission Headquarters 908-722-1200 ext 5226.
3. All Pilots must be certified by a Check Pilot and have a “P” on their permit in order to fly solo.
4. All Aircraft must stay within established flight boundaries.
5. No flying of any kind will take place while the grass is being cut on the flying field.
6. Maximum of four (4) aircraft (any combination of planes, gliders, park flyers) and one Helicopter, Quadcopter or Drone in the Helicopter Hover Station, station H, are permitted in the air at any one time. This regulation may be amended during special events with prior approval from the Park Commission.
7. Only one Helicopter, Quadcopter or Drone may be flown on the main runway or in the center of the field at any time. Aforementioned aircraft must yield to fixed wing aircraft that are taking off or landing.
8. Initial turns after takeoff must move away from the pit/spectator area.
9. Flying any type of aircraft behind the flight line or over helicopter area is prohibited.
10. Engine restart on the runway is prohibited.
11. Taxiing aircraft from the flight station to the pit area is prohibited.
12. Piloting of any type of aircraft from a location other than the flight station is prohibited.

13. Expansion type mufflers are required for all engines over .099 cubic inches. Pre-1950 vintage ignition propelled engines are exempt.
14. All flyers should attempt to keep engine noise levels below 100 DB at full throttle at a reference distance of nine (9) feet.
15. During startup, all fixed wing aircraft must be restrained by a fixed device or by a spotter other than the person starting the aircraft.
16. All transmitters (with the exception of 2.4 GHz) are to be impounded unless they have a frequency pin.
16. All aircraft must bear the flyer's name and AMA number and FAA number.
17. Station "H" is the hover and student teaching area for Helicopters, Quadcopters, and Drones.
18. All FPV (First Person View) Aircraft must fly within the designated flying field and be in compliance with the AMA regulations guiding FPV operations and FAA regulations for the operation of unmanned aircraft.
19. The Somerset County Park Commission is not responsible for closing the flying field during a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR). TFRs may change frequently. It is the sole responsibility of the pilot to check for a TFR before flying and to obey any TFRs which impact the North Branch Park Flying Field.
20. Failure to comply with any of the above regulations or the AMA Safety Code may result in a temporary suspension or permanent revocation of the Flying Field Permit. The operation of unmanned aircraft without an FAA registration may result in fines of up to \$27,500.00.
21. Current Flying Field Permit holders may bring a guest to fly by the completion of the following procedure:
 - A. The permit holder acts as a sponsor, and in person, identifies himself/herself as a valid permit holder.
 - B. He/She also presents a copy of the requested guest's current AMA membership card and completes a guest form.
 - C. The guest will be limited to three visits as a guest. After which they must apply for a Flying Field Permit from the Somerset County Park Commission.

Adopted: September 15, 1983
Amended: December 9, 1993
Amended: January 17, 2008
Amended: June 18, 2015
Amended : April 21, 2016
Amended: September 19, 2024