



Wind Forecasting: A Workshop For Sailors

Overview

No aspect of weather is more important to sailors than the wind. It dictates when it is safe to leave port and whether your journey will be fast or comfortable. On the race course, properly predicting the wind separates the winners from the losers.

This workshop is designed for sailors of all experience levels and interests. Accurately forecasting the wind promotes safer, more enjoyable outings and improves performance on the race course. Whether you are a day sailor, beer-can racer, long-distance cruiser or serious competitor, the skills learned during this workshop will enhance your understanding of the wind and improve your sailing experience.

What you can expect to learn at the workshop:

- Why the wind behaves the way it does
- How to translate the confusing symbols and meteorological short-hand on forecast graphics
- The basics of lake breezes, land breezes, thunderstorms, clouds and other dynamics that produce localized and short-term changes in the wind
- Ways to judge the likelihood, strength and duration of headers/lifts
- A methodology for observing the wind and using on-line resources to develop your own forecast
- Strategies for using your wind-forecasting knowledge to your advantage, whether you are a day sailor, cruiser or serious racer

The workshop combines traditional classroom instruction, case studies and several hands-on forecasting exercises to create an engaging learning experience.

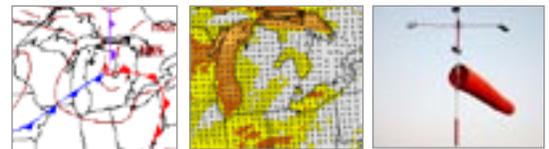
For more information

Contact Mark Thornton by phone at 440.250.9179 or by email (Mark@LakeErieWX.com) for details on how a Wind Forecasting Workshop 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

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.



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