

M2 Aerial's Drone Cheat Sheet



LOCAL DRONE LAWS

Many states and municipalities have local drone laws that can go above and beyond federal regulations.

You must be aware of local drone regulations well in advance of choosing a site. Some cities are particularly strict and require a permit for every flight while other cities have specific areas where flight is restricted.

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FEDERAL DRONE LAWS

The FAA has put into place national drone laws and guidelines that are important to be familiar with, no matter the location of your shoot. For detailed information on drone laws, visit <https://www.faa.gov>.



Operations in Class G airspace are allowed without air traffic control permission. Defining airspace is complex; a helpful tool to check the airspace of any location is <https://app.airmap.io/>.

For any operation outside of Class G airspace, contact your drone operator.



The maximum allowable altitude is 400 feet above the ground, or 400 feet above a structure. Minimum weather visibility is 3 miles from your control station.



Federal law restricts drone use within National Parks. You must apply for a waiver to operate within the park, but waivers can take up to 90 days to process and are not guaranteed.



You can fly during daylight or in twilight (30 minutes before official sunrise to 30 minutes after official sunset, local time) with appropriate anti-collision lighting.

Flying at night requires a special waiver that can take up to 90 days to process. Alternatively, you can avoid the wait by finding a drone operator who carries a Night Waiver already.



Although the FAA does not directly address privacy, all pilots are encouraged to pay special attention to local privacy laws and to obtain consent from land and property owners before taking aerial imagery.