

UAS Community Update

5/1/2023

The following is a list of UAS deployments for April 2023:

In April, Maplewood Public Safety continued implementing the UAV program. Three operators completed their licensing and training in April and began using the technology. At the end of April, Maplewood had seven licensed and certified operators.

Below is an overview of the small unmanned aerial systems use for the last month

- 4/6/2023
 - An operator conducted a training flight at the police department. Flight time 1 hour.
- 4/7/2023
 - Around 1 am, Maplewood assisted Washington County Agencies with attempting to locate a suspect who had fled in a vehicle and then on foot in the area of Harvester Ave and Sterling St.
- 4/7/2023
 - A caller reported multiple people were breaking into a secured fenced area near English St and Cope Ave around 3 am. Officers checked the area and determined nobody was ever present at the location. A few raccoons were located playing in the area on the camera, which the complainant mistook for people. Flight time 30 minutes.
- 4/10/2023
 - At 2:20 am, two drone operators assisted Roseville and St. Anthony Police in attempting to locate a male suspect wanted for felony domestic assault in the area of 29th Ave NE and Highway 88. Flight time was 50 minutes for drone one and 40 minutes for drone two.
- 4/10/2023
 - At 9 pm, operators assisted St. Paul Police in looking for a wanted suspect armed with a long gun in Como Park (Near Lexington and Como). The park was cleared by the drone. Flight time was about 10 minutes.
- 4/11/2023
 - An operator conducted a training flight over the PD at noon for 20 minutes.
- 4/13/2023
 - An operator assisted Ramsey County in the area of 319 Larpenteur Ave; while apprehension was attempting to locate a wanted person with a history of weapons offenses. Flight time was 15 minutes.

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- 4/14/2023
 - An unsheltered male was reportedly starting grass fires in the Hazelwood and County Road D area around 11:45 am. Fire arrived and put out the fires. The wooded area was checked for suspects. Flight time 30 minutes.
- 4/15/2023
 - At 10:00 am, officers were searching for an armed suspect that had committed 2nd-degree assault and a DANCO violation in the area of White Bear Ave and Gervais. Officers checked the area and then discovered the actual assault had happened outside of the City of Maplewood. Flight time was 13 minutes.
- 4/18/2023
 - Officers assisted SPPD in the 1400 block of Arcade St., searching for three suspects who had committed an armed robbery at gunpoint. Flight time was 42 minutes.
- 4/19/2023
 - Officers used the drone to locate a suspect attempting to sexually exploit a child. They located and surveilled the suspect until officers were able to make the arrest. The flight time was 45 minutes.
- 4/24/2023
 - Officers assisted North St Paul near 6th Ave E and Century Ave for a suspect who shot at people in the home and refused to come out.
- 4/26/2023
 - Two officers conducted a training flight over the police department at 12:30 am.
- 4/26/2023
 - Two officers assisted South St Paul Police at 5th Ave S and Warburton St W at 3am looking for a driver who fled from a stolen vehicle. Flight times were 40 minutes and 45 minutes.

