

WISCONSIN AIRPORT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION  
MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER



# NEWSLETTER

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## REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 68th WISCONSIN AVIATION CONFERENCE

The 2024 Wisconsin Aviation Conference will be held October 2-4 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton.

Early registration rates are available through Friday, Aug. 16.

But don't wait. Register [HERE](#) today.

**Book your room.** The World Dairy Expo is Oct. 1-4 in Madison. The Madison Marriott West and most hotels will sell out this week. The room block rates are available through Tuesday, Sept. 10, 2024, while rooms last.

See conference hotel information, including links to reserve a room, [HERE](#).

Plan on arriving on Wednesday and staying through Friday. Here is a list of things you don't want to miss:

1. *Wednesday social events* – Golf, sporting clays, and more. WAMA is finalizing details, so stay tuned for more information.
2. *Wednesday evening reception* with exhibitors and guests featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres.
3. *Thursday night dinner* followed by fun and games with a casino night.

The WAC planning committee is putting together a spectacular conference lineup. As the event approaches, check the [conference agenda page](#) for updates.

Thanks to the host airport, Dane County Regional, WAC 2024 will be an exceptional conference for all attendees and an excellent opportunity to connect with friends and colleagues.

**Note:** If you haven't paid your WAMA membership dues yet, it is not too late to do so and receive discounted registration for this year's conference. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## CALL FOR WAC SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS

The Wisconsin Aviation Conference is only possible because of the support of our sponsors and exhibitors. Please consider joining us as a sponsor and/or exhibitor in 2024.

- **EXHIBITORS** – Please register [HERE](#) by **Friday, Aug. 16**, to receive the early bird rate.
- **SPONSORS** – You will find sponsorship options [HERE](#).

## WAMA AWARDS

The Wisconsin Airport Management Association is seeking nominations for the following 2024 WAMA Aviation Award categories:

- **Person of the Year Award** - Awarded to persons who have distinguished themselves in Wisconsin Aviation during the past calendar year.
- **Distinguished Service Award** - Awarded to the persons who have made an outstanding contribution to aviation.

- **Lifetime Service Award** - Awarded to persons who have devoted themselves to promoting and serving Wisconsin aviation for at least ten years.
- **Airport Engineering Award** - Awarded to persons who have made significant professional contributions in the airport engineering or architecture fields in Wisconsin.
- **Blue Light Award** - Awarded to persons in the media who have distinguished themselves by their excellent reporting on Wisconsin Aviation.

WAMA will recognize award winners at the 2024 Wisconsin Aviation Conference.

To nominate a person, submit your recommendation through our easy online award nomination form [HERE](#). **Nominations must be submitted by Friday, Aug. 16.**

## **AGREEMENT REACHED ON FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL**

After months of delay and three extensions, House and Senate transportation committee leaders announced a bipartisan agreement on an FAA reauthorization bill. The current short-term extension expires at midnight on Friday, May 10, and Congress may yet need another extension to finish its work.

The following information is from a summary prepared by the Contract Tower Association.

### Bill highlights:

- Five-year (FY 24-FY28), \$105.5 billion reauthorization measure;
- Authorizes \$4 billion annually for AIP;
- Authorizes \$200 million annually for discretionary airport grants that focus on resilience and runway safety projects;
- Authorizes \$350 million for a new PFAS replacement program;
- Streamlines the PFC application process;
- Fixes Section 163 from the last FAA bill;
- Take steps to improve staffing and equipment at contract towers; and
- Authorizes \$20 million annually for three workforce development programs.

### Resolution of Contentious Items:

A few controversial issues held up this legislation for months. The resolution of those issues is as follows:

- Excludes the House-passed provision to raise the mandatory retirement age for commercial airline pilots from 65 to 67;
- Includes compromise language on the 1,500-hour training rule that was in the Senate Commerce Committee-passed bill; and

- Adds five additional round trips at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport within and beyond the 1,250-mile perimeter.

Last week, the Senate took steps toward passing the FAA reauthorization bill, voting to overcome procedural hurdles ahead of the May 10 deadline.

Click [HERE](#) for more details about the FAA Reauthorization bill making its way through Congress.

## **DNR, DHS RESPOND TO EPA'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS FOR PFAS IN DRINKING WATER**

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) have released a response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) recent announcement of maximum contaminant levels for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

According to DNR and DHS, these standards recognize the necessity of curbing total PFAS exposure, mainly through contaminated drinking water, to mitigate potential adverse health effects.

“Overall, Wisconsin’s public water systems are well positioned to comply with the EPA’s enforceable standards,” said Steve Elmore, Director of the DNR’s Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater. “The DNR set enforceable standards for two types of PFAS in public drinking water in 2022. Over the last year, public water systems throughout Wisconsin have sampled at least once for these and other PFAS.”

The current standard remains effective until DNR completes rulemaking to align with EPA standards, a process expected to take up to three years.

During this rulemaking period, the DNR will collaborate with affected public water systems to mitigate PFAS contamination. Approximately 95% of Wisconsin's nearly 2,000 public water systems have PFAS levels below EPA standards, with sampling results accessible via the PFAS Interactive Data Viewer.

You can view the entire DNR and DHS response [HERE](#).

## **AOPA AIRCRAFT HANGAR DEVELOPMENT GUIDE**

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) has released a guide on hangar planning.

The AOPA Airport Support Network initiative, launched in 1997, aims to assist members in safeguarding general aviation airports across the United States. This Aircraft Hangar Development Guide is part of AOPA's ongoing efforts to equip volunteers with resources to ensure the vitality and growth of their local airports. The 39-page document covers every step from project planning to execution and can be viewed [HERE](#).

