

SOURCES OF PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEATHER INFORMATION

MARBLEHEAD-HALIFAX RACE

If you have web access:

Ocean Prediction Center (www.opc.ncep.noaa.gov)

This is the best source for products produced by meteorologists for the region of interest.

Charts you should definitely obtain:

Western Atlantic Surface Analysis. Issued every 6 hours (0000,0600,1200,1800 GMT). Charts typically available around 3 hours after the valid time. By downloading this chart each time it is issued you can track the actual motion of the weather features.

24 hour Surface Forecast. Issued twice per day based on data gathered at 0000 and 1200 GMT. Typically available around 6 hours after forecast initialization.

Charts you should obtain if you can:

48 hour Surface Forecast. Issued twice per day based on data gathered at 0000 and 1200 GMT. Typically available around 7 hours after forecast initialization. This is a full ocean chart.

Offshore Wind/Wave Analysis Chart. Issued every 3 hours. Getting this chart once or twice per day will keep you advised of significant wave heights. If conditions are changing quickly, you may want to obtain the chart more frequently.

96 hour Surface Forecast. Issued once per day based on data gathered at 1200 GMT. Typically available around 8 hours after forecast initialization. This is a full ocean chart.

500 millibar charts, Wind/Wave Forecast Charts, Wave Period/Direction forecast charts

ASCAT wind data (<http://manati.star.nesdis.noaa.gov/datasets/ASCATData.php>)

This website provides detailed wind data based on satellite observation of ocean surface roughness. The satellite "sees" only a small slice of the earth on each pass, so you have to get lucky. The time of the pass is shown at the bottom of the sector image in GMT

Buoy data quick links:

These are designed for mobile devices, so provide only text data, no graphics, and most current observation only. Good for low bandwidth offshore use.

Massachusetts Bay Buoy (43.5N 70.6W) <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile/station.php?station=44029>

Gulf of Maine Buoy (43.2N 69.1W) <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile/station.php?station=44005>

Northeast Channel Buoy (42.3N 65.9W) <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile/station.php?station=44024>

Halifax Harbor Buoy (44.5N 63.4W) <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile/station.php?station=44258>

Jordan Basin Buoy (43.5N 67.9W) NOT ACTIVE <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile/station.php?station=44037>

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If you have email, but no web access:

Use ftpmail to obtain Ocean Prediction Center Charts

Instructions available at the following web address:
<http://tgftp.nws.noaa.gov/fax/ftpmail.txt>

If you are not familiar with this method of obtaining charts, you should practice **tonight** while you still have a broadband connection.

To use this method, you will need the Atlantic Radiofax schedule:
<http://www.opc.ncep.noaa.gov/shtml/atlsch.shtml>

Print this schedule so you will have easy access to it while offshore.

If you are receiving charts through a radiofax receiver, or a computer program that utilizes the HF radiofax signal, you will want the above

CURRENTS SOUTH OF NOVA SCOTIA - 2017

Current speeds given in knots, times given in Atlantic Daylight Time

Brazil Rock 6 Miles E (43°22'N 65°18'W) Flood Direction 275T, Ebb Direction 050T

Date	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack
Sun 7/9		0147 -1.1	0500	0742 +1.0	1215	1405 -0.9	1654	1948 +1.1			
Mon 7/10	0009	0229 -1.1	0536	0824 +1.0	1251	1447 -0.9	1730	2036 +1.1			
Tue 7/11	0045	0311 -1.1	0618	0912 +1.1	1333	1529 -0.9	1812	2124 +1.0			
Wed 7/12	0127	0353 -1.1	0700	1000 +1.1	1415	1617 -0.9	1900	2212 +1.0			

Cape Sable 3 Miles S (43°20'N 65°38'W) Flood Direction 275T, Ebb Direction 095T

Date	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack
Sun 7/9		0137 -2.1	0400	0732 +2.2	1144	1355 -1.8	1554	1938 +2.3	2338		
Mon 7/10		0219 -2.1	0436	0814 +2.2	1220	1437 -1.8	1630	2026 +2.3			
Tue 7/11	0014	0301 -2.2	0518	0902 +2.3	1302	1519 -1.8	1712	2114 +2.2			
Wed 7/12	0056	0343 -2.2	0600	0950 +2.4	1344	1607 -1.9	1800	2202 +2.2			

Seal Island 13 Miles SW (43°16'N 66°15'W) Flood Direction 325T, Ebb Direction 140T

Date	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack	Max Crnt	Slack
Sun 7/9	0102	0357 -1.8	0645	0952 +2.6	1344	1615 -1.5	1839	2158 +2.7			
Mon 7/10	0138	0439 -1.8	0721	1034 +2.6	1420	1657 -1.5	1915	2246 +2.7			
Tue 7/11	0214	0521 -1.8	0803	1122 +2.7	1502	1739 -1.5	1957	2334 +2.6			
Wed 7/12	0256	0603 -1.8	0845	1210 +2.7	1544	1827 -1.6	2045				