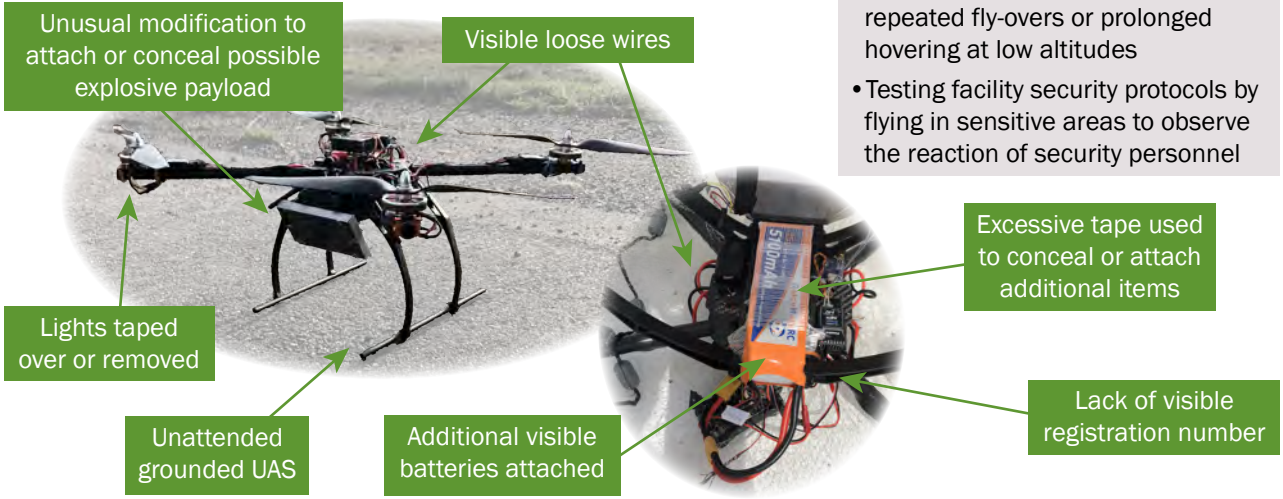
Recognize Suspicious UAS

Unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) are used for a range of tactical and recreational uses, but can also be used for nefarious purposes. UAS can be turned into or carry improvised explosive devices that cause serious harm to individuals and infrastructure.



Indicators of Suspicious UAS Activity

- Repeated unauthorized flights
- Suspected reconnaissance, such as repeated fly-overs or prolonged hovering at low altitudes
- Testing facility security protocols by flying in sensitive areas to observe the reaction of security personnel

If you observe suspicious indicators, it is recommended that you treat the grounded UAS as a potential explosive threat. Call local law enforcement and do not touch the UAS until a bomb squad or appropriate authority clears the scene.

If you believe a UAS is suspicious…

Detect all available elements of the situation; attempt to locate and identify individuals operating the drone *(look at windows/ balconies/roof tops)*.

Report the incident to local law enforcement and the FAA Regional Operations Center. Follow-up assistance can be obtained through FAA Law Enforcement Assistance Program Special Agents.

Observe the UAS and maintain visibility of the device; look for damage or injured individuals. Note: Battery life is typically 20 to 30 minutes.

Notice features: Identify the type of device *(fixed-wing/multi-rotor)*, its size, shape, color, payload *(i.e.,video equipment)*, and activity.

Execute appropriate security actions: Maintain a safe environment for the general public and first responders. Support first responders as appropriate to document details of the event to report to the FAA.

Document and provide information for first responders to report to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):

- Identity of operators and witnesses *(name, contact information)*
- Type of operation *(hobby, commercial, public/governmental)*
- Type of device(s) and registration information *(number/certificate)*
- Event location and incident details *(date, time, place)*
- Evidence collection *(photos, video, device confiscation)*

Find your FAA Regional Operations Center at FAA.gov

Category	Range	Payload	Evacuation Distance	
			Mandatory	*Preferred*
Retail Quadcopter	Up to 3 miles	0-3 lbs	70 ft	+1200 ft
Retail or Custom Multi-Rotor	3-10 miles	3-15 lbs	110 ft	+1700 ft
Commercial Applications	Varies	15-30 lbs	150 ft	+1850 ft

For more information and additional resources, visit www.cisa.gov/uas-critical-infrastructure or connect with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA's) Office for Bombing Prevention at www.cisa.gov/obp.

Contact CISA Central for more information about cyber, communications, or physical security and resilience at central@cisa.gov.