

MERRILL FIELD BULLETIN

Current News About Your Airport

Merrill Field Airport
800 Merrill Field Drive, Anchorage AK 99501

December, 2010
www.muni.org/merrill1/merrill1.cfm

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MERRILL FIELD

This year, the RWY 16/34 Rehabilitation & TWY Quebec, Phase 1 projects were completed, and we are very appreciative of your patience and understanding during the construction of these projects. We look forward to our 2011 capital construction projects as described below. Also, our Architectural and Engineering Professional services contract will expire in 2011. We are currently developing a proposal for this contract and will advertise this term contract through the MOA Purchasing office soon.

Anticipated 2011 Capital Improvement projects:

- Rehabilitate Taxiway Quebec, Phase 2 – This is a multi-phased project to address the continued settlement of the taxiway pavement which is located over the closed solid waste landfill. The project area of Phase 2 starts at Aero-Metric and ends just east of the TWY Golf and Quebec intersection. This rehabilitation is essential to maintain the safety of taxiway operations.
- Security Upgrades (Cameras, Signage, Lights, and Gates) – This project includes a combination of upgrades to airport lighting, cameras, signage and gates to maintain operational reliability. We will be working with our consultant to provide recommendations.
- Airport Master Plan Update – The latest Merrill Field Airport Master Plan was completed in July, 2000, and the FAA recommends the master plan be updated every 10 years. This update will provide a guide for the development of the airport's operations, safety, and security.
- Acquire Snow Removal Equipment – A sweeper/vac truck will be acquired to replace the aged (existing) 1988 sweeper/vac truck. This equipment is utilized for the removal of sand, accumulated from the winter sanding operations, from airport surfaces

“Smart Card” Replacement Information

Remote access transmitters, “Smart Cards”, allow access to fenced aircraft aprons from the comfort of your vehicle—no need to enter a code on the gate keypad. These Cards are available at the Airport Manager's Office for a non-refundable fee of \$20. If a Card becomes inoperable within one year of the purchase date, a replacement will be issued at no fee.

Shop at Merrill Field for any occasion

Don't panic about picking up that last minute gift for the aviator on your list. Many Merrill Field businesses offer gift certificates for everything from Avionics to Zulu time converters and all sorts of accessories in between. Also, if your pilot is tired of punching the keypad code to access an aircraft apron, one of our “Smart Cards” would make a great stocking stuffer!

★ Merrill Field Mentionable: Group 3 Aviation – Alaska ★

Group 3 Aviation recently moved their Alaska operation to 2600 East 5th Avenue. Group 3 offers aerial photography, helicopter pilot training, and tours. We are pleased to have another aviation service provider on Merrill Field. Welcome!

MUNICIPAL AIRPORTS AVIATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Municipal Airports Aviation Advisory Commission meetings are open to the public and held the first Thursday of every other month. Please call 343-6303 for additional information.

Meeting Dates:

Jan 13, Mar 3, May 5, Jul 7

Commissioner: Term Exp.

T. Follett:	10/14/12
R. Davis:	10/14/11
D. Armstrong:	10/14/12
D. DeVoe:	10/14/10
K. Forrest, Chair:	10/14/12
J. Powell:	10/14/11

Statistics

Operations:
Dec. '09 – Nov '10: 145,253
2010 Based Aircraft: 877

TOWER TALK

Why should I listen to the ATIS?

This time of year (actually any time you move your aircraft) listening to ATIS is the best way to get information about the airfield. We make every possible effort to include information about taxiways, aprons, and runways as provided by Airport Maintenance.

We are required to ensure you have the most current information; this includes repositioning. When a pilot calls for a reposition and does not state they have the current ATIS, we must give all NOTAMS on conditions along the route of movement. You can help reduce frequency congestion by ensuring you have the complete and current ATIS.

When traffic is slow or we are a single controller operation we commonly use 126.0 for all ATC communication. This is to prevent ground traffic from talking over airborne traffic. When this procedure is in use we will place an advisory on the ATIS.

Gift suggestion for your pilot friend: Take them flying in the pattern at Merrill.

Gordon Edmiston, Air Traffic Manager
Merrill Field ATCT

Seasonal Snippets

Raven Reminder

Leaving dumpster lids open and overfilling trash cans is considered a bird attractant and is a violation of Anchorage Municipal Code. We ask you to do your part to discourage raven activity and promptly report raven damage to the Airport Manager's Office, 343-6303. We appreciate your assistance.

Ski operations only on snow surfaces, please

During the snow season, Runway 04/22 is closed to aircraft without skis (no wheel operations); likewise, Whiskey taxiway and aircraft apron are also closed to wheel operations. Ruts, caused by wheel operations, make it nearly impossible for ski-equipped aircraft to maneuver. We recommend you taxi your aircraft to the vehicle parking area to load and unload your aircraft.

It's easy to pre-heat

Merrill Field offers approximately 135 tiedown spaces with electrical service. The electrical outlets in the tiedown spaces are protected by a circuit breaker which allows for a medium size engine heater (maximum 1500 watts). If your electrical outlet does not have power, the circuit breaker may have been tripped due to an overload. If your outlet is not working, please contact the Airport Manager's Office; we'll check the breaker or determine if there is another problem. Tail-in spaces with electric outlets are available now.

***The Airport Manager's Staff
and Airport Maintenance Crew
Wish you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year***

Snow Storage Procedures

To keep the taxilanes open, store snow in your tiedown space; however, snow cannot be piled more than 10 feet in front of or behind your aircraft. Snow that is placed in front of or behind your aircraft will be removed when the taxilanes are cleared. ***Municipal Code prohibits the dumping or relocating of snow onto or across taxilanes, taxiways, runways, or airport roads by any persons except Municipal employees.*** As always, the objective of our Snow Removal Plan is to have the Airport runways open and functional as soon as possible after a new snowfall.

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