## **BOA WEBINAR FOR AIRPORT ECONOMIC STUDY**

The Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics (BOA) has announced that it is in the final stages of the statewide economic impact study and is prepared to share its findings.

The final project webinar will be via Zoom on May 30 at 2 p.m. At that time, BOA will summarize the results of the statewide economic impact. BOA will soon release information on how to participate in this meeting, and project deliverables will be available to all airports within a few weeks of the May 30 webinar.

If you have any questions or do not receive information to join, please contact Greg Sanders ([greg.sanders@woolpert.com](mailto:greg.sanders@woolpert.com); 513-297-3307), Brandon Benjamin ([brandon.benjamin@dot.wi.gov](mailto:brandon.benjamin@dot.wi.gov); 608 267-5256) or Tamera Weaver, ([tamera.weaver@dot.wi.gov](mailto:tamera.weaver@dot.wi.gov); 608 267-4492).

## **PRESERVING WISCONSIN'S AVIATION HERITAGE**

Wisconsin aviation pioneer Leo J. Kohn's legacy and spectacular aviation photography are the subject of the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame's current fundraising campaign. Leo Kohn, a founding Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) member and a passionate aviator, captured the essence of flight through his remarkable photography. The Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame is tasked with digitizing and preserving Kohn's extensive collection, ensuring his work inspires and educates aviation enthusiasts and others for generations. The Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame has already raised more than 31% of the funds needed for this vital project, highlighting our aviation community's strong support and dedication.

By supporting this project, Wisconsin Airport Management Association members can be crucial in preserving and sharing this significant piece of aviation history.

View the full release from the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame [HERE](#).  
Learn more about the collection and donate [HERE](#).



Beechcraft 35 Side-right 1180.  
"Bonanza" Color: V283 J  
NC-3134V Aluminum Red trim 3 sec.  
Black lettering  
Maitland Airstrip  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
October 16, 1947  
Owned by:  
Powered by: Continental E-165  
165 hp.



## AIRPORT EVENTS

*With the weather warming, airports throughout the state are hosting fun and exciting events. If you have an upcoming event at your airport that you would like WAMA to feature on social media or in future newsletters, please email [director@wiama.org](mailto:director@wiama.org).*

### **Southern Regional Wisconsin Airport**

May 13-18: [National SAFECON 2024](#)

July 20: [Pistons and Props](#)

### **Sheboygan County Memorial International Airport**

June 16: [Wings and Wheels](#)

### **Chippewa Valley Regional Airport**

May 11: [Pancake Breakfast and Fly-in](#)

### **Milwaukee Timmerman Airport**

June 8: [7th Annual Flour Drop Contest](#)

Sept. 14: [12th Annual Spot Landing Contest](#)

## **AIRPORTS IN THE NEWS**

*If your airport has been in the news and you would like us to share the story, email a link to: [director@wiama.org](mailto:director@wiama.org).*

[Dane County Regional Airport celebrates completion of south terminal](#), WKOW ABC-27, April 29

[Taking off: Aviation innovation continues to fly high in Wisconsin](#), InBusiness, April 26

[One year away: How three city entities are preparing for the 2025 NFL Draft](#), NBC-26 Northeast Wisconsin, April 24

[Appleton Airport Conducts Travel Test Run to Ease Stress for Travelers with Autism](#), WTAQ, April 20

[Wisconsin is one of 15 states helping feds enforce protections for airline passengers](#), WFRV Local 5, April 16

[Passenger numbers up at Central Wisconsin Airport](#), Spectrum News 1, April 15

[Milwaukee Airport: TSA intercepts 3 firearms in 1st quarter of 2024](#), FOX6 News, April 11

[Appleton International Airport growing](#), Spectrum News 1, April 7

[Frontier adding more flights out east from a future Milwaukee destination](#), Milwaukee Business Journal, April 4

[Timmerman Airport control tower improvements; \\$250K from fed funding](#), FOX6 News, March 21,

[Green Bay sees traffic climb](#), Aviation Week, March 21

[Avelo Airlines to offer summer flights to Orlando from CWA](#), Wausau Pilot & Review, March 20

[Airport noise study could jeopardize plans for affordable housing, Madison Mayor says](#), Wisconsin State Journal, March 15

[Aimee Scrima steps into role as Southern Wisconsin Regional Airport's new director](#), Janesville Gazette, March 4

[The Dane County Regional Airport is undergoing an \\$85 million expansion](#), Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, March 4

[La Crosse airport adds additional flight as small airports nationwide grapple with pilot shortage](#), News 8, Feb. 28

[La Crosse Regional Airport looking to have more passengers in 2024](#), WEAU-13 News, Feb.19

[ATW is the fastest-growing airport in the state, awarded \\$3.42 million for expansion project](#), NBC-26, Feb. 15

[American Airlines brings back 3rd daily flight from CWA to ORD, airport director hints at flights to Dallas-Ft. Worth](#), WSAU, Feb. 8

[Frontier Airlines adding another new route to a major city from Milwaukee in 2024](#), Milwaukee Business Journal, Feb. 7

[March 1, municipal airport interview with John Chmiel, Wausau Downtown Airport](#), Wisconsin Public Radio, Feb. 1

[Milwaukee airport passengers top 6 million for first time since pandemic](#), Spectrum News 1, Jan. 31

[You'll soon be able to fly nonstop to Los Angeles from Madison](#), Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Jan. 24

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