

# Concerned about Airplane Noise? Want to do Something Constructive About It?

## A Noise Advisory Committee Is Working for You

- The Nantucket Airport Commission recognizes the vital role that air transport plays in the Nantucket economy and community. It also recognizes that many areas and neighborhoods around Nantucket Island are impacted by noise from aircraft operations. The Commission is committed to finding an appropriate balance between air transport activities and the abatement of aircraft noise. After working for several years in an ad hoc effort to address the issue, the Airport Commission, a group of Island residents, FAA officials and airline representatives officially joined together to form the Noise Advisory Committee (NAC) in September, 2002. The NAC acts in an advisory capacity to the Airport Commission on airplane noise issues and is working cooperatively to educate the public.
- The Noise Advisory Committee's Charter, meeting minutes and agendas can be found at the airport website [www.nantucketairport.com/NAC.htm](http://www.nantucketairport.com/NAC.htm).

In addition to forming the NAC, other steps have been taken:

- A sub-committee has been formed to devise an incentive system for pilots to adhere to noise abatement procedures. Under FAA regulations, these procedures are voluntary, so it is critical to come up with inventive ways to encourage pilots to stay within the abatement guidelines whenever flight safety permits.
- The airport recently acquired a radar system know by the acronym PASSUR. This system allows airport officials to monitor aircraft flight patterns, identify aircraft deviating from recommended noise abatement procedures and correlate specific flights with resident's noise complaints.
- Several community associations and non-profit groups have been working with the airport authorities to seek solutions.

## What You Can Do To Help Reduce Noise

The most important factor in solving the airplane noise problem is active engagement by Island residents. To that end a noise hotline has been established at the airport to receive your comments 24 hours a day. Collecting statistical data on the PASSUR system will be only an academic exercise unless your input is also included. Greater resident participation in registering concerns is the key to helping improve the current situation. So please call or email the airports' Environmental Office. Don't forget, you can voice your concern *each* time you feel that aircraft are creating too much noise outside of established flight paths.

## Three Ways to Log Your Concerns

1. **Noise Hotline:** 508-325-7531
2. **Reporting by email:** [jwheeler@town.nantucket.net](mailto:jwheeler@town.nantucket.net)
3. **Reporting by website:** at [www.NantucketAirport.com/noise.htm](http://www.NantucketAirport.com/noise.htm)

The Noise Advisory Committee meets at 10:00 AM the first Wednesday of every month at the Snow Removal Equipment building off the Bunker Road. Meetings are open to the public. To see how you can become part of this cooperative process, express your concerns and offer your suggestions, please call Jack Wheeler at (508) 325-7531 or Christine Silverstein at (508) 228-3399.