



EAA VMC Club

Question of the Month

This Month's Question and Answer:

Question: Consider the yellow tinted areas on a sectional chart. If you are flying outside a yellow area, is that considered flying over a sparsely populated area with regards to minimum safe flight altitudes (FAR 91.119)?

Answer: According to the FAA's *Aeronautical Chart Users Guide*, yellow tinted areas of a sectional chart indicate populated places, with the range of population indicated by the font style and size (see below). However, that does not imply that areas not tinted yellow are *sparsely* populated.

Populated Places

Yellow tinted areas indicate populated places.

Small circle indicates an area too small to depict using yellow tint.



Font Style and Size indicate the category of the populated area:

Large Cities Category 1

- population more than 250,000

ST LOUIS

Cities and Large Towns Category 2

- population 25,000 to 250,000

NASHVILLE

Towns and Villages Category 3

- population less than 25,000

Frankfort