



Madison F35 Community Connection

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

February 2024

Following on from the Community Listening Sessions held in early February 2024, we heard that the community needed the following information:

ONE PLACE TO VOICE CONCERNS

115th Fighter Wing Noise Concern Line: 608-245-4395

Online Noise Concern information & Incident Submission: <https://www.115fw.ang.af.mil/Contact/Noise-Concerns/>

DEVIATIONS FROM ROUTINE FLIGHT ACTIVITY; FLIGHT OPERATIONS ALERTS

Should deviations from the routine schedule be required, impacted communities can/are notified through the Wing's social media sites, local media and an email/text-based messaging service hosted by the Wisconsin Dept. of Military Affairs.

If you are interested in signing up, you may do so from our public website homepage under contact/noise concerns, or directly from the DMA site via the following link: <https://dma.wi.gov/contact/subscriptions/>.

Under "Flight Operations Alerts" select the appropriate region and it will bring up a subscription request window. Simply select email or text under "Subscription Type" then enter your email or cell number accordingly and click on "Submit" to enroll.

NUMBER OF FLYING PERIODS PER DAY AND ESTIMATED TIME-PERIOD

Flights are scheduled four days per week, typically Monday through Thursday, and one Saturday each month to accommodate training for traditional Guardsmen.

Flight times can vary, but take-offs usually take place twice daily between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m., and again between 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Landings occur approx. 60 to 90 minutes later.

FLIGHT PATTERNS, EFFORTS FOR NOISE MITIGATION AND FLYING TO NORTH, AFTERBURNER USE

The 115 Fighter Wing has created and implemented special procedures to mitigate F-35 noise.

Specifically, pilots strive to take off in "military" power, which does not initiate the use of the afterburner, thereby reducing the noise footprint created. Afterburner is only used if necessary for safe take off due to high ambient temperature. In 2023, the 115 Fighter Wing used afterburner on less than 2.5% of F-35 take offs. Once airborne, 115 FW F-35's climb at a higher angle and a lower throttle setting to reduce noise over surrounding neighborhoods. For arrival back to the airport, the F-35s approach the airfield higher than what is typical, allowing them to use a low power setting as they descend during approach and landing.

Madison F-35s also request to take off to the North on every mission to reduce overflight of populated areas. The active runway being used by Air Traffic Control can negate this request, necessitating a take-off to the South.



STEALTH COATING (INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED)

The Low Observable (LO) system repairs were specially designed to reduce chemical hazard exposure to the individuals performing repairs and the environment in which it operates. The F-35 coating is inspected after every flight and cumulative degradation is documented. Aircraft are scheduled for downtime periodically to repair any documented degradation. Power sanders and other tools that create dust are not authorized or permitted in the repair site preparation. The LO coating material is provided in 2.5 ounce quantities and is applied to the surface using a 2-inch foam roller, preventing the atomization of the paint. This action significantly reduces personnel to hazardous airborne chemicals. The applications at Truax Field only requires rubber gloves and safety glasses.

The 115 FW Hazardous Waste Management Plan outlines procedures for controlling and managing hazardous wastes from the point where they are generated until they are disposed. In addition, it includes guidance for compliance with all federal, state, and local regulations pertaining to hazardous waste. The Hazardous Waste Management Plan also has a section detailing pollution prevention at the installation with the goal of reducing or eliminating the use of toxic or hazardous substances and the generation of hazardous waste wherever possible through source reduction and environmentally sound recycling.

Unused liquid paint can solidify, resulting in no liquid waste stream. The hardened substances and applicators are disposed of utilizing shop hazardous chemical satellite accumulation points and following hazardous waste disposal procedures. Final hazardous waste disposal (transportation off base) is managed using existing contracts with the Defense Logistics Agency in compliance with all WI Department of Natural Resources and Federal laws for hazardous waste disposal. In closing, standard operating procedures provide cradle to grave management of all hazardous materials used. Additionally, personnel are protected through Job Safety Training Outlines in which Base Safety and Bioenvironmental Engineering review tasks annually and when any processes change to ensure required Personal Protection Equipment is used to ensure worker safety.

NUCLEAR WEAPON CAPABILITIES ON 115 FIGHTER WING AIRCRAFT

The 115 Fighter Wing does not have a nuclear mission and does not train for that mission in any form. Further, the Wing does not possess or store any nuclear weapons at Truax Field.

MILITARY TRANSIENT AIRCRAFT

Other Department of Defense aircraft come through Madison frequently to buy fuel as they traverse across the country. Many of these aircraft are navy fighter aircraft. The 115 Fighter Wing cannot control or deny these aircraft from stopping in Madison. These aircraft do not enter the 115 Fighter Wing property and the 115th often does not know they are arriving. The 115 Fighter Wing does issue a Notice to Air Mission (NOTAM) that is published by the airport and must be checked by all arriving aircrew before their arrival. This warning states that Madison is noise sensitive and specific procedures such as altitudes and overflight of populated areas should be avoided. Transient aircraft must abide by this warning. If these pilots deviate from these procedures, the 115 Fighter Wing leadership has taken the initiative to find, confront and rectify these pilot's actions.

NUMBER OF F35S ASSIGNED VS HOW MANY TOTAL AIRCRAFT WILL BE ASSIGNED IN THE FUTURE

The 115 Fighter Wing currently has 8 F-35s assigned with a plan to host 20 aircraft in the future.





»»»» MORE INFORMATION

Learn more at on the project portal:
madisonf35.com

LESLIE WESTMONT

Grant Program Manager
Department of Military Affairs
Leslie.westmont@widma.gov

DAVID BEURLE

Chief Executive Officer
Future iQ
612.757.9190
david@future-iq.com

