



Doppler Weather Radar: A Boater's Best Friend



Doppler weather radar from the National Weather Service network has a lot to offer the weather-savvy boater. This presentation will introduce and examine the common and lesser known types of Doppler radar imagery and provide instruction in its interpretation and use.

In addition to learning how weather radar works (along with a few of its quirks), you will learn how to use it to monitor the development, intensity, and speed of approaching thunderstorms. Doppler radar can also be helpful in judging the potential for damaging thunderstorm wind gusts. The presentation will introduce sources for Doppler weather radar such as the Internet, pc-based software, and smartphone and iPad applications.

Presentation Outline

- How radar works
 - How a radar station scans the atmosphere
 - The 'Doppler' in Doppler radar
 - Scanning strategies
 - Radar anomalies
- Understanding and interpreting common and not-so-common radar products
 - Reflectivity
 - Velocity
 - Storm-relative velocity
 - Echo tops
- Sources of Radar imagery
 - Internet
 - Applications

LakeErieWX also offers two **full-day seminars**—*Basic Marine Weather Forecasting* and *Advanced Wind Forecasting: A Workshop for Sailors*. Details at www.lakeeriewx.com/Seminars/Seminars.html.

Mark Thornton—Speaker Biography

Mark Thornton began sailing on Lake Erie in 1994 and he currently owns *Osprey*, a 1985 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 maintains a website (www.LakeErieWX.com) devoted to marine weather education and forecasting resources, and is the current president of the local 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.

For more information

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