Understanding Weather on the Water

Members often ask us for tips on how to become a better boater. One of the most important is to be alert of the weather. Knowing how the environment is going to affect a boat is critical to driving one, especially before pulling away or returning to a dock.

A day on the water starts at home. Trip planning may happen several days before the actual day of departure. Just because the local news says it will be sunny and warm, doesn't mean that's what the conditions will be on the water, especially on the ocean. Before heading to the dock, check what the on-water weather conditions will be.

Below we have listed a few good resources for you to consider using:

National Weather Service Forecast
https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=43.8059&lon=-70.1862#.Y01mO3bMJD8

NOAA Marine Forecast
https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/data/Forecasts/FZUS51.KGYX.html

NOAA Tides (Yarmouth)
https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/noaatidepredictions.html?id=8417948&legacy=1

NOAA Buoy Report
(Offshore of Portland, ME. Wave height summary)
https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=44007

NOAA National Buoy Map
https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/

Tide Charts App
https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.SeventhGear.tides&hl=en_US&gl=US (Google Android)

https://apps.apple.com/us/app/tide-charts/id957143504 (Apple)

Windfinder App
https://www.windfinder.com/apps/

Windy App
https://windy.app/

Navionics Mobile Electronic Chart App
https://www.navionics.com/usa/apps/navionics-boating