

News Release

Media contacts:
Brian Lassaline 734-247-7274
Brian.Lassaline@wcaa.us
Erica Donerson 734-247-2792
Erica.Donerson@wcaa.us

Detroit Metro Airport to Host National Aviation Environmental Conference in Downtown Detroit

~ 25th annual conference to be held at the DoubleTree Suites Detroit Downtown

DETROIT (June 3, 2016) – The Airport Authority operating Detroit Metropolitan (DTW) and Willow Run (YIP) Airports will be hosting the 25th Annual American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) National Aviation Environmental Management Conference from June 5-7th at the DoubleTree Suites Detroit Downtown-Fort Shelby Hotel.

“We are consistently seeking opportunities to implement environmentally responsible solutions that make good business sense”, said Airport Authority CEO Thomas Naughton. “Conferences like this one help us achieve progress toward one of our main focus areas – striving to implement efficient, affordable, sustainable measures that allow us to optimize operations and ensure our airports are leaving a positive impact on future generations.”

The conference will provide opportunities for attendees to discuss the latest environmental best practices that are leading to efficient operations, while sharing methods some airports have used to overcome different environmental challenges. Topics including noise mitigation, sustainability, water quality control, air quality, and climate adaptation will all be addressed by airport directors, environmental managers, and FAA officials. Please see following link for more information on the conference:

https://www.aaae.org/AAAE/AAAEMemberResponsive/Events/2016/06/160609/CCO_Master.aspx

“It’s important that our projects make good economic sense, but we also like to be creative in developing ways to incorporate sustainable business practices”, said Airport Authority Director of Environment & Sustainability Bryan Wagoner. “We recently implemented the use of storm water runoff for dust control at construction projects.”

Other sustainability projects recently completed at Detroit Metro Airport include: one of the largest parking structure LED lighting conversion projects in the country, saving \$1.2 million in energy costs annually, offering free plug-in electric vehicle charging stations in our parking structures, recycling approximately 1600 gallons of cooking oil a year, and replacing inefficient boilers saving \$500,000 a year. The Airport Authority also organized an environmental sustainability education program teaching about fifty high school students sustainable practices on Arbor Day.

***Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport (DTW)** welcomed more than 33 million passengers in 2015 and is one of the world’s leading air transportation hubs. With service from 13 scheduled passenger airlines, Michigan’s largest airport offers more than 1,100 flights per day to and from more than 140 non-stop destinations on four continents. With two award-winning passenger terminals, six jet runways, and an onsite AAA Four-Diamond Westin Hotel, DTW is among the world’s most efficient, customer friendly and operationally capable airports in North America. DTW is operated by **Wayne County Airport Authority**, which also operates nearby **Willow Run Airport**. **The Airport Authority is entirely self-sustaining and does not receive tax dollars to support airport operations.** Visit www.metroairport.com or www.willowrunairport.com for more information.*

***ABOUT AAAE:** Founded in 1928, AAAE is the world's largest professional organization representing the men and women who work at public-use commercial and general aviation airports. AAAE's 5,000-plus members represent some 850 airports and hundreds of companies and organizations that support the airport industry. Headquartered in Alexandria, Va., AAAE serves its membership through results-oriented representation in Washington, D.C., and delivers a wide range of industry services and professional development opportunities, including training, conferences, and a highly respected accreditation program.*

###