

Airport Common Traffic Advisory Frequencies within 90 miles of Tri-County Airport

Prepared by Ross Statham

January 13, 2019

ID	Distance	Name	City	Freq
1J0	0	Tri-County Airport	Bonifay	FL 122.800
33J	19	Geneva	Geneva	AL 122.800
KMAI	22	Marianna	Marianna	FL 123.000
54J	29	Defuniak Springs	Defuniak Springs	FL 123.050
KDHN	30	Dothan Regional	Dothan	AL 122.950
KECP	31	NW Florida Beaches	Panama City	FL 118.950
KEDN	31	Enterprise	Enterprise	AL 122.800
F95	33	Calhoun County	Blountstown	FL 122.900
71J	35	Blackwell Field	Ozark	AL 122.700
0J6	35	Headland	Headland	AL 122.900
17J	39	Donaldsonville	Donaldsonville	GA 122.900
0J4	39	Floral	Floral	AL 123.000
14J	42	Carl Folsom	Elba	AL 122.900
KCEW	48	Sikes	Cresview	FL 122.950
79J	49	South Alabama Regional	Andalusia	AL 122.800
0J0	49	Abbeville Municipal	Abbeville	AL 122.800
KBIJ	49	Early County	Blakely	GA 122.900
KBGE	50	Decatur County Industrial	Bainbridge	GA 122.975
KVPS	52	Destin-Ft Walton Beach	Destin	FL 118.200
2J9	56	Quincy	Quincy	FL 122.700
KHRT	62	Hurlburt Field	Mary Esther	FL 126.500
04A	63	Frank Sikes	Luverne	AL 122.800
11A	63	Clayton Municipal	Clayton	AL 122.900
KTOI	64	Troy Municipal	Troy	AL 124.300
68J	65	Tallahassee Commercial	Tallahassee	FL 122.800
25J	65	Lower Chattahoochee Regional	Cuthbert	GA 122.900
KEUF	71	Weedon Field	Eufaula	AL 122.800
KAUF	73	Apalachicola Regional	Apalachicola	FL 122.800
2R4	73	Prince	Milton	FL 122.975
KCXU	74	Camilla-Mitchell County	Camilla	GA 122.800
70J	75	Cairo-Grady County	Cairo	GA 122.700
X13	76	Carrabelle-Thompson	Carrabelle	FL 122.900
12J	77	Brewton	Brewton	AL 122.800
KPRN	79	Mac Crenshaw Memorial	Greenville	AL 122.800
07A	80	Franklin Field	Union Springs	AL 122.800
F47	80	St George Island	Apalachicola	FL 122.900
16J	81	Dawson Municipal	Dawson	GA 122.900
KGZH	82	Middleton Field	Evergreen	AL 122.700
KABY	83	Southwest Georgia Regional	Albany	GA 122.950
67A	85	Ft Deposit-Lowndes County	Ft Deposit	AL 122.900
KPNS	85	Pensacola	Pensacola	FL 122.950
KTVI	89	Thomasville Regional	Thomasville	GA 123.075

Analysis: There are a total of 8 common advisory frequencies available to un-towered airports such as ours. Frequencies 122.8, 122.9, 122.7 and 123.0 are the commonly used in the US. The frequency count analysis on page 3 shows two of the new frequencies that would suit our purposes very well and should be considered for change. For safety reasons, we should seriously consider moving off of our current frequency to something less used by other nearby airports, in order to reduce confusion and radio congestion.

Airport Common Traffic Advisory Frequencies within 90 miles of Tri-County Airport

