Iosco Flying Club

November 1, 2026

It must be that when the days get shorter in the fall, the days must also go by faster. It feel as though October just blew by, Halloween is here, and the upcoming holidays will be here before we know it. Luckily for everyone who has been able get out to the airport, the flying weather has been spectacular. The fall colors seemed to start late, but also lasted quite a while. With busy kid's sport schedules and endless fall work/ home projects, I was still lucky enough to get out and fly.

With the days getting shorter, I found it difficult to get in the air to check out the fall colors. Instead, I took advantage of some clear and moonlit nights and got night current. It had been a while since my last night flying/ landings, so I spent some time reviewing and studying night ops. There is a lot of good video information out there, AIM information, and AOPA refresher info to make sure you are prepared to go. With sunset coming earlier it's an easy time to practice, and to be prepared in case a trip away from the airport has you arriving back past official night.

For the same reasons I enjoy flying during the day, I find just as much pleasure taking off into the dark skies. While there is a lot to see during the day, the clear night sky provides visibility for miles (on the right night of course). If you really want to see how many wind turbines are operating across the state, go up at night. The patches of pulsating red lights over the thumb, south and east of Bay City, and around Mt Pleasant are enormous. City lights and busy roads come into clear view, and even the patchwork of neighborhoods with street lights shining are fun to look down on. After a couple landings, I left the pattern for a flight over town. Heading back toward the airport, the full moon was higher in the sky. It was lighting up the point and the entire Tawas Bay, no black hole conditions over the water at all! A couple more landings and I called it a night. A few days later I had another chance to go night flying again. This time was a trip south over AuGres, over to a landing at West Branch, the back to Tawas. And just in case anyone was looking, I flashed the headlights on and off over The Farm!

See you at the airport—and remember there will be a meeting November 12 at 6:00

GO. FLY!

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