

SOURCES OF PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WEATHER INFORMATION

MARBLEHEAD-HALIFAX RACE

If you have web access:

Ocean Prediction Center (www.ocean.weather.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 UTC). 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 UTC. 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 UTC. 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.

72 and 96 hour Surface Forecasts. Issued once per day based on data gathered at 1200 UTC. 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 UTC

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(42.5N 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>

Jordan Basin Buoy (43.5N 67.9W) <http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/mobile/station.php?station=44037>

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

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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:
<https://ocean.weather.gov/ftpmail.php>

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:
<https://ocean.weather.gov/shtml/atlsch.php>

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 schedule also.

CURRENTS SOUTH OF NOVA SCOTIA - 2019

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	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current
Sun 7/7		0251	0511 -1.1	0812	1118 +1.0	1539	1741 -1.1	2012	2342 +1.2		
Mon 7/8		0351	0605 -1.2	0906	1212 +1.2	1633	1835 -1.1	2136			
Tue 7/9	0036 +1.2	0457	0659 -1.1	1006	1306 +1.2	1733	1935 -1.1	2242			
Wed 7/10	0136 +1.1	0557	0759 -1.0	1100	1400 +1.1	1827	2035 -1.1	2342			

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

Date	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current
Sun 7/7		0220	0501 -2.0	0712	1108 +2.1	1508	1731 -2.1	1912	2332 +2.6		
Mon 7/8		0320	0555 -2.3	0806	1202 +2.7	1602	1825 -2.1	2036			
Tue 7/9	0026 +2.6	0426	0649 -2.2	0906	1256 +2.6	1702	1925 -2.1	2142			
Wed 7/10	0126 +2.5	0526	0749 -2.0	1000	1350 +2.5	1756	2025 -2.1	2242			

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

Date	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current	Slack	Max Current
Sun 7/7	0052 +3.2	0420	0721 -1.7	0957	1328 +2.4	1708	1951 -1.8	2157			
Mon 7/8	0152 +3.1	0520	0815 -1.9	1051	1422 +3.1	1802	2045 -1.8	2321			
Tue 7/9	0246 +3.0	0626	0909 -1.8	1151	1516 +3.0	1902	2145 -1.8	0027 (Wed)			
Wed 7/10	0346 +2.9	0726	1009 -1.7	1245	1610 +2.9	1956	2245 -1.8				