



MEDIA RELEASE
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Academy of Model Aeronautics to discuss drone safety at NRPA conference

AMA staff to attend 2016 National Recreation and Park Association conference in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS—Every year, thousands of park and recreation professionals attend the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Annual Conference for energetic networking activities, inspirational educational sessions, and an inside look at the latest products for the field.

The NRPA Annual Conference, held October 5-8 this year, is a premier annual meeting of the park and recreation community. The four-day event in St. Louis brings together more than 7,000 park and recreation professionals, citizen advocates, and suppliers for the industry’s largest trade show, with nearly 400 exhibitors.

The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) will attend the conference this year to discuss drone safety and how the AMA can partner with park and recreation professionals to create flying sites in their communities. The AMA is committed to working closely with national parks on how to design “Drone Zones.”

Bill Pritchett, AMA’s director of Education, will present “Drones in the Park, a Threat or Opportunity?” Included in his presentation will be a discussion on the difference between commercial drone activity and model drone activity; how local drone issues can be solved by creating safe, legal places to fly; and why attendees should consider model flying in their parks. The benefits of model aviation—along with how to navigate through the process of making a flying site a reality—will be presented.

Drone flying is a fast-growing hobby that is enjoyed around the globe. It is essential to create safe places for people to learn how to fly and safely operate these aircraft. Creating a “Drone Zone” for multirotor flying helps cities point to a safe, approved place for this activity. To learn more about drone safety, visit <http://why.modelaircraft.org/drones>.

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The Academy of Model Aeronautics serves as the nation’s collective voice for approximately 195,000 modelers in 2,400 clubs in the US and Puerto Rico. Headquartered in Muncie, Indiana, AMA is a membership organization representing those who fly model aircraft for recreational and educational purposes. For more information, visit www.modelaircraft.org.