For Those Curious About Local Aircraft Accidents...

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As this WTVD story notes, two people were injured in a plane crash at the air park in Apex yesterday. The single-engine craft crashed into trees as the pilot was attempting take-off. Notes the story, the same pilot crashed a craft at the same strip in August. Fire photographer Jason Thompson was in the area, and posted a few photos.

For those curious about other local aircraft accidents, this NTSB database is pretty interesting. Goes back to 1962. There's also the ASN Aviation Safety Database, which has information dating to 1921. From a comment to this blog post from 2006, these were the crashes through July 11 of that year:

- Apex – 18 crashes – 8 fatalities
- Cary – 3 crashes – 14 fatalities
- Garner – 4 crashes – 4 fatalities
- Fuquay-Varina – 9 crashes – 3 fatalities
- Holly Springs – 5 crashes – 1 fatality
- Knightdale – 21 crashes – 3 fatalities
- Morrisville – 30 crashes – 31 fatalities
- Raleigh (includes Raleigh-Durham) – 66 crashes – 28 fatalities
- Wake Forest – 2 crashes – 1 fatality
- Wendell – 4 crashes
- Zebulon – 1 crash

Of course, we've had plane crashes in Raleigh and Wake County going back to the 1920s! From my Raleigh Fire Department history timelines, from the 1920s and 1940s:

Plane crashes at Poindexter Field. Pilot is killed at airstrip located outside city limits. Fire department responds. Incident is first fatal airplane crash in Raleigh. [AA] (January 11, 1929)

Including even bomber (!) crashes:

Army plane on nighttime approach to Raleigh airport. The A-24 Douglas dive bomber slices off tops of several pine trees and crashes and burns in the middle of a tent encampment of the 25th Air Base Group. Plane bursts into flames immediately after striking a recreation tent and a mess tent. Pilot is killed and plane's radio operator is thrown from the plane, injured but able to walk away. Two men in the recreation tent are also injured. Fire department is not called. [AA] (November 10, 1941)

Including even a B-17 (!) bomber:

Army Air Corps bomber crashes in Garner. Two crew members are killed after a B-17 bomber crashes into a wooded area, five miles southeast of Raleigh. Eight others parachute to safety. The fire department is notified of the accident at 5:30 p.m and sends two trucks and twelve men to the scene. Firefighters are directed by Chief R. W. Butts, who is one of the first officials to arrive at the scene. Highway Patrol officers and military authorities arrive at about the same time. The burning wreckage is scattered over an area 600 yards long and 100 yards wide. Bombs and bullets continue exploding long after the crash. Spectators attracted the scene are warned to keep clear for fear of further explosions. [AA] [MA] (May 9, 1944)

Here's some more information of mine:

- Blog post from 2009, with some of the more notable plane crashes in and around Raleigh.
- Database of deadliest plane crashes (and other disasters) in the state.
- History timeline of the airport fire department (last updated in 2004, alas), which includes a number of crashes on or near the airport.

Plus any number of other pages or sites at www.legeros.com.