

Ephrata is the easiest gliderport to stay at and fly! The Training Center boasts a large fully-furnished kitchen, Wi-Fi, lounge area, 6 bathrooms, 4 showers, spacious deck, 8 bunks, battery-charging shed, RV Parking, and more!



Ephrata is the easiest gliderport to launch from! The spacious paved ramp has 40 glider tiedowns, with the pavement extending right onto the glider runway—no need for a towbar and a long haul with your car! SGC's fleet includes a powerful Pawnee and a Cessna 182 to get your sailplane into the air quickly and safely. Both towplanes are available for your club's tow pilots to get checked out in.



Ephrata is one of the easiest and safest places to learn Cross-Country skills! The area has consistent lift conditions, reliable weather forecasting, and a multitude of small airports and dirt fields for friendly landout options. We also have "Proving Grounds" courses set up, to help you learn the area and methodically work your way up to larger and longer flights!



Ephrata supports longer flights and technical soaring! Try your hand at a 500+km triangle across the flatlands, work your way into the heart of the Cascades for technical flying over glaciers, sharp ridges, and snowcapped peaks, or head up to the Canadian border over rolling mountainous wildland.

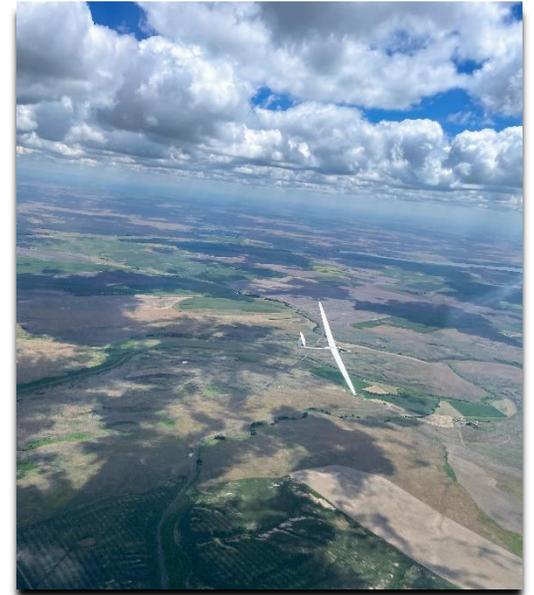
The Seattle Glider Council is a welcoming organization that is eager to support **You and Your Club/Group!** Reach out to us via www.seattleglidercouncil.org to learn more, to see our calendar of events, and to schedule an encampment at Ephrata!



TRAINING CENTER LOCATION

Ephrata Municipal Airport
30 Airport Street NE
Ephrata, WA 98823

Ephrata Gliderport



The Seattle Glider Council manages a national caliber soaring site in Ephrata, Washington, where it operates two towplanes during the soaring season which generally runs from mid-April to October. The towplanes are also available for flying safaris and encampments at Ephrata and throughout the Northwest.

Managed by the
Seattle Glider Council



Eastern Washington has outstanding soaring conditions from April through September. The Seattle Glider Council provides services for club members in Ephrata, Washington, under a lease agreement with the Port of Ephrata. The SGC maintains a training facility with sleeping, kitchen, shower and restroom facilities. Glider and glider trailer tie-downs are available, as well as RV parking.



Ephrata is located East of the Cascade Mountains in the Columbia Basin of Eastern Washington approximately three hours east of Seattle. The airport is east of town at an altitude of 1,272 ft with a plateau to the west of town rising an additional 1,000 ft.

Typical thermal heights are between 6,000 and 12,000 ft MSL, and wave flights can be achieved under westerly conditions off the Cascade Mountains. A wave window is maintained with the FAA west of Ephrata over Wenatchee. Typical wave can give altitude gains to over 20,000 ft MSL.

Testimonials:

As a youth member of the Seattle Glider Council, I have attended several soaring events in Ephrata, that was where I flew my first cross country flight two years ago, last year I completed my Gold Badge distance and 13 Washington State youth soaring records! They are very helpful to youth members and just a great place to be! ~J Hart



My first cross-country soaring experience was at the SGC's Annual Memorial Day weekend event-the "Dust-Up" at Ephrata, WA. The energy from the SGC pilots to get new cross-country pilots in the air was electric! From that first experience to flying at my first Region 8 contest, I found the pilots were always willing to discuss and share the nuances of terrain and weather topics in and around Ephrata. Ephrata provides a plateau that allows for novice cross-country pilots to gain confidence. Equally Ephrata's terrain sprawls out to provide the intermediate or expert cross-country soaring pilot a beautiful and fun challenge. I got my Silver and Gold Badges there. I think of Ephrata as "Glider Gold or Heaven." ~M Stanfield

Ephrata has opened so many doors in my development as a glider pilot. The annual Dust Up and other events provide an organized, welcoming, and supportive environment to take a glider on safari away from one's home field. The lift conditions first allowed me to stay aloft and complete my SSA Bronze Badge, and then step out and go XC (beyond final glide). The many surrounding airports and the dryland wheat fields below encouraged me to push my boundaries, and then offered safe places for my first on-field and off-field landouts. The warm camaraderie of new friends from distant clubs makes the retrieves a pleasure. Ephrata offers great flying in its own right and is a fantastic steppingstone to being able to fly many other places as well. ~A Winbow



In 2022, I had the pleasure of attending the Region 8 Contest. The contest had a very friendly atmosphere. The task committee did an excellent job bolstered by good soaring weather forecasting for the contest days. The contest was well managed, tows went quickly as the release distance is close. Having never flown at Ephrata, I found it very easy to be confident out on task as the area provides landing areas virtually everywhere. The contest staff gave comprehensive briefings on what and where to look for while soaring and also when identifying landout options. It's definitely worth seeing for yourself. ~M Galliano