

Winter Flying Precautions

Fellow LifeLine Pilots,

We are now officially into winter and there are several positives of winter flying, i.e. winter air is denser, so engines produce more thrust and wings generate more lift causing an airplane to take off shorter and climb faster and it also provides increased visibility to enhance your flight.

Winter flying precautions include keeping your aircraft ice/frost/snow free prior to takeoff, fuel tanks full to avoid condensation and avoiding the classic "abbreviated preflight" because it's 15 degrees outside. The most important preflight activity though is to **ALWAYS** file a flight plan. In July, a successful off-field landing means you sit around until help arrives avoiding a sunburn and dehydration. Not so in the winter. The jacket that was warm enough for a flight is no match for an unheated airplane in a snowy field over several hours or more. Emergencies happen, even to the most cautious pilot, so be prepared with survival equipment, including blankets, a fully charged cellphone and fresh batteries for your flashlight.



Don't forget to keep a watchful eye for our feathered friends that fly during the winter months. Even here in mid-Missouri I've seen Canadian geese from pattern altitude up to 4,000 feet. They are naturally night current too! And I haven't seen one yet with recognition lights or a landing light!

Enjoy winter flying...great aircraft performance and **NO BUGS** spattered on your windscreen or the leading edge of your airplane.

Take a few extra minutes before you launch and ensure you are prepared and ready should an off-airport landing be necessary. Let's all be prepared for the worst and hope for the best.

Gary Rahmeyer
Past Chairman

Upcoming events for LifeLine Pilots

I want to thank all the pilots and friends of LifeLine Pilots that have supported us at previous events in the greater Peoria area.

We have two events coming up: the first will be at [Flat Top Grill](#) (5201 W War Memorial Drive, Peoria) on February 21, 2017. Everyone likes to eat out, so bring the family or co-workers and support LifeLine Pilots. LLP will be the beneficiary of a percentage of the proceeds taken in that day. We will also be selling raffle tickets for some exciting prizes, one of which will be 2 tickets to a St. Louis Blues hockey game. More information will be available on our website the first part of February.



The second event will be held on March 25, 2017 at Northwoods Mall. They are hosting their Second Annual Community Resource Day from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. LLP will have an informational table hosted by your Mission Coordinator, Annette Fisher. Please come out and introduce yourself to Annette and other Board members.

Thank you for your continued support of LifeLine Pilots!

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