

# FLY-IN

## Fun at the Garrett County Airport

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The Garrett County, Maryland Airport is throwing a party this coming August, and the public is invited to join the fun! Set for August 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Fourth Annual Garrett County Airport Fly-In will showcase the airport as a key asset to the region that contributes to its distinctive quality of life.

From its humble beginnings as a small grass airstrip in the 1940s, the airport has recently been transformed into a modern, general aviation facility with a 5,000-foot runway and new terminal. Other updates include an Automated Weather Observation System, a pilot planning room, lobby waiting area, self-service fueling island, and 24 T-Hangars for aircraft storage. In addition to providing transportation service to meet the region's business needs, plus access to Garrett County's abundant recreational and tourism opportunities, the airport supports government services that include the military, law enforcement, Department of Natural Resources, and the Civil Air Patrol. Charter service and sightseeing tours are also available. Recent renovations have been instrumental in generating additional business revenue for the County-owned airport from air passenger, freight and ground support service, thereby supporting the region's economic development.

The Fly-In offers area residents and guests a rare chance to get up close and personal with all sorts of aircraft. There's something for everyone, even the kids. Biplanes, small jets, restored warbirds and a host of other models will be represented among an estimated 35 planes from the 1940s to the present. Helicopters and emergency vehicles, including fire engines and ambulances, will also be on display. The Mountain Top Cruisers Car Club of nearby Oakland will hold a Classic Car Show on site, featuring antique models, hot rods and dragsters from the 1950s to the present. The first 75 cars will receive dash plaques. Finally, radio controlled ("RC") Aircraft Demonstrations will round out the event's activities.

It wouldn't be a party without food! Local vendors will offer burgers, hot dogs and other hearty picnic fare for purchase. Additionally, there's the wildly popular Candy Drop for the kids, who can grab all kinds of goodies after a hovering helicopter drops its special load of candy in the grass. What could be more exciting for the little ones?

"The event was created to raise community awareness regarding the airport," says Ed Kelley, the airport's manager. "People can talk to the pilots and hear their stories. They might even be able to talk a pilot into giving them a ride!"



The Garrett County Fly-In will showcase small aircraft, biplanes, restored warbirds, helicopters, and more, as well as emergency vehicles. A classic car show is also featured with antique cars and trucks, and hot rods and dragsters.

Other events include radio controlled aircraft demonstrations, fun rides, and a Candy Drop for the kids. There is plenty of parking and picnic fare food and drink from local vendors, in pleasant surroundings at Deep Creek Lake.

