

Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House Corporation
Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy
("Drone Policy")

Summary

This policy addresses the use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House. UAS operating on-campus may impact staff, visitors, buildings, and natural resources in various ways, as well as endanger unique historical resources and collections. This policy shall guide the Martin House in regulating use of UAS on the Martin House property.

Laws, regulations, and best practices in the use of UAS are evolving. For the purpose of this policy, UASs include drones, model aircraft, and any other unmanned airborne device, including balloons and gliders.

This policy applies only to a UAS launched from within the Martin House's property. A UAS launched from outside of Martin House property, but flown over the campus is regulated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and adjacent landowners.

UAS Over the Martin House Campus

Flights of UAS on the Martin House Campus require prior written approval from Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House Corporation. All requests for the use of UAS on Martin House property must be submitted using the Martin House's UAS Flight Request Form via email (see attached for form and further instructions). All applications will be reviewed by the Director of Operations & Finance.

In determining whether to issue a UAS permit, Martin House staff will consider whether the proposed use could:

- involve restricted airspace;
- present a clear danger to staff and/or the public's health and safety;
- violate FAA requirements;
- potentially damage natural and/or historic resources;
- conflict with the purposes for which the historic site was established;
- unacceptably impact the atmosphere of quiet enjoyment maintained in natural and/or historic, locations within the facility;
- unreasonably interfere with the interpretive, visitor service, or other program activities;
- interfere with the administrative activities of Martin House staff or the performance of their duties;
- substantially impair the operation of public facilities or the services of the Martin House's concessioners or contractors;
- result in significant conflict with any other existing uses; or
- create a risk of public alarm or nuisance by causing noise that would be unreasonable under the circumstances or by creating a hazardous or physically dangerous condition for members of the public.

If the Director of Operations determines the requested UAS activity is appropriate and compatible with the values and resources of the Martin House, they may approve a special permit that clearly identifies the designated area(s) for these activities within the facility, the time(s) of operation, and the manner(s)

of use, as well as any restrictions, terms, and conditions that may be necessary to ensure safe operation and mitigate unacceptable impacts.

Approved users must comply with the following regulations:

- No flying within 100 feet of any building on the Martin House Campus.
- No flying over people.
- No flying above 400 feet.
- No flying outside daytime hours, defined as 30 minutes before official sunrise to 30 minutes after official sunset.
- No flying in an unsafe manner.
- No flying beyond the operator's ability to see the aircraft.
- No flying while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- No flying in a manner that interferes with air traffic.
- No flying close to another aircraft to create a collision hazard.
- No photography of spaces where an individual has a reasonable expectation of privacy.

FAA Authorization or Certification Required

The FAA has standards in place for the operation of a UAS regardless of its intended use. Every UAS permit issued by the Martin House shall be conditioned on compliance with FAA requirements. The FAA has authorized recreational use of model aircraft through Advisory Circular 91-57 and section 336 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2012 (see Other Related Information).

Although they do not require specific permission from the FAA, these recreational UAS operators must abide by the FAA requirements in addition to the Martin House's conditions for the UAS permit, including the requirement to provide proof of insurance coverage.

Alternatively, recreational uses of a UAS that do not comply with the FAA's description of model aircraft, as well as any commercial or administrative uses of a UAS require specific case-by-case permission from the FAA. These operators shall receive a Certificate of Operation ("COA") and/or Airworthiness Certification from the FAA before receiving a permit from the Martin House and shall operate in accordance with all applicable FAA regulations.

Violations

Anyone flying a UAS without permission on the Martin House property will immediately be asked to stop and/or asked to leave. Violators will be subject to citation by the City of Buffalo for trespassing and potential notification to the FAA.

Related Policies, Regulations, and Statutes

The Federal Aviation Administration provides links to federal laws and regulations at <https://www.faa.gov/uas/>.