



Great Lakes Basic Marine Weather Seminar

Overview

Learn a little meteorology and reduce some of the uncertainty of boating on the Great Lakes. An enhanced understanding of basic weather principles and a few simple forecasting skills can improve cruise planning, racing performance and reduce the likelihood of being exposed to uncomfortable or hazardous weather conditions.

The half-day Basic Marine Weather Seminar will provide attendees with an understanding of basic meteorological principles and explore the conditions favoring the development of severe weather. Graphics and case studies of actual weather events will be used to focus on the interesting and unique forecasting challenges associated with the Great Lakes. Attendees will also develop a basic daily forecasting resource kit based upon readily available government and university websites.

Seminar Outline

- Section One: Introduction
- Section Two: A Solid Foundation (Basic Meteorological Principles)
- Section Three: Interpreting Weather Graphics
- Section Four: The Invisible Forces Controlling the Wind
- Section Five: Clouds And Precipitation
- Section Six: Dissecting A Low Pressure System
- Section Seven: Observational Tools (Radar & Satellite Imagery)
- Section Eight: Thunderstorms
- Section Nine: A Daily Forecast Routine

Mark Thornton

has been sailing on Lake Erie for more than 20 years and currently owns Osprey, a C&C 35. His interest in weather forecasting grew from his experiences cruising and racing on the lake. Mark is a 2006 graduate of the Penn State University Certificate of Achievement in Weather Forecasting, a two-year program that develops skills in general, tropical, and severe weather forecasting.

He is the president of LakeErieWX LLC, a company dedicated to providing marine weather education seminars and forecasting resources for recreational boaters (www.lakeeriewx.com). He served as race meteorologist for the 2014 and 2015 Bell's Beer Bayview Race to Mackinac, and is the past president of the Cleveland chapter of the American Meteorological Society. Mark is employed as the Vice-President of Administration for the law firm of Wegman, Hessler & Vanderburg, and as a Teaching Assistant in the Certificate of Achievement in Weather Forecasting Program at Penn State University.



Online Forecasting Tools

Basic Marine Forecasting Seminars

Presentations

Case Study/Event Summaries

For more information

Contact Mark Thornton by phone at 440.250.9179 or by email (Mark@LakeErieWX.com) for details on how a Basic Marine Weather seminar can meet the educational, safety, and membership goals of your yacht club or group. Additional seminar information is available online at www.lakeeriewx.com/Seminars/Seminars.html