

# Citizens For Quiet Skies

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## FACTS

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\* **AIRPORT EXPANSION.** The Rocky Mountain Metro Airport (RMMA) in Broomfield (Jefferson County) has expanded significantly since 2014. A second FBO started in 2018. There are ongoing efforts to expand the Longmont airport and extend the runway.

\* **FLIGHT SCHOOLS.** There are currently 21 flight schools based at the 4 nearby airports (RMMA, Erie, Boulder, Longmont. RMMA is located in Broomfield, Jefferson County. .” Flight school operations have increased dramatically since 2014. In Dec. 2019 a fifth flight school began operating from RMMA. Their aircraft fleets now include several twin-engine prop planes.

\* **NORTHERN TRAINING AREA - BOULDER COUNTY.** Flight schools based at RMMA and other nearby airports routinely conduct looping, loitering repetitive noisy flights over north Boulder County and touch and goes. North Boulder County has become known to the RMMA flight schools as the “Northern Training Area.

\* Much of north Boulder County is located in uncontrolled air space and there are no rules restricting where general aviation aircraft fly (between 1,000’ and 10,000’). There is not an official “flight path” for these general aviation (GA) operations.

\* **SKYDIVING - LONGMONT.** The Longmont-based skydiving company operates mainly within an FAA-designated “Flight Box” covering 85 square miles over mostly unincorporated north Boulder County. They ceased operations in mid-March due to the pandemic and governor’s order. The skydiving company is/was the biggest airport user of LMO. Skydiving has recently resumed, with permission to operate on Friday - Monday. The aircraft includes a twin engine white/purple Twin Otter and a King Air. The aircraft climb at full power in a loop and drop at the Longmont airport. At this time, we are observing activity mainly on Saturday/Sunday.

\* **NOISE-SENSITIVE AREAS - RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS.** Neighborhoods located in Boulder and Gunbarrel are clearly marked as “noise sensitive areas” on the Boulder airport maps. We have urged all nearby airport managers to educate their pilots about these maps. The maps and voluntary noise abatement procedures (VNAP) are simply ignored. **There are no mandatory regulations**, there is no enforcement, and there is no recourse to hold unruly pilots accountable. The airport managers at Boulder, Longmont and Broomfield airports have shown no interest in reducing aviation impacts to the community.

\* **LEADED AVIATION EMISSIONS.** Piston-engine aircraft use **leaded fuel**. Aircraft emissions are a major source of airborne leaded emissions in the U.S. Lead is a toxic substance that does not degrade in the environment.

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**TOOLS - FLIGHT TRACKER**

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**Download the FlightRadar24 app on your phone to easily identify the flights over your home using these tools:** FlightRadar24 (download app or desktop) Note: pilots may block some data <https://tar1090.adsbexchange.com/> - shows aircraft data that is blocked on some apps

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**JOIN THE QUIET SKIES ADVOCACY NETWORK**

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Facebook page - Citizens For Quiet Skies  
(Note that aviation trolls are allowed on this page, so that you can read their comments)  
<https://www.facebook.com/CitizensForQuietSkies/>  
Facebook group (no trolls allowed) - Quiet Skies - CO - Boulder County  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuietSkiesBoulderCountyCO/>

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**TAKE ACTION - CONTACT ELECTED OFFICIALS**

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If you support aircraft pollution regulations, please contact your elected officials.

**Federal:** Congressman Joe Neguse (CD2): <https://neguse.house.gov/contact>  
**State:** Contact your state rep and senator: <http://leg.colorado.gov/findmylegislator>  
**Boulder County Commissioners:** [commissioners@bouldercounty.org](mailto:commissioners@bouldercounty.org)  
2020 Boulder County Commissioner Candidates:  
Jonathan Singer: [singerforbouldercounty@gmail.com](mailto:singerforbouldercounty@gmail.com) 303-875-4727  
Claire Levy: [claireforbouldercounty@gmail.com](mailto:claireforbouldercounty@gmail.com)  
Marta Loachamin: [info@Marta2020.org](mailto:info@Marta2020.org)

**City Councils:** [council@boulderColorado.gov](mailto:council@boulderColorado.gov); [council@louisvilleCo.gov](mailto:council@louisvilleCo.gov);  
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