



## **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) - Drones**

**Introduction:** Districts may choose to utilize drones as a tool. This not an exhaustive list of what is required by the current FAA and State Department of Aviation rules, but only a guide to assist you to create your own checklist. The district board has the responsibility to ensure their flights meet current federal, state, and local laws and rules. **In order to have liability coverage the member must, at the time of the claim, be using the drone in compliance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws.** Contact your agent for specific coverage details. The SDAO risk management team can assist in specific instances.

### **For complete rules:**

[www.faa.gov/uas/](http://www.faa.gov/uas/)

[www.oregon.gov/aviation/pages/index.aspx](http://www.oregon.gov/aviation/pages/index.aspx)

### **Prior to Flying**

- The district has registered all drones with the FAA **and** State of Oregon.
- Remote UAS pilots have a current FAA pilot certificate **or** are flying under a current Certificate of Authorization from the FAA.
- The district has Implemented logs for maintenance, inspections, and flight activities.
- The district has developed guidelines for flight operations.
- The district has developed guidelines for media/sensor information storage.

## Guidelines for Flight Operations

- The district operating guidelines address all items found in [FAA Part 107](#) and [State of Oregon rules](#) such as:
  - Determine airspace restrictions; contact air traffic control, if needed.\*
  - Check weather based on manufacturer's guidance.
  - Keep drone within visual line of sight, minimum 3 statute miles of visibility.\*
  - Fly ONLY during daylight, at or below 400 ft.\*
  - Do not fly closer than 500 ft. below, and/or 2000 ft. horizontally from clouds.
  - Do not fly near manned aircraft or over people.\*
  - Do not fly over critical infrastructure unless following Oregon rules.
  - Do not fly in a harassing manner.

## Guidelines for After Flying

- The district pilots inspect the drone based on manufacturer's recommendations.
- The district pilots log flight data for annual reporting to Oregon Department of Aviation.
- The district stores UAS batteries in a fire resistive package.
- The district stores media/sensor information data according to public records policy.

\*Certain provisions allow a certificated pilot to deviate from this requirement.