



NORTHERN ILLINOIS ROCKETRY ASSOCIATION

NAR Section 117

[HTTPS://WWW.NIRAROCKETRY.ORG](https://www.nirarocketry.org)

Since 1963 the Northern Illinois Rocketry Association (NIRA) has been bringing together rocket hobbyists from all over the greater Chicago area. Throughout the year our members participate in regular monthly meetings, club launches, and a variety of special activities. We range in age from the young to the young at heart, and include beginners as well as dedicated hobbyists with over 35 years of hobby rocketry experience. Whatever your sport rocket interests or skill level, you'll find a welcome home at NIRA.

Open To Anyone

You may have flown rockets as a kid. You may be discovering rockets for the first time. You may not even own any rockets, but are just interested in the science. You don't need to be a member of NIRA or any other organization to fly with us. All you need is an interest in rocketry and a desire to have fun!

If you don't have your own launch pad or controller, you may use ours. The club has a launch system with 10 pads for everyone to use. Also, club members are usually happy to share their 3/16" and 1/4" launch rod pads with you. (Note that Scout groups and other special event participants need to arrange for launch equipment ahead of time.)

Launch Location

Regular club launches are held at East Branch Forest Preserve in Glendale Heights.

The entrance to the launch area at East Branch is on the east side of Glen Ellyn Road between Fullerton and Army Trail Road. The entrance is about 1000' north of the railroad bridge.

The Forest Preserve does not allow us to drive any vehicles on the grass.

Carry or cart your stuff from there to the launch area, please.

The DFP rules also prohibit flying drones or RC airplanes.

2025 Club Launches

April 27th

May 18th

June 15th

July 20th

August 17th

September 21st

October 19th

November 16th

2026 Club Launches

March 15th



Flying Limits, Safety and Launchers

At our regular club launches we can fly rockets that conform to the model rocket limitations: total weight up to 1500g (3.3 pounds); no more than 125g (4.4 ounces) of propellant (most G motors). Field size and weather conditions are the only limit on flight altitude. This means sensibly limiting your rocket's flight profile to the prevailing conditions of wind, cloud, and field size. NIRA members have the experience to help you out if you can't decide what engine, parachute, or streamer to use.

National Rocketry Association (<https://www.nar.org>) safety codes and motor certifications are strictly enforced at all NIRA launches. All flights are at the discretion of the RSO. See the NIRA Launch page

(<https://www.nirarocketry.org/launches.html>) for more details and the range rules.



NIRA WEBSITE

[HTTPS://NIRAROCKETRY.ORG](https://nirarocketry.org)



NAR

[HTTPS://WWW.NAR.ORG](https://www.nar.org)

