

Launch and Recovery

The typical flight agenda at Blackstone Airfield will consist of takeoff, traffic pattern maneuvers, and landing. All flight operations will be conducted in day and VFR “see and avoid” conditions within the confines of the airfield property. Flight operation can be easily accomplished at altitudes between the surface and 1,500 feet AGL and ~ 2.5 mile radius of the airfield. The closest operational airfields are Lawrenceville/Brunswick (LVL) and Macklenburg-Brunswick Regional (AVC). Blackstone Airfield is located within the Class-“E” controlled airspace and the MOA overhead airspace. Army fixed and rotary wing aircraft routinely operate within the local airspace in addition to occasional incoming and outgoing fixed wing aircraft missions.

The NASA AirSTAR Flight Operation utilizes operation management procedures for conducting and coordinating UAS flights with key airfield personnel of the Blackstone Army Airfield to obtain scheduled use of the airfield. These procedures also require the filing of a NOTAM through the Leesburg Flight Service Station, in addition to contacting the control tower. All NASA AirSTAR Flight Operation procedures have been reviewed and approved by the Airworthiness and Safety Review Board (ASRB) at NASA Langley Research Center.