



Federal Aviation
Administration

Airport Safety 2026



Southern Region, Office of Airports

What is the traffic pattern? (Left or Right)



A segmented circle is required when there is no control tower operating and a right-hand traffic pattern is published for one of the runway ends.

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Time to put your foot down; inspect what you expect.



Ref: Part 139.305(a)(1) The pavement edges must not exceed 3 inches difference in elevation between pavement and abutting areas.

February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 President's Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Red paint will fade. Do you have a painting plan?



Airports should consider establishing a maintenance plan for airfield markings; this requires careful budgeting to ensure the markings are re-painted sooner than later.

March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Properly maintained?



Ref: Part 139.311(d)...“properly maintain” includes cleaning, replacing, or repairing any faded, missing, or nonfunctional item....”

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

FAA Advisory Circular 150/5200-18D

4. Checks signs to ensure they are frangibly mounted (the frangible mount being no greater than 3 inches above the base) and that the concrete bases are level, secure, and properly maintained at grade level.

5. Determines that the base for any object located in safety areas is at grade level. This includes light fixtures, traffic and wind indicators, and NAVAIDs. This is especially important at airports subject to winter thaws. The inspector must check manhole and handhole covers to ensure they are at grade level and can support weight and the inadvertent aircraft excursion.
The inspector must:

1. Check the storm sewer system, verify that inlets are not clogged and drainage channels are free of debris, and mark the location on the airport diagram or map of any standing water. This includes checking that all inlet covers are in place and sewer covers are at grade level.

Airport operators must ensure that their inspection staff are properly trained to identify any potential safety hazards in the runway safety areas.

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day	26	27	28	29	30
31						

When was this fuel truck's muffler last inspected?



This did not occur suddenly and is easy to see. Airport operators must ensure that qualified staff conduct fuel fire safety inspections of airport fueling vehicles.

June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20
21	22	23	23	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Have you established criteria for suspending fueling?



Ref: National Fire Protection Association Code 407, 2022 edition, Paragraph 4.2.10
Lightning. "A written procedure shall be established..."

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Runway edge markings: What is the minimum width?



Ref: FAA Advisory Circular 150/5340-1M, Standards for Airport Markings

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	5	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Be on the lookout for coyote access to the airfield

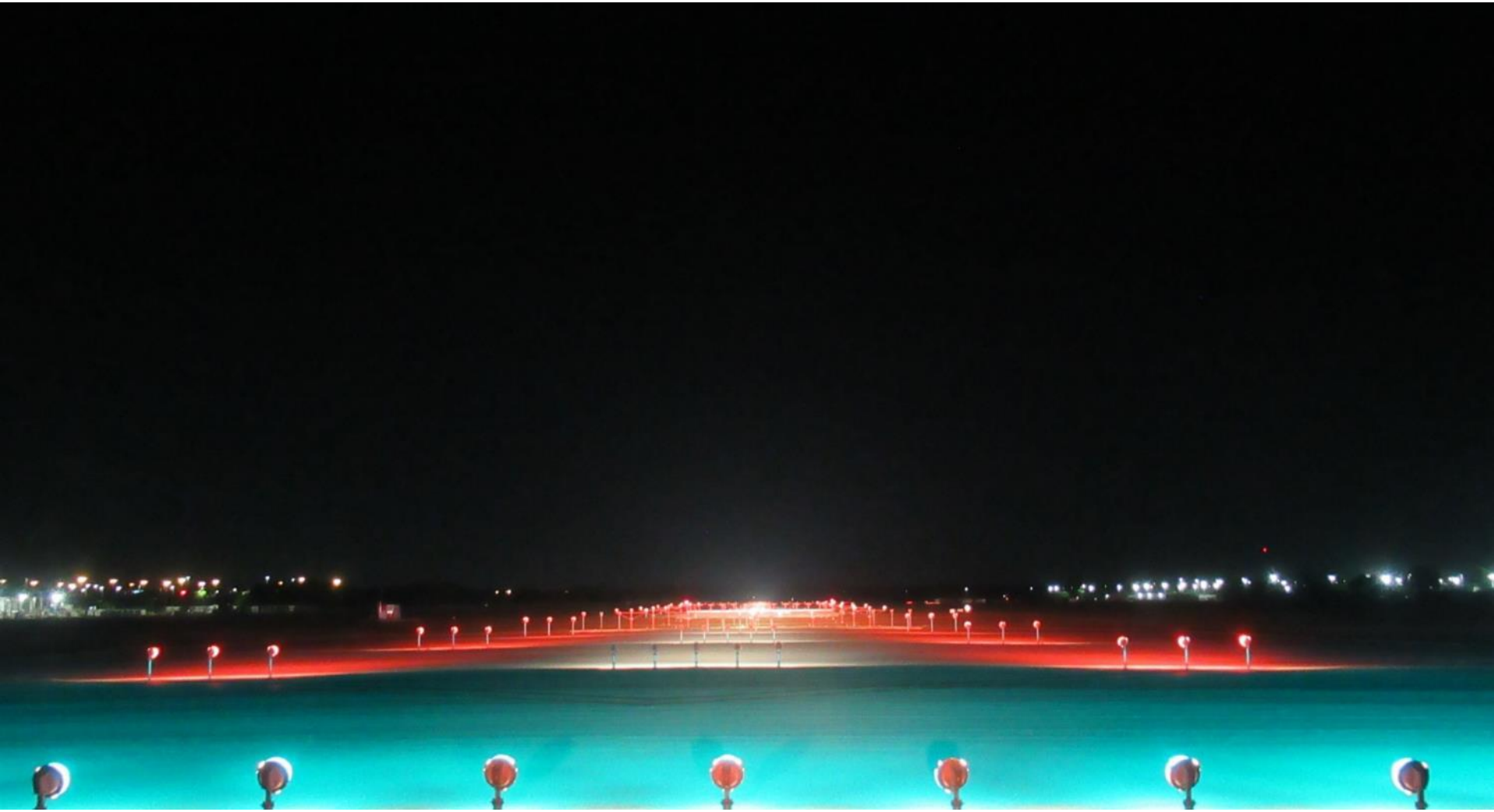


Restricting access through airfield drainage pipes can be very challenging. Regular inspection will be needed to ensure the integrity of the solution.

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Runway approach lighting system



Don't forget to inspect the runway approach lights, periodically, even though they may be owned by the FAA.

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

How soon must this runway be repaired?



Answer: Promptly

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29	30					

Get out of the vehicle, you may be surprised!



The hole found adjacent to this distance remaining sign was not seen from the runway. Take time to get out of the vehicle and walk around. Go the extra mile!

December 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26
27	28	29	30	31		