



## Marion County Board of County Commissioners

Marion County Office of Public Information

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Today's Date: March 9, 2010

### COMMUNITY MEETING SCHEDULED TO DISCUSS DUNNELLON AEROBATIC BOX

Save the Date

**WHO:** Marion County Commission Chair Barbara Fitos, Assistant County Administrator of Public Works Larry Thacker, Airport Manager John Helms and concerned citizens

**WHAT:** Community Meeting to Discuss Aerobatic Box above Dunnellon Airport

**WHEN:** March 19, 2010 ▪ 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**\*Meeting date has changed to ensure a Federal Aviation Administration official can attend\***

**WHERE:** Dunnellon Airport (15070 SW 111th St., Dunnellon)

**WHY:** Marion County officials want to hear from concerned citizens about the aerobatic box located above the Dunnellon Airport. Pilots use this box for aerobatic flying and perform maneuvers similar to what spectators would see in an air show. The box is a boundary in the air located from 1,500 to 4,000 feet above the ground, and it covers a one mile radius from the center of the airport. Fifteen hundred feet is the approximate size of five football fields.

The Federal Aviation Administration, or FAA, is the only entity that can establish an aerobatic box and has the authority to allow pilots to fly in the aerobatic box. Marion County government has no jurisdiction over this airspace. However, the pilots must follow specific guidelines in order to keep their FAA permit.

For several months, citizens in the area have complained about noise and raised concerns about safety. That's why Marion County officials are hosting this community meeting to discuss the issue.

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