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Metro area airport closing

UPDATED 4:52 PM CST Feb 25, 2013

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DES MOINES, Iowa — A private airport just north of Des Moines is closing because the land will be used for another purpose.

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Morningstar Field has operated north of Interstate-35/80 and east of the Des Moines River for about 60 years.

The owner has leased the land to a nearby gravel company, which plans to use the land for mining. The airport will be closed at the end of this month.

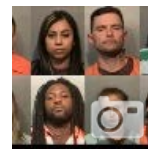
Morningstar Field is a grass strip with hangars where private pilots kept small aircraft. It had about 40 airplanes housed at the field until pilots learned of the upcoming closure and began relocating to other airports.

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Airport Manager Larry Miller said the hangars will be taken down.

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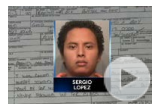
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