

CAUTION: HIGH INTENSITY PARACHUTE OPERATIONS Over Gardiner, New York

High Intensity skydiving operations can be expected within three miles of Gardiner, New York, from sunrise to sunset, seven days a week, at and below 14,000 MSL. All pilots are encouraged to identify the location of this activity and avoid the area whenever operationally practical. Unauthorized landing are NOT permitted.

Gardiner Airport is the home of The Ranch Parachute Center, one of the most active skydiving drop zones in the Northeastern United States. The Ranch hosts three turbine powered DeHavilland Twin Otters, each capable of carrying 22 skydivers to 14,000 feet every 15 minutes. Lift capacity is 12 loads per hour, with as many as 264 individual parachute landings each hour at peak periods. Annual activity level averages more than 40,000 parachute operations. Skydivers can be encountered in freefall between 2,000 MSL and 14,000 MSL. Open parachutes can be expected from the surface to 14,000 MSL, with most parachute openings between the surface and 6,000 MSL. Aircraft descent rates of 3,500 fpm can be expected within 5 miles of the airport between 3,000 MSL and 14,000 MSL. Individual parachute operations can be expected to last for as long as 15 minutes following announcement of “jumpers away.” It may be difficult for pilots to identify freefalling skydivers and individual parachutes at a distance sufficient to avoid collision. **Extreme caution is urged when transitioning this area.**

Gardiner airport is a **private use** facility and is NOT listed in most GPS databases, nor is it depicted on instrument enroute charts or approach plates. Operational status will NOT be mentioned as part of a standard weather briefing, and briefers may NOT be aware of current activity levels. Gardiner Airport IS depicted on the New York Sectional with a conventional magenta parachute symbol. This symbol may be difficult to see when in flight. Pilots are encouraged to identify this area of high intensity parachute operations and highlight the hazard as part of the flight planning process. **Pilots are requested to minimize transitions of this area when parachute operations are in progress.**

Gardiner airport is located in class “E” airspace and can be identified as follows:

GPS Coordinates: N.41°40.524 W.074°09.004

10 nm North of Stewart International Airport

12 nm West of Dutchess County Airport (Poughkeepsie)

2 nm North of Kobelt airport (CAVU Restaurant)

Kingston VOR, radial 285, 15nm

Huguenot VOR, radial 064, 25nm

V 58-93-167, 6nm East of HELON intersection, and 2nm West of (IAF) SPECL

Current operational status can be obtained as follows:

New York Approach (Below 6,000 MSL) 132.75

Boston Center (at and above 6,000 MSL) 134.30

Gardiner/Ranch UNICOM 122.975

Ranch Parachute Center Office Phone (845) 255-9538