Training you won’t find anywhere else

By attending this year’s AirTAP Fall Forum, you’ll gain knowledge relevant to your job and creative solutions to meet its challenges. And the relationships you forge with other airport professionals can help you throughout the year.

What you’ll learn:

• Maintenance techniques during a tour of Pine River Airport.

• Ways to provide excellent customer service in challenging times.

• How to develop a comprehensive emergency plan.

• Tips for implementing MnDOT’s State Aviation System Plan.

• Strategies for saving energy and promoting sustainability.
— and much more from your colleagues and experts in Minnesota aviation!

You’ll also take home a comprehensive resource notebook that includes reference materials for all sessions.

Directions and Map

If you’re flying: Breezy Point is located 140 miles north of the Minneapolis/St. Paul area and is a 30-minute flight from the Minneapolis–St. Paul International Airport. The Mesaba–Delta Connection serves the Brainerd Regional Airport with several daily flights.

If you’re driving: Breezy Point Conference Center is 20 miles north of Brainerd. Take Hwy. 371 north to Pequot Lakes, then go right (east) on County Rd. 11 for approximately 5 miles. Pass through the Breezy Point front gate to the office.

From I-94: Take the Monticello exit (Hwy. 25) or Clearwater exit (Hwy. 24) east to Hwy. 10, then Hwy. 371 into Brainerd/Baxter.

From Duluth: Take I-35 or Hwy. 61 to Hwy. 210 west to Brainerd.
Securing the Future of Your Airport

Thursday, October 6

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.
Registration/Breakfast/Networking

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Welcome and Icebreaker

Presenters: Chris Roy, director, MnDOT Office of Aeronautics; Kurt Claussen, assistant manager, Rochester International Airport, and president, Minnesota Council of Airports; Laurie Suttmeier, Federal Aviation Administration, Jim Grothaus, AirTAP/Center for Transportation Studies

At this opening session, you’ll have a chance to meet each other as well as your MnDOT regional engineers and local FAA staff. You’ll also:

• Hear from MnDOT and find out what it can do for you.
• Learn the latest on what is eligible for MnDOT and FAA funding.
• Get a general overview of how you can get the information you need and whom you should talk to about airport projects.
• Leave with a list of airport-related terms and acronyms.

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.
Break

10:15 – 11:30 a.m.
Thinking of Customer Service as a Strategic Component of Your Airport Operations

Speaker: Howard Hansen, Howard Hansen Consulting

Is there a link between the ‘customer experience’ and how well an airport performs? What does airport customer service look like? This session will cover important issues and how to get started developing that plan.

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Lunch

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Snow Removal and Plowing

Where do you store snow? Does your airport have space for all the snow removed after each snowfall? Learn how to work with your airport designers to create snow storage space and retrofit your airport if you have none. Once your airport is set, learn how to educate maintenance staff about how to plow, where to store snow, and how to implement guidelines for maintaining a safe airport. Also hear how to develop a snow and ice control plan to educate new users and airport maintenance staff.

1:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Wrap-up and evaluations

1:15 – 3:15 p.m.
Pine River Airport Walking Tour

Join us for a walking tour of the Pine River Airport and get practical instruction on:

• Building maintenance: Hear how to maintain and replace hangar doors, floors, and exterior.
• Asphalt pavement maintenance: Learn about proven methods for asphalt pavement maintenance, and hear some new ideas for asphalt patching and overlays.
• Airport lighting: Find out what’s new in airport lighting, including LED lights and surface markers.

3:45 – 5:00 p.m.
Conversations with Jeff Hamiel

Once again, we’ll hear from a leader in the Minnesota aviation industry at this popular session. Hamiel will share his thoughts on general aviation and lead a discussion with participants. This is an engaging session that will give you a chance to ask questions and discuss current issues.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Networking Reception

6:00 p.m.
Dinner on your own

Optional group dinner: although not part of the formal Fall Forum program, we’ll meet with all who are interested for a casual dinner at Breezy Point. What a great opportunity to meet and greet new friends and colleagues!

Friday, October 7

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast

8:15 – 8:45 a.m.
Airport Jeopardy!

Have breakfast and join us for an exciting game of Airport Jeopardy! Do you have what it takes to be a successful contestant? Come find out!

8:45 – 9:45 a.m.
Developing an Airport Emergency Plan

AirTAP recently developed an Emergency Guide for General Aviation Airports, which will be distributed at this session. Last summer, the Alexandria airport gathered all of the local emergency responders and personnel to discuss issues relating to an airport emergency.

Then, using the AirTAP Emergency Guidebook for General Aviation Airports, staff wrote their own emergency plan. Hear airport manager Todd Roth and one of the local emergency responders share their experiences and the critical elements that need consideration.

9:45 – 10:00 a.m.
Break

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Energy Improvements and Initiatives for Sustainability

Hear about ways to include sustainable design into new building construction and how those same ideas can be implemented into remodels and retrofits. Blaine Peterson will also share ways Duluth International has made operations more sustainable.

11:00 – 11:15 a.m.
Jet Blast: FAA Certification Requirements for “Through the Fence”

Any NPIAS airport adjacent to residential property with access to the airport must have a management plan in place. This session will cover important issues and how to get started developing that plan.

11:15 – 11:45 a.m.
SASP Overview from MnDOT

MnDOT is nearing completion of the new State Aviation System Plan (SASP). Find out what it includes and how you and your airport may be affected.

11:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Lunch

For more information, call Teresa Washington at 612-624-3745.

Hotel accommodations:

Breezy Point Conference Center
9052 Breezy Point Drive
Breezy Point, MN 56472
Telephone: 800-642-3777

Costs for this event are reimbursable through the MnDOT Aeronautics maintenance and operations funds policy.

If you choose to be reimbursed by MnDOT, a check-handling fee of $20 will be charged.

The information on this form is private data, used to identify and locate you, obtain payment, and enable instructors to better know their audience. Information on this form may be shared with presenters and program sponsors.