



Weather

Current weather conditions are always a consideration whenever you plan to fly model aircraft. Temperature, precipitation, clouds/visibility, and wind conditions should be factored in your plans to fly.

Temperature:

Cold weather can make a day at the field miserable. Extremely cold conditions can be dangerous and even fatal if exposed for too long. Be sure to check the temperature before leaving for the flying site. Keep in mind that many electronics can start to fail in very cold temperatures. If flying RC models, check your operation manual for your radio equipment to know the temperature limits your equipment has.

Precipitation:

Rain can really spoil your day at the field. It can also present significant dangers as well. Water can get inside the transmitter, can cause shorts in the circuitry, and ultimately cause it to fail. During rain and other forms of precipitation, it's best not to fly at all and remain sheltered until the rain stops. But, if you must fly, ensure that your transmitter is protected from water intrusion. Snow can melt and get into your transmitter as well. Losing control of your model because of a radio malfunction endangers everyone.

Clouds/Visibility:

Although overcast conditions are fine to fly in, it's important to be aware of how low or close clouds are. You must remain well clear of all clouds and never fly between cloud layers, keeping your aircraft in clear view and within visual line of sight at all times. Having a model enter clouds or fog violates the visual line of site requirement, as well as potentially leading to a flyaway, a crash, or a possible collision with other objects on the ground or in the air. It's a good practice to check local weather conditions via your local TV or internet weather. If you find low ceilings or reduced visibility due to fog, haze, or smoke, you should not fly until weather conditions improve.

Wind:

Depending on the size and type of aircraft, the wind can be a deciding factor for whether you should fly. Fly in an environment that meets your aircraft's capabilities.

In conclusion, always be aware of the weather. Conditions can change and often change quickly; you should continually monitor and assess the weather conditions. Understand the limitations of your model and equipment to ensure safe and enjoyable operations.