Sorted by Frequency & Distance

January 13, 2019

ID	Distance	Name	City	Freq
KVPS	52	Destin-Ft Walton Beach	Destin	FL 118.200
KECP	31	NW Florida Beaches	Panama City	FL 118.950
71J	35	Blackwell Field	Ozark	AL 122.700
2J9	56	Quincy	Quincy	FL 122.700
70J	75	Cairo-Grady County	Cairo	GA 122.700
KGZH	82	Middleton Field	Evergreen	AL 122.700
1J0	0	Tri-County Airport	Bonifay	FL 122.800
33J	19	Geneva	Geneva	AL 122.800
KEDN	31	Enterprise	Enterprise	AL 122.800
79J	49	South Alabama Regional	Andalusia	AL 122.800
0J0	49	Abbeville Municipal	Abbeville	AL 122.800
04A	63	Frank Sikes	Luverne	AL 122.800
68J	65	Tallahassee Commercial	Tallahassee	FL 122.800
KEUF	71	Weedon Field	Eufaula	AL 122.800
KAUF	73	Apalachicola Regional	Apalachicola	FL 122.800
KCXU	74	Camilla-Mitchell County	Camilla	GA 122.800
12J	77	Brewton	Brewton	AL 122.800
KPRN	79	Mac Crenshaw Memorial	Greenville	AL 122.800
07A	80	Franklin Field	Union Springs	AL 122.800
F95	33	Calhoun County	Blountstown	FL 122.900
0J6	35	Headland	Headland	AL 122.900
17J	39	Donaldsonville	Donaldsonville	GA 122.900
14J	42	Carl Folsom	Elba	AL 122.900
KBIJ	49	Early County	Blakely	GA 122.900
11A	63	Clayton Municipal	Clayton	AL 122.900
25J	65	Lower Chattahoochee Regional	Cuthbert	GA 122.900
X13	76	Carrabelle-Thompson	Carrabelle	FL 122.900
F47	80	St George Island	Apalachicola	FL 122.900
16J	81	Dawson Municipal	Dawson	GA 122.900
67A	85	Ft Deposit-Lowndes County	Ft Deposit	AL 122.900
KDHN	30	Dothan Regional	Dothan	AL 122.950
KCEW	48	Sikes	Cresview	FL 122.950
KABY	83	Southwest Georgia Regional	Albany	GA 122.950
KPNS	85	Pensacola	Pensacola	FL 122.950
KBGE	50	Decatur County Industrial	Bainbridge	GA 122.975
2R4	73	Prince	Milton	FL 122.975
KMAI	22	Marianna	Marianna	FL 123.000
0J4	39	Floral	Floral	AL 123.000
54J	29	Defuniak Springs	Defuniak Springs	FL 123.050
KTVI	89	Thomasville Regional	Thomasville	GA 123.075
KTOI	64	Troy Municipal	Troy	AL 124.300
KHRT	62	Hurlburt Field	Mary Esther	FL 126.500

Analysis: Tri-County Airport shares the same 122.8 frequency with six other airports within a 65 mile radius, especially now that we have skydivers on weekends during heaviest VFR traffic load. Potential safety issue due to frequency congestion. AOPA recommends that airports in our situation consider applying for an alternate common advisory frequency via the FCC and communicating the new frequency to the FAA. See page 3 for AOPA position statement, link, available frequencies and recommendations.

Available Airport Common Traffic Advisory Frequencies

Source: AOPA, FCC

Frequency	Notes	Within 60	Within 90
		Miles 1JO	Miles 1JO
122.800	Original standard unicom frequency	4	12
122.700	Added to original standard	2	4
123.000	Added to original standard	2	2
122.900	"Multicom" frequency	5	11
122.725	New 720 channel CTAF	0	0
122.975	New 720 channel CTAF	1	2
123.050	New 720 channel CTAF	1	1
123.075	New 720 channel CTAF	0	1*

*Thomasville, Georgia, 89 miles away, realistically no factor.

AOPA Position: "AOPA encourages licensed Unicom operators to consider changing a frequently overloaded Unicom frequency to a frequency unique to the area, thus avoiding congestion and improving safety. A minimum of 60 statute miles is desirable, although not always possible, between airports with the same frequency."

<https://www.aopa.org/advocacy/advocacy-briefs/air-traffic-services-process-brief-changing-unicom-frequencies>

Analysis: Suggest we apply to the FCC to request they allow us to use 122.725 or 123.075 MHz as our new traffic advisory frequency, then request the FAA update their charts and A/FD. Total cost: \$95.

Should we also wish to change out our radio in the lobby (fixed at 122.8), I would suggest it be removed and a new multi-frequency radio be placed in the airport manager's office instead. Estimated cost for new radio, power supply, antenna and coax is \$1900 or less. This does not need to be done in order for us to apply for and use a new frequency, and can be done at any point in the future-- but I do recommend we do so so that inbound traffic be able to notify us for services.